

Peaches & Blueberries

by Donna Hodson



The Artist's Club

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Palette:

DecoArt Americana Acrylics

Antique Gold #13009	Antique Maroon #13160
Burnt Umber #13064	Cadmium Red #13015
Colonial Blue #13613	Deep Midnight Blue #13166
Hauser Dark Green #13133	Hauser Light Green #13131
Hauser Medium Green #13132	Heritage Brick #13219
Jade Green #13057	Light Avocado #13106
Light Buttermilk #13164	Moon Yellow #13007
Olive Green #13056	Plantation Pine #13113
Prussian Blue #13138	Raw Sienna #13093
Royal Purple #13150	Titanium (Snow) White #13001
Uniform Blue #13086	Yellow Ochre #13008

Surface:

Recipe Box #62747

Misc. Supplies:

JoSonja All Purpose Sealer #84151
JoSonja Polyurethane Varnish Matte #84104
Brush basin #70174
Royal Palette Paper #70560
Tracing Paper Pad #83176
Soft Grip Embossing & Stylus set of 3 #70125
Gray Graphite #70141
Palette Knife #70194
Americana Wood Glue #70246
Paper Towels
#2 Pencil
220 fine sandpaper
600 wet/dry sandpaper (found at automotive stores)

Brushes:

Papillon by the Artist's Club

Glaze Wash, size 3/4" #20102; size 1" #20103
Shader, size 20 #20134; size 10 #20130; size 6 #20127; size 4 #20126
Angular Shader, size 1/2" #20111
Filbert, size 4 #20117
Liner, size 10/0 #20145
Script Liner, size 0 #20140

Artist Inspired Brushes

Maxine Thomas Mop, size 3/8"; size 1/2" #27179

Other Brushes

Old toothbrush or your favorite brush for spattering

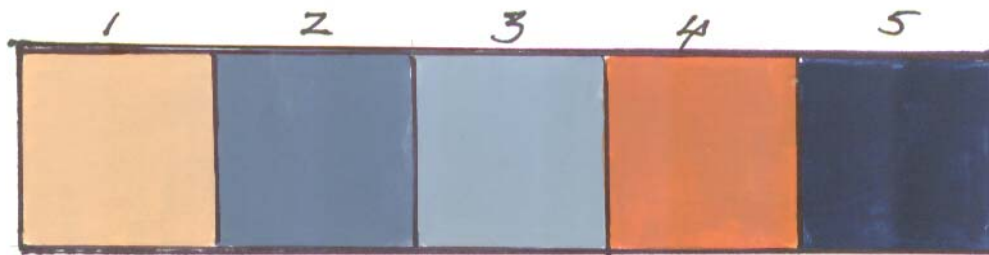


Preparation:

Sand the box and lid as needed and tack. Paint the entire piece inside and out with a mix of JoSonia All Purpose Sealer plus Light Buttermilk about 1-1. Dry and then sand lightly with the 600 wet/dry sandpaper and tack to remove any residue.

Base coat again the inside of the box and the outer sides and top of lid with Light Buttermilk. Mix Raw Sienna + Light Buttermilk about 1-1 with the palette knife (Mix 1 on the value chart). Using the 1" wash brush, float this along the bottom edges of the box, across the top edge and at the corners of the lid. This isn't very dark but you can repeat if needed. When dry, use this mix with just a bit more Raw Sienna added and spatter the box and the lid keeping most of the spatters to the outer edges. Clean up any spatters that landed inside the box with Light Buttermilk.

The feet, base, routed portion of the lid, inside the lid, top edge of the box, and bottom of the box were painted with 2 coats of Uniform Blue (I did this after I had painted the design). You might choose to use a different color for these sections.



Make a tracing of the pattern and apply the basic shapes to the box and lid using old grey graphite.

BASE COAT ELEMENTS FOR OPAQUE COVERAGE

Peaches: I used the size 10 flat shader. The center peach is base coated Moon Yellow

The two outer peaches are base coated Yellow Ochre

Blueberries: I used the size 4 Filbert for the base coats. Use three values to base coat the blueberries. Refer to the numbers on the pattern to help with the base coats.

