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What is egg tempera anyway? To be technical, tempera painting employs a medium which may be freely diluted with water but which upon drying is sufficiently insoluble to allow overpainting with more tempera or with oil and and varnish mediums. Egg tempera utilizes an egg-yolk as the medium (a.k.a. binder or emulsifier) to suspend pigment. Egg tempera is an old technique. It was used by the Egyptians and then by the Greeks and Romans. Byzantine artists, Pre-Renaissance painters, Russian icon painters and Islamic manuscript painters all used tempera.

Making the PAINT.

1. Take the egg and crack it, separating the white into separate container

2. Take the yolk in your hand over the container with lid

3. With palette knife create a small slice in the yolk membrane and let flow into yolk container.

4. Add $\frac{2}{3}$ of an egg shell of water to your yolk and stir until completely blended. This is your **medium**. Set aside.



5. In your palette, add a couple palette knives of pigment of each pigment you wish to mix. Little by little add your medium to each pigment with a brush or by pouring. Combine until the pigment is completely dissolved. The paint should run slowly when you wipe it from your brush in your palette. The consistency will be thicker than water and thinner than toothpaste.

E finito!

**** SAFETY** Many pigments are dangerous to breathe and touch. Please paint safely by remembering to wear gloves at all times and a mask when the pigment is in its dry form.

**** GLAZING** Dip your brush in extra medium to make a thin, flowing and transparent glaze