

The Henna Page "HowTo"

Harquus



The Henna Page "HowTo" Harquus
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Henna Art

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Always use safe, natural red-brown henna in your henna work. Never use any “black henna” product containing para-phenylenediamine or related coal tar dyes to stain skin. Para-phenylenediamine and coal tar dyes may cause severe injuries to both artist and client.

Harquus from mehandi.com is a safe alternative to "Black Henna"

Create black temporary tattoos with Harquus,
an FDA approved black body paint



Many people want BLACK temporary body art that looks like a tattoo. They want the body art to last a few days, and to not wash off. It is dangerous and illegal to apply para-phenylenediamine to skin; this is PPD, synthetic black hair dye, the main ingredient of the black temporary tattoo paste sold as "Black Henna". "Black Henna" can leave people with severe scars and long-term health problems.

For more information on the dangers of Para-phenylenediamine as body art see:

<http://www.hennaforhair.com/ppd/ppdreaction/>
<http://www.hennapage.com/henna/ppd/index.html>

Henna is safe, but will not give people the jet-black mid-body markings that look like tattoos. There is NOTHING that you can safely add to henna to make it black. Anything called "black henna" is NOT henna. Anything that stains your skin jet black within 20 minutes is NOT henna and is NOT SAFE.

Harquus is a word for various black cosmetics traditionally used in North Africa and the Middle East. Durable black body paints have been made for generations by combining plant resins and fats with carbonized wood, lignite, and cellulose. Chemically similar

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body paints are available now, developed for the film and television industry, when actors need realistic looking temporary tattoos for roles. These come in many colors. These paints are FDA approved. The ingredients of Harquus, Temptu, and similar safe black body paints are isopropanol, ethanol, cellulose and cellulose derivatives, castor oil, with ultramarine blue and black iron oxide as the colorants. These paints are "set" with talcum powder. These are absolutely safe, even on children. When properly applied, this temporary tattoo looks identical to a REAL tattoo. These last for 1 to 5 days, depending on body placement and care. When you wish to remove this temporary tattoo, you simply wipe the paint away with rubbing alcohol or surgical spirits.

Purchase harquus from <http://www.mehandi.com/>



Materials:

- 1) A small brush, size 0 to 5
- 2) Cotton balls and talcum powder for preparing the skin and setting the paint.
- 3) Rubbing alcohol for cleaning the brush and correcting mistakes.
- 4) Harquus or other FDA approved body paint and a tiny container to pour out one drop at a time.

Do not try to use a cheap brush! Cheap brushes paint messy lines.

*Make sure you have **talc** talcum powder, not cornstarch!*

Shot glasses and sake cups are very convenient for holding your materials!

Application instructions for harquus or temporary tattoo paint:

- 1) Clean the subject's skin with soap and water to remove cosmetics. If the subject has oily skin, clean with an astringent to remove as much oil as possible.
- 2) Apply talcum powder to the skin with a cotton ball, and wipe away the excess. This will prevent your harquus from "feathering" on the skin.
- 3) Shake your bottle of harquus. The pigments in the paint settle to the bottom of the bottle and you **MUST** shake the bottle each time to disperse the pigment. Put one drop of paint into your little cup. Allow that drop to evaporate. Pour in one more drop of paint onto the evaporated drop. Brush the two together and begin painting.
- 4) Apply the patterns. If your brush gets heavy with paint, rinse it in rubbing alcohol. If your paint is too thin, evaporate another drop in your little cup. If your paint is too thick, add half a drop of rubbing alcohol.



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5) When you have finished applying the paint, powder the patterns again with talcum powder. Make sure the powder is "talc" and not corn starch. This powder will bind with the paint to create a durable, realistic-looking temporary tattoo.



6) Gently rub the talcum powder into the skin. In a few minutes, all of the powder will be absorbed into the paint. The paint will be water-resistant, but can be removed quickly with rubbing alcohol. If you apply a second coat of paint and talcum, the harquus will be more durable. When you are done, rub talcum powder into the harquus again, and dust off the excess.

You can make your harquus last longer on the skin by dusting it lightly with talcum powder after bathing, or when it starts to look shiny. This will keep your harquus looking like a real tattoo! When you're ready to remove your temporary tattoo, just rub it off with rubbing alcohol or surgical spirits.

You can dust your harquus with opalescent lumiere powder for special effects:



Instead of brushing glitter over the body paint, brush "Ice" or "Iced Gold" Ben Nye Lumiere powder (or the equivalent in another brand) over the paint. Use pale Lumiere powder, so it won't color the skin as it sticks to the body paint. Keep brushing on powder until the surface of the resin-based paint feels dry.

The pattern above is adapted from
"Ancient Blue Pagan Patterns from Ancient Europe"
by Alex Morgan
available from www.tapdancinglizard.com

You can brush body glitter over your harquus for special effects:



Apply harquus as usual, and add Swarovski crystals for extra dazzle.

