

Lip Painting

Get smooth, even lips with a few inexpensive materials and a little practice.

1. Tools needed:

- **Liner brush** - 18/10 golden taklon
- **Acrylic Extender**(craft-store variety, any brand - also called float or blending medium)
- **Craft acrylic paint** in your choice of colors to be mixed (flat, not gloss)
- **Interior/external craft varnish** (gloss, satin, or matte depending on desired result)
- **Palette or jars** for mixing paint
- **Round toothpick**



2. Mix your acrylic paints to achieve the desired color, then add a few drops of extender (approx. 4 parts paint to 1 part extender). paint should be the consistency of buttermilk and pool smoothly after stirring.



3. Lips are easiest to paint when you remove the body, but it can be done with the body still in place. We recommend painting over factory lips to maintain the shape. If the original lips are damaged or scratched, use your finest grit matting sponge to smooth the affected area, avoiding the "skin." Begin painting by outlining the lips carefully. take care to maintain sharp points around the bottom lip and mouth corners. If you go outside the outline, **do not wipe** the wet paint. finish painting the lips and let it dry - you can correct small imperfections later. Create a pool of wet paint in the crease of the lips with a loaded brush, pushing the paint out to meet the edge. The extender keeps the paint "open" so everything blends together smoothly. If the paint is too thin and the original color shows through, wipe it off with a wet tissue. Add more paint to your mixture and start again.



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4. You can gently tap the back of her head on a pad of paper on your work surface to level any brush strokes. If any bubbles remain, lift them out on the tip of your brush and tap again. Look at the corner in this example - the slight thickness and texture of the lip paint will slowly flatten as the paint dries.



5. Let the paint dry. Ignore the dry times on the bottle - the amount of extender you added can require drying times of up to 12 hours. Once they're dry, examine the edges and check for symmetry (hint: look at her lips in the bathroom mirror). Carefully refine the edges and sharpen the corners with a clean, dry toothpick. If you take away too much, paint a complete second coat on top of the first and let them dry again. If you decide you don't like the color and want to start over, use warm, soapy water on a Q-tip to remove the paint. If the paint is stubborn, you can quickly wipe her mouth with Rubbing alcohol.



6. Once you're satisfied with your paint job, you need to seal them to protect them from scratches and moisture. Carefully paint over them with undiluted varnish using the same outlining + pooling method that we used for the paint. (pooling prevents brushstrokes) Pop any bubbles and allow her to dry on her back at least overnight.



7. Here are a few samples of stock Blythe lips. Early BL and EBL Blythe lips varied from model to model - the example here is a Love Mission. Even Kenner lip shapes varied slightly from doll to doll. The effects of age give Kenner lips a satiny finish.

