



## Guidelines for Working with Evolon

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**Important:** Before beginning to work on the Evolon, practice on scraps of Evolon to get first-hand knowledge of how each art medium responds to the Evolon material.

### For Background Colors:

1. Put down a plastic tablecloth on your painting surface. If you want an even background color, dampen the entire Evolon panel with water using a sponge. Then while still wet, apply the color of your choice using a damp sponge. If you want crisp lettering, allow panel to dry.
2. Often paint stores or hardware stores will donate leftover or returned household paint to the project. You can add acrylic paint to most of these paints to create a background color. Apply such paint directly to the panel with wide a brush, covering the panel completely. Allow to dry.
3. Note: Household surface paint on the Evolon tends to dry lighter than paint on canvas, fabric, etc.
4. Spray paint works well on Evolon. Some spray paint such as SUGAR professional acrylic paint is made with sugar and does not give off toxic odors. SUGAR gives a highly opaque matte finish.

### For creating images and writing text:

1. If you want strong colors and color shapes with distinct edges, use paints undiluted with water. These work well:
  - Acrylic on gessoed surface or over an area that was previously painted
  - Acrylic without gesso (not quite as clear edges)
  - Simple watercolor box paints
  - Fabric paint (Neopaque will give a crisper edge, Lumiere will bleed a bit.)
2. For a softer wash of color or shapes with soft edges:
  - Dilute any of the above with water (edges will soften and bleed).
  - Tee Juice markers by Jacquard will create an effect more like heavy charcoal
3. When using pencils:
  - Pencils can be used to sketch images. Paint can then be used over the pencil outlines.
  - Pencils should only be used very lightly because pencil marks do not erase on this material.
4. For freehand letters:
  - All markers will bleed a little, so allow space between letters so they don't bleed together (test on a scrap first). Use a light touch. Edges will soften a little. Markers with broad tips will tend to bleed more than fine-point markers.
  - Tulip fine point fabric markers and Marvy fine point markers work best for clear, small letters.
  - All Sharpies will bleed some but can be used.
  - Paint your letters with any of the paints listed in #1.
5. For stenciling letters:
  - Use a small piece of sponge and acrylic paint. Use small amounts of paint and dab firmly.
  - Use markers (some will bleed at the edges, especially on unpainted areas).
6. When using crayons:
  - Crayons work on Evolon and can be used under paint or over paint. Crayons will be brighter if used over a painted layer.
7. For sewing:
  - Fabric can be added to the panel with ragged edges or finished edges.
  - Sew fabric by hand (with a sharp needle) or by machine.
8. To preserve the life of the Vision Quilt, please do not use glue or adhesive.
9. Spray Scotch Guard or some kind of acrylic sealer on panels to prevent wear.