

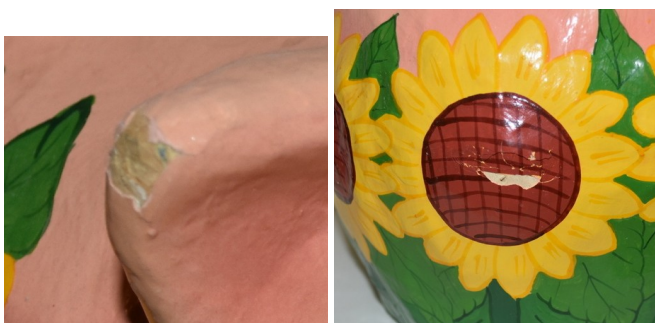
# Repairing a Paper Mache Tissue Box

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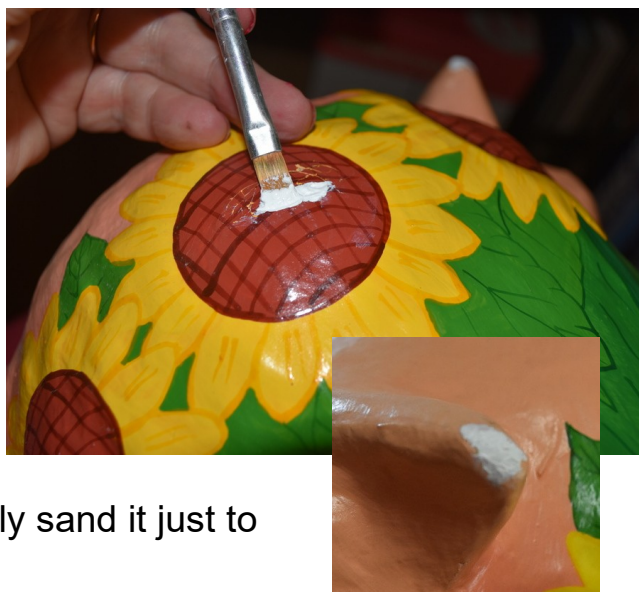
I bought this crazy handmade piggy tissue dispenser several years back and just love him. But over time his paper mache surface has suffered a few dings, to both of his ear tips and to one of the sunflowers on his side.



Because he's paper mache, it's a fairly easy fix. I'll start by filling in the dings with an application of gesso, just to even out the surface. (As an indication of how long this stuff lasts, Lewiscraft ceased operation in 2007, and this container is still viable!).

Here I'm using a brush to apply the gesso into the chipped section of the sunflower, filling it to the level of the finished surface. I'll do the same for the ear tips as well.

Part of the charm of homemade paper mache is its rather uneven texture, so my repair doesn't have to be perfectly smooth. When it dries, I'll lightly sand it just to remove any rough bits.





I used acrylic paint to touch up the repairs, mixing colours to get an appropriate shade.

For the ears, I used pink and yellow to get a bright peach; for the sunflower, I mixed brown/red/orange

to make a coppery colour.

When the paint dried, I re-drew the lines using a brown marker.



To restore shine to the painted sections, I used this True Flow varnish, which gives a lovely gloss finish that matches the original.

My finished piggy tissue holder looks as good as new: DH couldn't even tell for sure where exactly I'd made the repair. I'm super happy, since the damaged bits had made the piggy look rather shabby. Now I can put him back on display where he belongs!