Instead of using talcum powder to seal the paint, brush glitter onto the slightly tacky harquus. Pour loose ultrafine body glitter into a small cup and brush it over the paint with a wide brush. The example below was done with Jerome Russell Pixie Sparkle opalescent glitter, Swarovski crystals applied with Liquid New Skin, and harquus from mehandi.com.



You can see that the opalescent glitter in the bowl has no color of its own, but is highly reflective. Opalescent glitter over black resin-based body paint reflects iridescent greens and blues.

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This pattern is adapted from "Glory of Henna"
by Deepali Deshpande

Here is another example of glitter over harquus:



Clean the skin, and dust it lightly with talcum powder. Paint the resin-based body paints onto the skin with a brush.

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When the paint is nearly dry, brush purple body glitter over this harquus. The glitter sticks to the surface of the harquus, and creates a solid, dry, dazzling surface that shimmers with every move. Swarovski crystals highlight the design.

The pattern above is from
"Ancient Blue Pagan Patterns from Ancient Europe"
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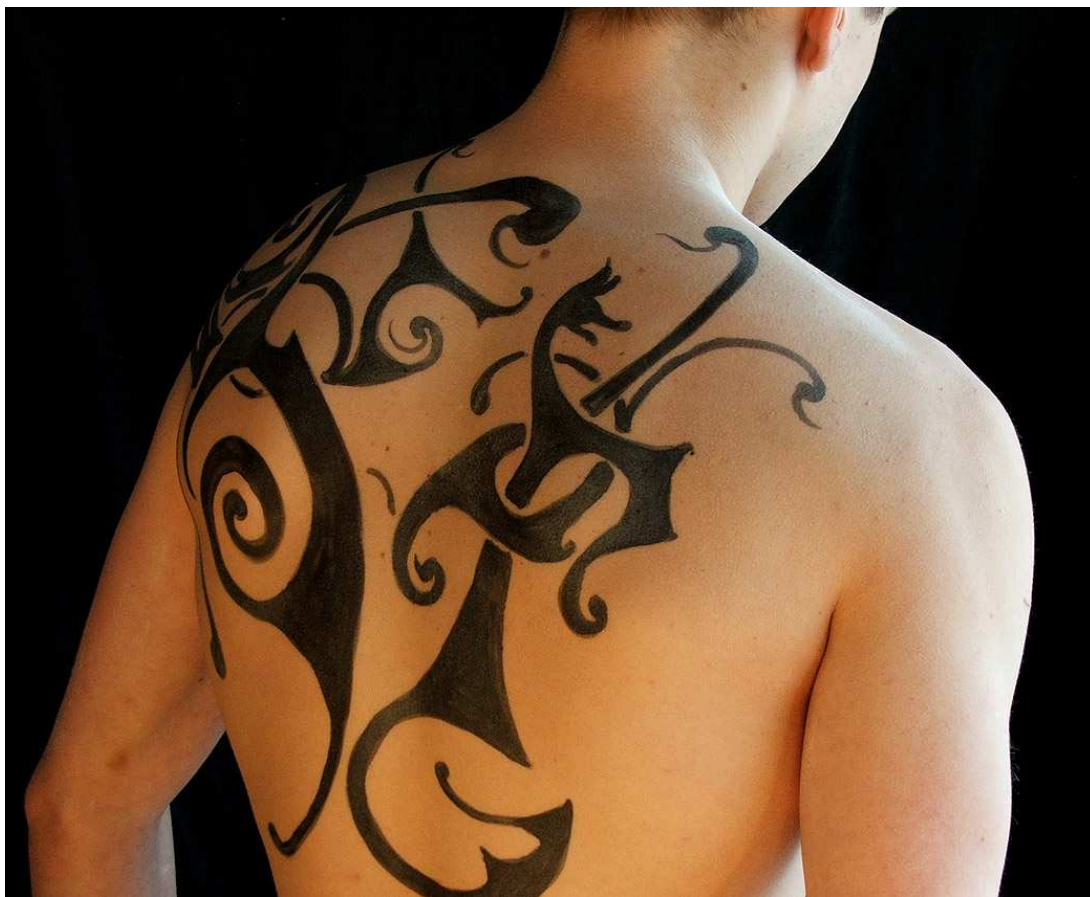
Available from www.tapdancinglizard.com

Two Step-by-Step Projects:

The following two step-by-step projects are adapted from patterns in “Ancient Blue Pagan Patterns from Ancient Europe” by Alex Morgan, Available from <http://www.tapdancinglizard.com/>



Project 1: The Viking Dragon Ship



Step by Step:

Clean the skin and lightly dust it with talcum powder. Begin painting.