Uniform Blue, 2. Uniform Blue + Colonial Blue 1-1 (Mix 2 on the value chart), 3. Colonial Blue + Snow White 1-1 (Mix 3 on the value chart)

Blueberry Leaves: Using the size 4 flat shader, Base coat with Hauser Medium Green.

Peach Leaves: Use the size 10 flat shader and base coat with Light Avocado.

TECHNIQUES:

FLOATING: I apply the shading and highlight floats with the ½” Angular Shader. I don’t use a lot of paint in my brush and repeat with the same value as many times as needed until I achieve a smooth transition of values. I place just a bit of paint on the tip of my dampened brush and work the brush on my palette to move the paint across the brush. If the brush is too dry, the paint won’t move. If the brush is too wet it will move all the way across the brush. You want to see a transition from dark to medium to light to nothing on the short side of the brush. You can also pinch the short edge to remove some of the paint that has moved all the way across. I use the short side of the brush to soften any paint that is creating a line as I float. This is where some of you use a mop. When I place the brush on the surface I always place the tip where the value will be darkest and stroke the brush to apply the paint and soften the application. I quit when I am satisfied or the paint begins to dry. Floating takes practice. For inside highlights, I use a back to back float. On a round surface I go in a circle with the paint to the inside. Sometimes it helps to pre-moisten an area with a little water to help disperse the paint.

DRY BRUSHING: I don’t do a lot of dry brushing to apply highlights but if that is easiest for you that’s fine. I did use the Maxine’s mops to apply a little dry brushing over the peaches to create the impression of fuzzy skin. Use just a scant amount of paint on the “dry” brush and wipe most of the paint off on a dry paper towel. Always place the brush where the lightest value will be and work outward lightly in a circular motion. It’s better to repeat this step several times rather than try to get the highlight with one step.

LINE WORK: I use a script liner for the scrolls and squiggles. Thin the paint with water to an inky consistency and fully load the liner pulling it through the thinned paint. Tap or roll the brush so that you have a nice point. Holding the brush vertically above the ferrule, touch the tip to the surface and pull in the direction you desire allowing gravity to let the paint flow off the brush. This takes some practice.

Painting Instructions:

Refer to the step by step illustrations and the finished photo to assist with the painting.

PEACHES:

Using the angle brush with Antique Gold, float to separate the peaches, shade, and shape. This value needs to be applied several times walking it out to cover a larger area for the shaded sides of the peaches or to separate the peaches.

Mix Antique Gold + Cadmium Red about 1-1 (Mix 4 on the value chart) and repeat in the shaded areas walking it out to begin to give the peaches some color. Keep this out of the highlighted areas. Shade again and give more color with floats of Cadmium Red, again staying out of the highlighted areas.

Add Heritage Brick shading to the same areas but don’t carry out as far.

Add small floats of Antique Maroon in just the deepest shade areas.

Begin to add highlights with back to back floats of Moon Yellow in the highlight areas of all the peaches. You can use a dry brush for this if you wish.

Peach fuzz: Using the 3//8" Mop, load just a bit of Moon Yellow in the "dry" brush and work on a dry paper towel. Begin in the highlight areas and begin to lightly brush over the surface to add a fuzzy look to the peaches. This is light so do not cover all of the shading and colors. I tried to keep this off the deep shade areas. Begin to add some reflected light to the lower left edges of the peaches with Colonial Blue + a



bit of Royal Purple. This is a very light float. Refer to the finished photo for help with placement. If you carried the fuzz too far, add some more Antique Maroon in the deepest shading areas again. Re-highlight using Moon Yellow and Moon Yellow + Light Buttermilk. Go over the reflected light areas again with Colonial Blue + Royal Purple + a bit of Light Buttermilk.

Continue to build the highlights using Light Buttermilk. You don't want a really bright shine mark since peaches do not have a shiny skin.

SHADING: I finished the foreground shading before I finished the leaves and blueberries. Refer to the peach step by step beginning with step 6.

