

Supplies Needed:

- Flat Rocks
- Aprons
- Paint Brushes
- Mod Podge
- Acrylic Paint
- Gloss Spray
- Sharpie Markers
- Newspaper

Instructions:

You can find rocks just about anywhere in nature, so the choice is yours when it comes to deciding which ones you'll want to paint. The size of a painted rock generally looks something like this:



But it can be bigger or smaller if you'd like. Once you've collected the rocks that you'll be painting, cleaning them is the next step. The best method would be to simply soak them in hot water for a few minutes, then scrub away at any dirt with a toothbrush or the abrasive side of a sponge.

If there is an excess amount of dirt, be sure to complete this step outside in order to avoid clogging your drain. Pat with a towel and let air dry completely before painting. If you would like to speed this process up, simply place the rocks in your oven on 250 degrees for 10 minutes.

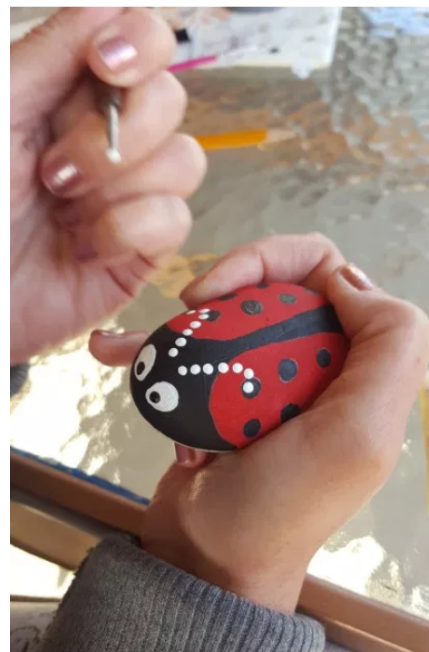
Just make sure to watch them and be careful when removing, they will be hot!

Next you'll need some paint and paint brushes. The best paint for rocks is acrylic paint. It coats extremely well, so you won't have to apply a lot of layers. Think about the colors that you'd enjoy painting with and choose from there.

The paint brushes you need will depend on the project, so getting a variety is your best bet. You'll mainly be using a fine tip paint brush when it comes to rocks, but exploring other brush sizes will allow you to create different effects and styles of artwork.

If you're just starting out, aim to have at least one of each size – small, medium, and large, then you'll be able find what works best for you.

Once you have the supplies, you can paint your rock however you'd like!



If you use any kind of marker in your artwork the Mod Podge will protect it from running or smearing, and it creates a more protective layer overall.

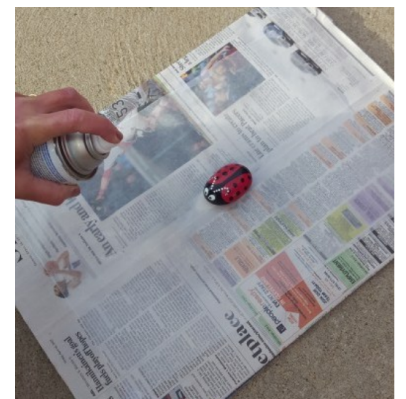
Add a layer of Mod Podge onto your painting just like you did on the label, and let stand for another 10 minutes to dry.

There is only one step left between you and hiding your rock!

The last thing you'll need to do is seal everything with one final layer, and clear gloss will do just the thing for you. Not only is it water proof, but it is weather proof, and it will brighten the color of your rock dramatically. Using gloss means that the hard work you put into painting your rock will last much longer, bringing joy to that many more people when they find it.

To seal your rock, lay it face down on newspaper and spray a layer of clear gloss on the back. Hold the can about 12 inches away from the rock so that it doesn't get too wet or drip. Let everything dry completely for at least an hour to avoid it being sticky, then flip it over and repeat on the front.

If your rock feels too sticky after the first hour, let it sit longer. If you rush this process you'll end up with the newspaper stuck to your rock permanently, so make sure you're giving it enough time to dry!



All information and pictures used are adapted from paintedrocklife.com. Check them out for more ideas and tips on rock painting.