

# Ceramic Santa Re-paint

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This little ceramic Santa ornament appealed to me, mainly because of his adorable animal companions – including a little bunny asleep in his arm. So sweet.

I like his vintage look too, but . . . I just did not like the colour of him. I'm not sure what they were going for with that yellow trim on the coat, and even less so with the *yellow* snow he's standing on. . . . (!)



I kept him around for a couple of years, hoping that the colouring would grow on me, but I never got over my distaste for all that yellow. Time to break out the acrylic paints!

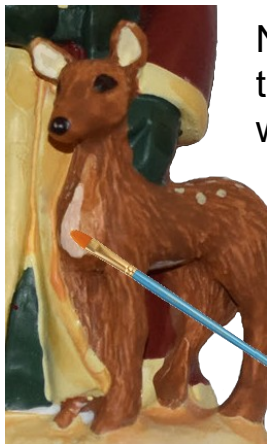
This Santa wasn't glazed, so I knew that the acrylic paints would adhere well to the surface. I didn't want to alter him completely, but I did want to cover all that yellow with shades of white, to fill in the white of his beard (what's with all that peach colour showing through?!), and to brighten the red of his cloak.

I picked out acrylic craft paint in white, Tuscan red, and pearlescent colours to make the transformation.

I started with his beard, using plain white to cover the peach show-through.

Then I mixed a drop of red into some white to give his cheeks a rosy glow.





Next I touched up the patch on the deer's chest with plain white. To paint the snow, I mixed plain white with a tiny smidgen of bright blue, to give it a slight bluish cast, like actual snow has.



I selected pearlescent white for the trim on Santa's robes; it doesn't cover well, so I painted the trim plain white first. Finally, I brightened the robe slightly with Tuscan red, and then finished off my Santa. with a coat of gloss varnish to protect the paint and add some shine.



A side-by-side comparison: He looks so much better now, at least to my eye, without all that overwhelming yellow. And the sweet little bunny shows up better.



Sometimes a little coat of paint is all it takes to make something that's only so-so into something really quite pretty. My little Santa is just so much improved. Maybe all he needs now is a touch of iridescent glitter glue on that snowy base . . .