6. Float Raw Sienna under the peaches, leaves, and berries walking the value out and losing it into the background. Repeat with Raw Sienna several times.

7. Mix Raw Sienna + Burnt Umber and shade again walking the color out but not as far so that you don't cover all of the Raw Sienna. Repeat several times especially in those dark areas.

8. Float some Antique Maroon in the deepest shading areas but don't cover all of the previous values. On the back right peach, I floated a little of this onto the peach in that darkest area. Clean up any edges of the berries, leaves, or peaches and then continue with the rest of the design. I mostly used Raw Sienna between the berries. On the lid, only use the Raw Sienna.

BLUEBERRIES:

Use the angle brush to float the shading on the blueberries. Refer to the step by step illustration. Float some Raw Sienna around the blueberries on the lid losing the value on the outer edges. Refer to the finished photo. Use a smaller brush if needed to place some Raw Sienna between the berries. Repeat if needed. When finished, clean up any edges of the berries with the appropriate base coat value.

Dark Berries: (Number 1 on the pattern)

Mix Prussian Blue + Deep Midnight Blue about 1-1 (Mix 5 on the value chart) and float on the shaded side of the berries. Float a little of this inside the bud ends at the top of each berry. Repeat the shading with the same Mix 5. Float a little of this mix around the bud end leaving a small irregular edge.

Begin to add highlights with Uniform Blue + Colonial Blue. Use a smaller brush or the tip of the angle for the inside highlights. You might moisten the berry first to help the highlight to soften at the edges and disperse a little.



Highlight again with a slightly lighter value. Use a liner to add broken highlights to the little edge around the bud end. Highlight again with Colonial Blue + Snow White, Mix 3. If it isn't light enough add a bit more Snow White. Highlight around the bud end on the top edges.

Accents: I floated some Royal Purple over the shaded areas of the dark berries. Re-highlight again with just a bit of Snow White on a few of the dark berries on top and maybe a bit on the edge around the bud end.

Medium Value Berries: (Number 2 on the pattern)

Shade the berries with Uniform Blue including inside the mouth of the bud end.

Shade again with some of the Mix 5 to deepen the shading also inside the mouth.

Shade around the bud end to create the little irregular edge with Uniform Blue.

Begin to highlight the berries with Colonial Blue.

Highlight again with Colonial Blue + Snow White.

Use a slightly lighter mix of Colonial Blue + Snow White to highlight again.

Accents: Float some Jade Green over the highlighted edges of the berries. Float some Royal Purple over the shaded lower edges. Re-highlight as needed. These needed with some Snow White. Highlight the irregular edge around the bud end at the top portion.

Light Berries: (Number 3 on the pattern)

Shade with Uniform Blue + Colonial Blue 1-1 Mix 3 on the chart. Float inside the mouth of the bud end.

Shade again with Uniform Blue.

Add more Uniform Blue Shading as needed and float around the outer edge of the bud end to create the irregular edge.

Begin to add highlights with Colonial Blue + Snow White (a bit lighter than the base coat value).

Use a liner to highlight around the edge of the bud end.

Highlight again with a slightly lighter value of Colonial Blue + Snow White.

Evaluate to add more shading or highlighting.

Accents: Float some Jade Green over the lighter side of the berries. Add final Snow White highlights.

BLUEBERRY LEAVES:

Float Hauser Dark Green at the base of the leaves to shade.

Repeat as needed.

Float again if needed with Hauser Dark Green to shade and then pull some down the back side of the center vein.

Re-shade as needed.

Float Hauser Light Green at the tips and next to the vein line to highlight.

Using the 10/0 liner, thin Hauser Light Green to an inky consistency and paint the center vein down the dark shaded area leaving a little dark line next to the vein on the highlighted side.

Add the side veins curving slightly.

Float some more Hauser Dark Green at the base of the leaves to shade the veins. On a few of the leaves, float just a bit of Olive Green to create a stronger highlight.

Float some Colonial Blue on the edges of some of the leaves to accent. If needed, mix some Olive Green with Hauser Light Green to highlight some of the center veins.

