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HELPFUL HINTS

Your boomerangs have been painted with a heavy sanding sealer, which will allow a smooth base for paint to dry quickly on. Run your hand over the front to get a feel of the surface imperfections and gently sand with only enough pressure to smooth the surface. Be careful with new sandpaper, the best being old paper, as you don't want to cut through the surface.

Best results are achieved using folk art paint, but any water base paint will suffice. The drawback of oil based paints and enamels is their drying time.

Dot painting is achieved by using the end of a small paintbrush. A small blob of paint is placed on a flat surface or paper plate palette, and using the timber end of the brush to pick up paint, dots are applied one at a time. (Reloading paint for each dot) Practice on a sample surface until the desired result is achieved and continue until the process is perfected – then start on the boomerang.

Sometimes it is easier to achieve graceful curves and lines by drawing curves or designs on thin cardboard, then cutting out with scissors. You can then draw the shapes with pencil before painting (these cut out templates may be kept for further use).

When painting lines PRACTICE! You will need to know the results of varying amounts of paint, pressure, how much to thin the paint, etc. You may also experiment with rulers held at an angle to give a steadying guide to the brush.

Other texture experiments could be sponging, random spray paint, stippling, colour smudging or foam roller effect. Remember that a finish may be built-up from many folk art techniques.

When the work is finished, a coat of gloss lacquer or all purpose sealer may be used to fix the colours and provide a protective coat.