

August Stir Crazy - Silk Covered Vases

Karen Malin, San Diego Silk Guild
karengmalin@gmail.com



Glass jars or dollar store vases are transformed into beautiful works of art by using a fabric stiffening medium and scraps of colorful silk! This is a really easy fun project and the results are stunning! It's a great activity for grandkids! After you've made your silk covered vases post a photo on Instagram and Facebook with [#stircrazy-vam](#) and [#vamsilkvases](#).

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

- Any glass vessel such as a mason jar or vase. Even a clear water glass or an empty glass jar will work.
- Scraps of colorful silk.
- Golden stiffening medium - GAC 400. An 8 oz is plenty for dozen vases or more, depending on the size.
- Old craft scissors.
- Small plastic bowl that you use for craft projects.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Wash the glass to remove any dirt, labels, etc.
- Cut the silk into one piece to wrap around the glass, or into strips/pieces for a collage.
- Soak the fabric with the medium, squeeze excess into bowl. Excess can be used for smoothing fabric after placing it.
- Wrap the fabric so it covers the glass, tucking excess to the inside of the glass. Play with placement by pleating, gathering, twisting and folding. Texture in the fabric makes the piece interesting.
- Trim excess fabric and use fingers to apply medium as needed to adhere the silk to the glass on the inside. Narrow silk pieces or rolled edges trimmed from silk scarves can be used to make a decorative tie or you can twist the excess silk to create a rosette. After a few minutes of holding the rosette firmly against the glass with your finger, it will stay in place to solidify.
- Once you are happy with the design, set aside to dry for 24 hours. Vase can be placed on wax or parchment paper so it won't stick.

TIPS

- When wrapping fabric, you can start from the bottom so the bottom is covered as well.
- Silk wrapped vases can be used for air or silk plants, electric votive candles, or as beautiful decorative pieces on!
- This technique can also be used to cover holiday ornaments.