PEACH LEAVES: Refer to the finished photo and the step by step to assist in placement.

To shade, mix Plantation Pine + Light Avocado about 1-1. Float this at the base of the leaves, down one side of the center veins and on the underside of any flips. Repeat this step at least twice so that you have a smooth gradation of values.

Float Plantation Pine in all the same places repeating as needed.

Mix Jade Green + Light Avocado about 1-1 and begin to float highlighting on the outer edges of the flips, next to the vein line and top edges of the leaves. Repeat as needed.

Using Jade Green, highlight again in the same places making sure you have a smooth gradation into the mid range values.

Using Jade Green with either the size 0 script liner or the detail liner, paint the center veins and then the side veins. Refer to the photo to see where some of these veins get lost when the leaf turns or under a flip.

Add just a bit of Hauser Light Green or mix a bit of Olive with the Hauser Light to highlight some of the center veins and the edges of the leaves near the peaches. Float some Plantation Pine at the base of the leaves and where a vein falls under a flip to shade the vein and put the leaves under or behind an object.

Accents: Float some Heritage Brick at the tips and edges of some of the leaves and float some over the shaded areas. On some of the mid range edges, float some Colonial Blue accents. Especially the leaves near the blueberries.



Finishing:

Scrolls on lid: Use any of the greens from your palette. I mixed a little Hauser Dark with Hauser Medium and thinned to an inky consistency. Load the size 0 script liner fully and paint the connecting scroll lines free handed. Refer to the techniques earlier in the document to assist.

Trim: I selected Uniform Blue for my trim on the box. Use another color that more closely matches your décor. Just be sure that it coordinates with the design. You could use Light Avocado or mix it with Plantation Pine, Heritage Brick, Antique Maroon, Raw Sienna, etc. I carefully painted this at the base, the bottom of the box, on the lid, the back side of the lid, the top edge of the box, and the feet and knob. If needed, place a coat of varnish over the design areas and inside the box so that you can clean up any misses more easily. I used a size 10 or 12 flat brush with a good chisel edge to paint the edges and then a larger brush for the inside of the lid and bottom of the box.

The feet and knob ends were a bit too large for the holes in the box so I drilled the holes a little wider. I dipped the end of the knobs into a bit of wood glue and inserted them in the holes flush with the surface. Clean up any glue that seeps out under with a damp paper towel. Allow to dry thoroughly. Varnish the box as you desire. I like to use at least 3 or more coats of JoSonja Polyurethane Matte Varnish. For a piece that gets a lot of handling, you might want to use a good fine furniture paste wax on the box at least once a year.

