

ACTIVITY

PORTUGUESE AZULEJO



Common tile designs. These blue and white symmetrical designs can be found on all kinds of ceramics used inside of homes (i.e. kitchens, bathrooms, hallways) and even on the outsides of buildings (see below). Each tile is painted and fit together like a puzzle, creating an abstract design, or a realistic painting. Traditionally, blue colours are used, but occasionally an accent of yellow is also used.



Here are some examples of outdoor applications of the azulejo. On the left, an entrance into the fortified city of Óbidos. On the right, a common application of a depiction of a saint on a design which is generally about 1.5 x 2 feet, found on many homes and streets, as a sign of welcome and protection.

An example of a plate in the azulejo style, but using a variety of colours. The plates are generally made of clay, and are hand painted and then glazed.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Azulejo: Symmetrical Design

This design is from an azulejo in Portugal. It's from a tile that could be found in a kitchen or hallway, but it's only half finished!

Can you draw in and colour the other half? Use a pencil to lightly draw in the other half—remember though, it's a SYMMETRICAL design! When you're done drawing, use crayons and pencil to colour it, in different shades of blue and white. Good luck finishing the azulejo!

