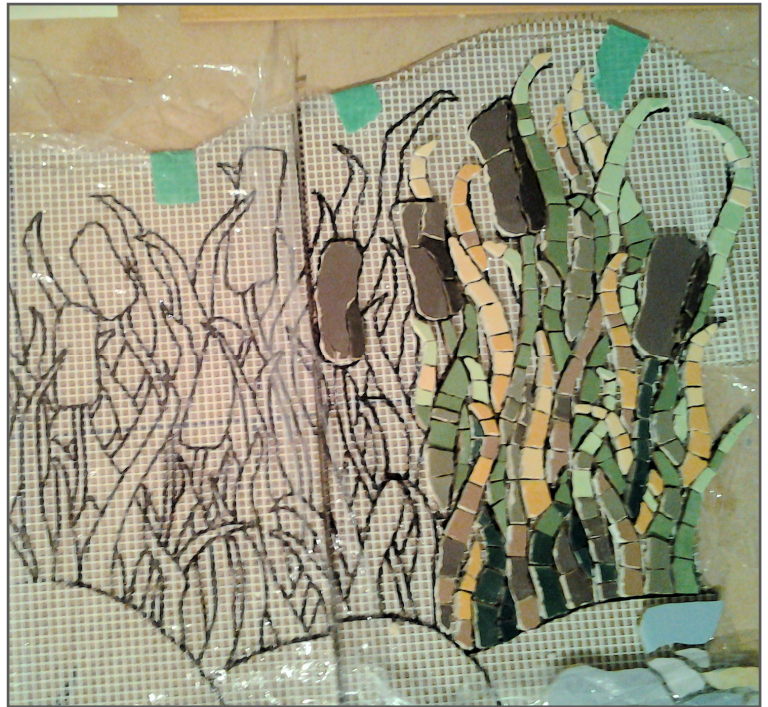


Creating a mosaic on mesh allows you to make it in one place and install it in another. Once the tesserae are attached to the mesh the mosaic can be cut into sections for easier handling, moving and installing. When you push the mesh backed sections into a bed of mortar or mastic the adhesive pushes through the mesh, anchoring the section and also adhering the individual tile backs to the adhesive and base.

Materials Used: paper sketch, fibreglass mosaic mesh, PVA glue such as WeldBond, clear plastic, cutting tools-nippers, Exacto type knife, tweezers and small spatulas to grasp & move smaller pieces precisely.



The sketch is laid down on a flat work surface and covered with clear plastic taped down to the work surface. Thin plastic such as Saran Wrap or a cut open milk bag works just fine. This protects the sketch from glue drips. The mesh is laid over the plastic. You may find you need to trace the sketch directly onto the mesh if it is too difficult to see all of your sketch lines through the mesh.



Sheryl Crowley ~ Fractured Art Mosaics

H. (506) 693-8262 C. (506) 333-9091

fracturedartmosaics@yahoo.ca www.fracturedartmosaics.net

As each piece of tesserae is cut a small dot of glue is placed on the mesh before placing the piece in its spot in the design. The idea is to attach the tile to the mesh but leave a good section of the back of the tile free of glue so that the mortar used upon installation grasps the tile securely as well as the mesh.



When you have completed the attachment of the tesserae to the mesh and the glue is dry you will be able to carefully lift the mosaic on mesh away from the sketch and plastic covering. Mesh showing at the edges of the mosaic may be cut close to the tile edges with an Exacto knife before installation.

The mortar or mastic should be spread at a depth of approximately 1/2 the thickness of the tiles. Spread only as much mortar as you can press mosaic into within 5-7 minutes of spreading. Have the mosaic cut into sections easy to lift and place. If you are installing on a vertical surface then you may need to use masking tape to hold the sections in place on the wall until they dry. If the mosaic is not set within a “frame” then bevel the mortar from the wall to the top edge of the mosaic surface for a finished look.



After allowing the mortar or mastic to dry for 24 hrs. the piece is ready to grout. You may wish to mask off the surrounding surfaces or cover them with newspaper to keep them from getting grout specks places you do not want them. Mix the grout to the thickness of peanut butter (smooth!) so that it will not slouch in between the tesserae on vertical applications.



Sheryl Crowley ~ Fractured Art Mosaics

H. (506) 693-8262 C. (506) 333-9091

fracturedartmosaics@yahoo.ca www.fracturedartmosaics.net