Enjoy



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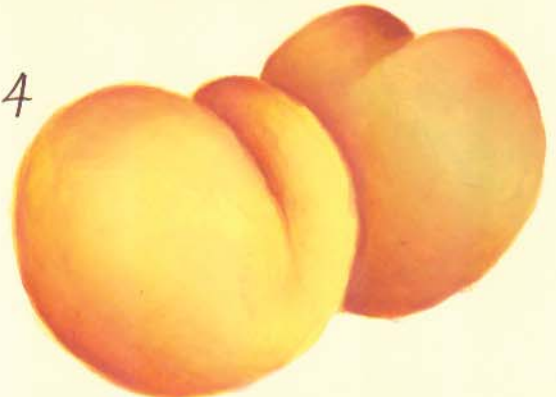
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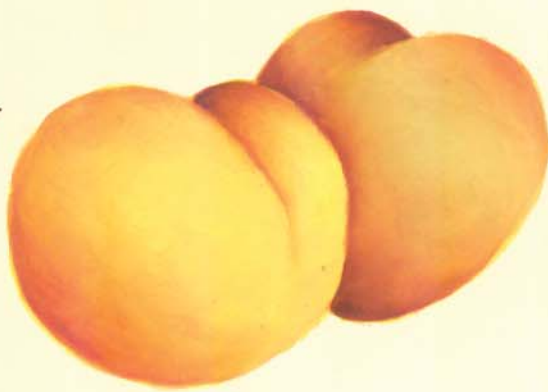