Shake your bottle of harquus. The pigments in the paint settle to the bottom of the bottle and you **MUST** shake the bottle each time to disperse the pigment. Put one drop of paint

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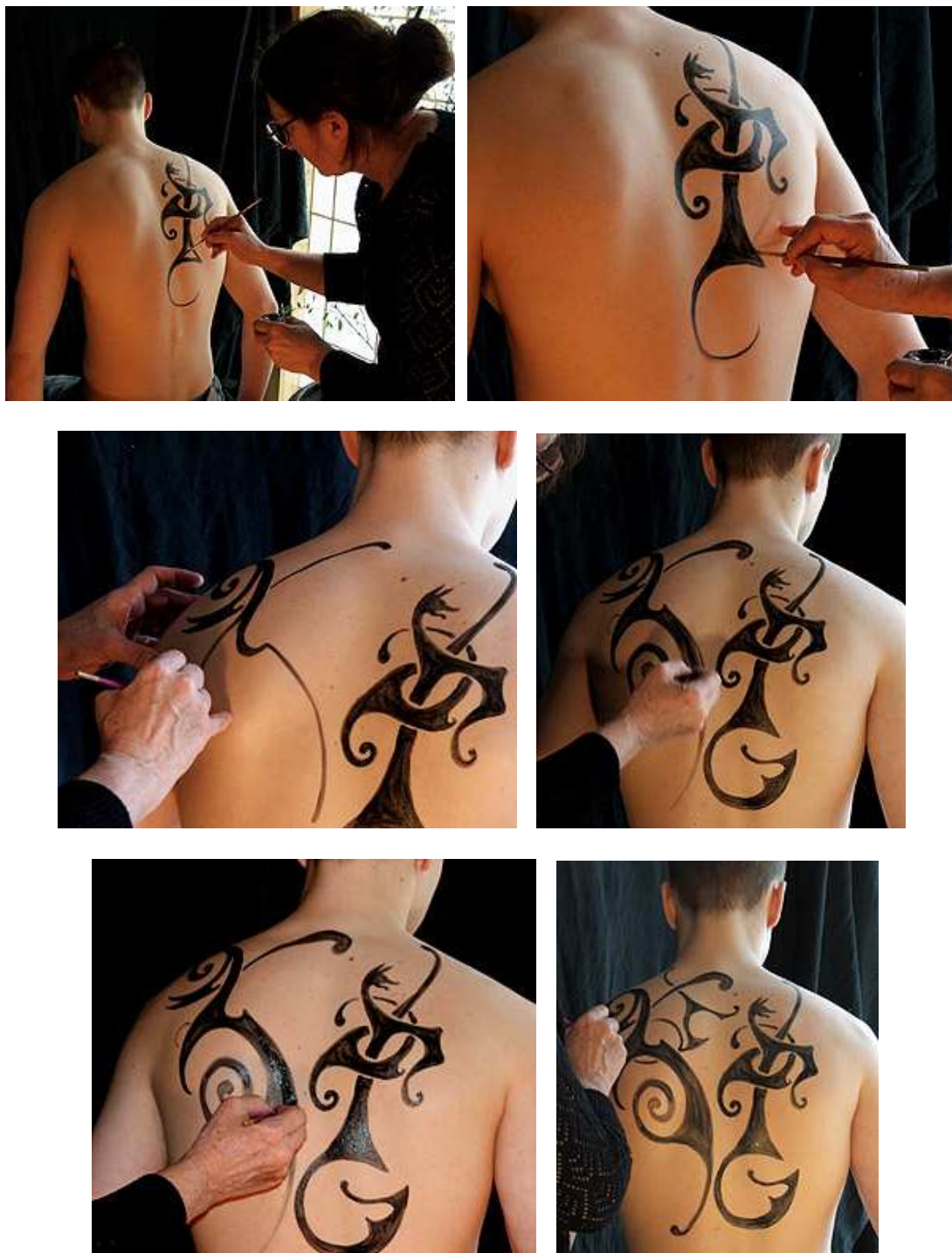
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Apply the patterns. If your brush gets heavy with paint, rinse it in rubbing alcohol. If your paint is too thin, evaporate another drop in your little cup. If your paint is too thick, add half a drop of rubbing alcohol.





When you have finished applying the paint, powder the patterns again with talcum powder. Make sure the powder is "talc", not cornstarch. Talc will bind with the paint to create a durable, realistic-looking temporary tattoo.



Gently rub the talcum powder into the skin. In a few minutes, all of the powder will be absorbed into the paint. The paint will be water-resistant, but can be removed quickly with rubbing alcohol.

Broad areas of henna may be uneven, and need a second coat. It is better to apply two thin coats of henna than to try to apply one thick coat. If you apply a second coat of paint and talcum, the henna will be more durable.





When you are done, rub talcum powder into the harquus again, and dust off the excess.

Project 2: The Swan

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Step by Step:



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When you have finished applying the paint, powder the patterns again with talcum powder. Make sure the powder is "talc", not cornstarch. Talc will bind with the paint to create a durable, realistic-looking temporary tattoo.



When you are done, rub talcum powder into the henna again, and dust off the excess.



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Shop at **EMPIRE** 135 E. Main St. in Kent, Ohio, for your henna and bodyart supplies. Get free advice, demonstrations, & help with your bodyart projects.

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