

---

# Instructions: Poppy Egg

---



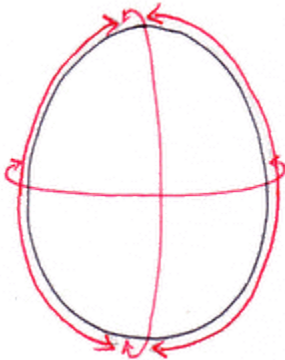
---

By Nanette Thorell

---

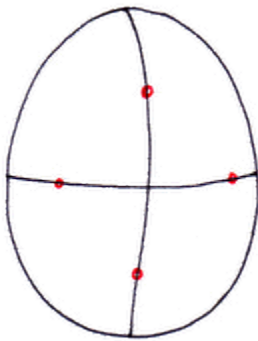
## Instructions - POPPY EGG

### 1) PENCIL



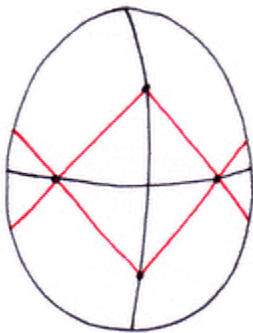
1) Using a pencil, draw light division lines on your egg as shown in figure 1. One line will circle the egg horizontally, and two lines will circle the egg vertically. You should have 8 sections when these divisions are done.

### 2) PENCIL



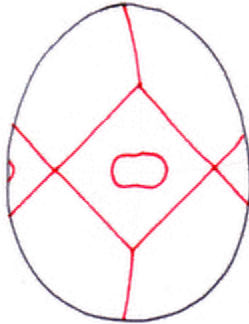
2) Mark a dot at the halfway points on both the vertical and horizontal division lines. There should be twelve dots total.

### 3) PENCIL



3) Connect the dots to create four diamond shapes around the center belt of the egg.

4) WAX OUTLINE (white)

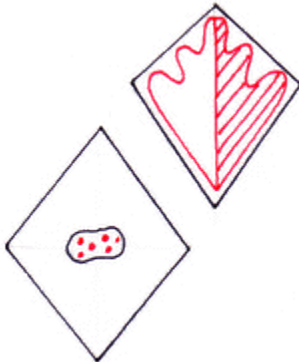


4) Wax outline the diamond shapes, and draw an organic shape for the centers of the poppies.

Now it's time for dye! Be sure you have tissues ready, and a spot to let the egg sit for a few minutes after it is dyed.

*Note: It's important to let your egg dry completely after each dye bath. If the egg is damp at all, the wax will not stick and other dye colors may get underneath and make the design splotchy.*

5) WAX OUTLINE (yellow)



5) Dip your egg into the yellow dye. Leave it in until you get a good bold yellow color. Bring it out and pat it dry with a tissue, and let it dry.

Wax outline the shape of the leaves on the top and bottom of the egg, as shown in figure 5. There will be eight leaves - four top and four bottom. The bottom leaves will be upside down (seen in figure 6) You can lightly pencil the leaves in over the yellow dye first if you like, or just freehand it.

Put wax dots in the poppy centers.

6) WAX FILL (green)



Now, dip the egg into the green dye. The green takes fast, so if you want lighter colored leaves, spoon the egg out and look at it frequently until you are happy with the color.

6) Wax fill all the leaves on the top and bottom of the egg.

7) DYE (orange wash)



7) After the green leaves are covered, you are going to do what is called an **“orange wash”**. The orange dye neutralizes greens and blues, and prepares the egg for the red family of colors.

Dip the egg into the orange dye, and leave it until the green is gone and you have a rusty orange color.

Remove the egg, pat the excess dye off with a tissue, and let the egg sit until dry.

Wax outline the poppy petals as shown in figure 7. Do this for all four poppies around the center of the egg.

8) WAX FILL (red)



8) Dip the egg into the red dye, and leave it until you have a rich red. After the egg is dry, wax fill in the poppy petals.

9) FINAL DYE (black)



9) Your final dye is the black background. There will be no waxing after the black. Leave the egg in the black dye until it is very dark. Move the egg around in the jar every once in a while so you don't get a void where the egg touches the glass side.

Congratulations! Now comes the fun part – removing the wax to reveal the design underneath.

I like to let the egg sit for a day, and let the dye set in before I remove the wax. Do another egg if you want, play with colors, practice with your kistka, add to the design.