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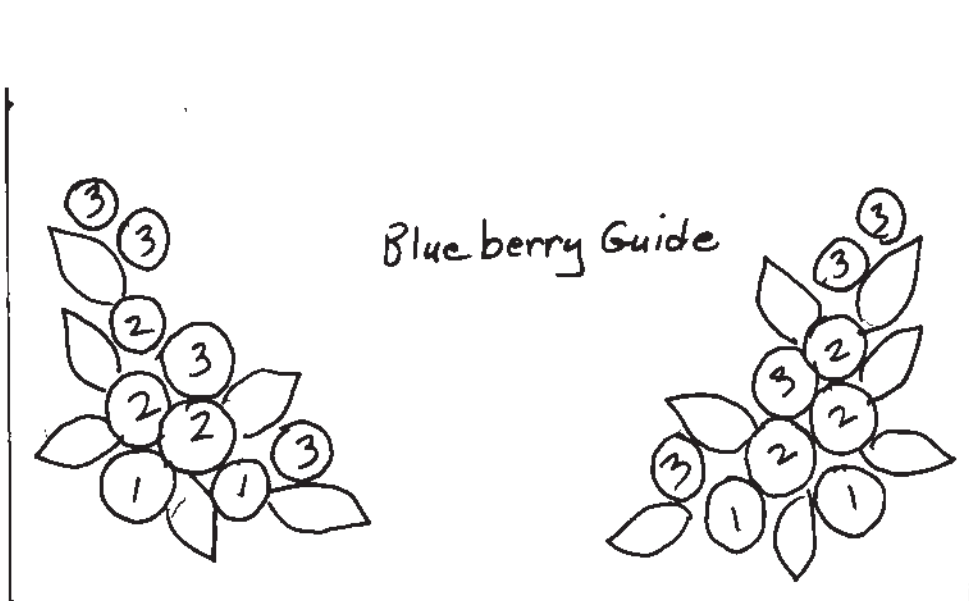
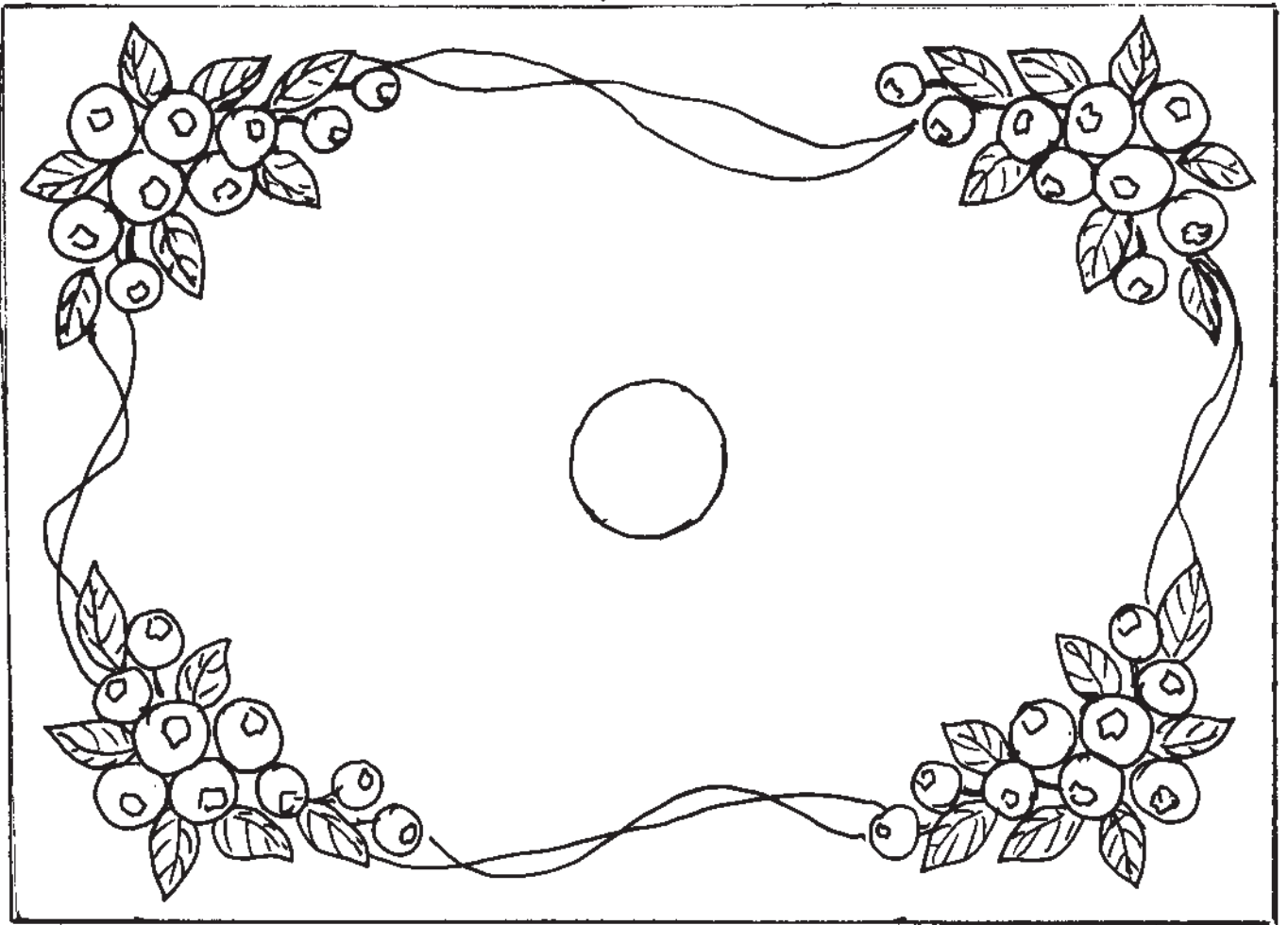
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Lid 7"

