

Notes on Painting Your Pavilion

- Most pavilions seen in period imagery are primary colors -- blue (most popular), red, black, etc.
- A little paint goes a long way. Think of accents, not of coating your entire pavilion in paint.
- Browse period imagery for inspiration. We've seen geometric motifs, coats of arms, gothic-style arches, and rays.
- Allow your design to echo the lines of your pavilion, as our ancestors did, for the best effect. You'll want to focus on your vertical seams.
- Always test your paint on a scrap piece of canvas first. Is it still water-resistant? Does it smudge if rubbed after 24 hours?
- Don't worry if your paint lines aren't as sharp as you'd like. At 10 or more feet away, no one will ever notice!

Many thanks to Countess Catarina deBruyn for sharing her experience and tips on pavilion painting.

More resources for painting pavilions:

<http://www.currentmiddleages.org/tents/pavgeneral.htm>

<http://midtown.net/dragonwing/col9809.htm>

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by Geneveva and Gregor

When we bought our new oval marquee pavilion from Panther Pavilions, we thought, 'This is the bees knees!'. Then we set it up at Lilies War and thought, 'This is a really white, plain pavilion!' Our pavilions prior to this were red and white striped, which we really enjoyed. So set decided it was time to embark on our first pavilion painting project. This year we've painted the top of our pavilion red and gold. Next year we'll paint the walls to match. We used 16th c. and other period sources as the inspiration for our design choices (see next page). The photo below is our initial pavilion design—at the time we're preparing this handout, we do not have a photo of our newly painted pavilion.