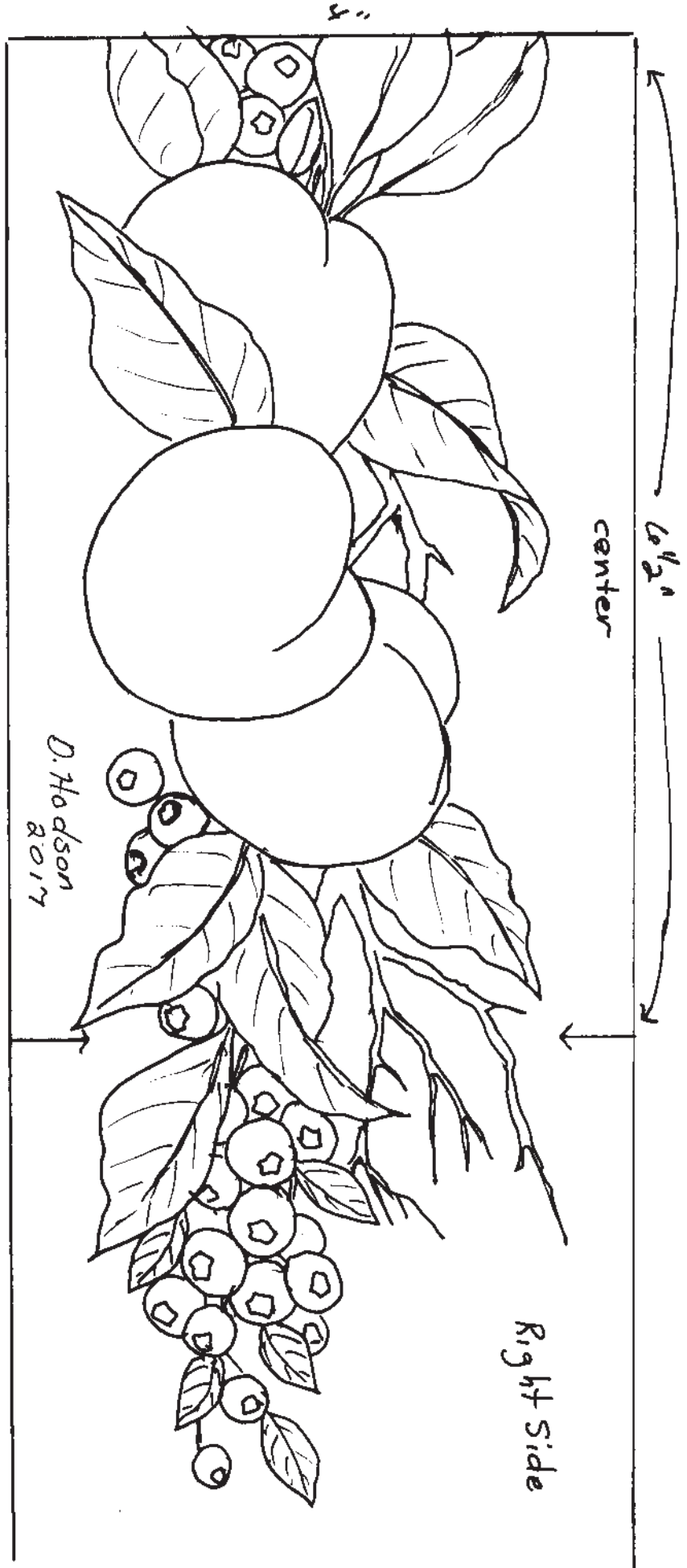
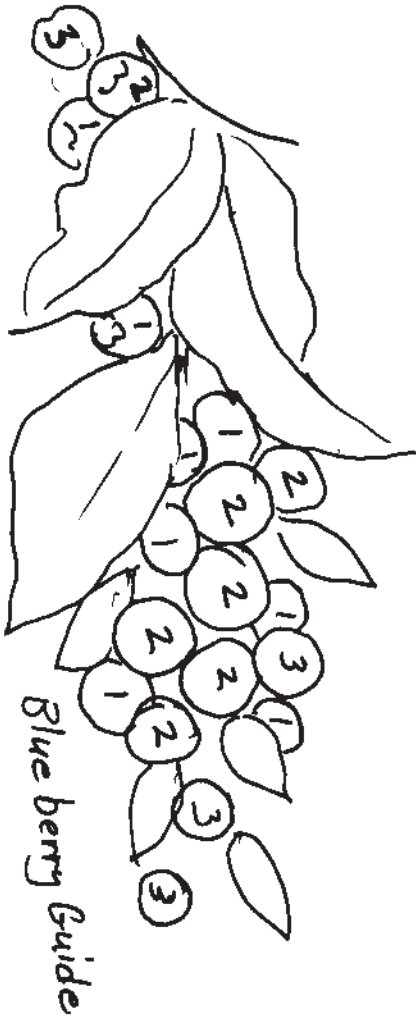
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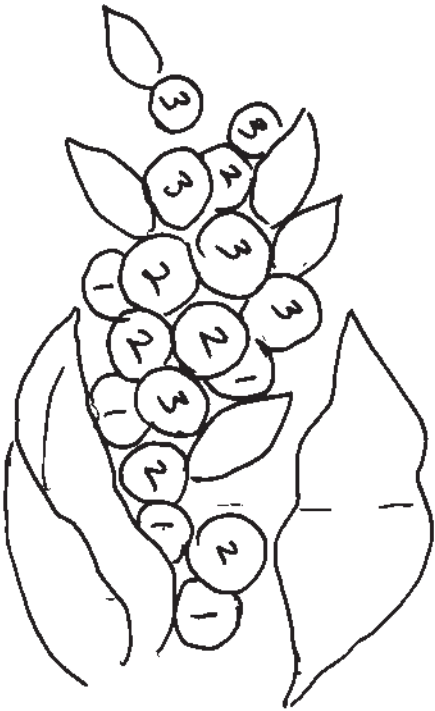


Pattern at 100%

1" x 1"

To ensure your pattern is at 100%, this box should measure 1" x 1" when printed.





Blueberry
Guide



Left Side







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