Circles Mirror

Colour Combinations:

All tiles used for this piece are ceramic

What You Need:

**Equipment:**
1. A mirror measuring 40cm x 40cm (15.75 inches). The actual mirror is 22cm x 22cm (8.66 inches).
2. Tile cutter and nipper
3. Container for mixing your grout
4. Cloth and sponge for wiping off the grout
5. Latex gloves for grouting
6. Carbon paper and pencil for tracing the pattern onto the container.
7. Old paintbrush to use to coat the tiles with glue.
8. Black marker pen

**Materials:**
1. White soluble PVA adhesive or keycoat.
2. Ceramic tiles: Tile measures 15cmx15cm (5.9 inches)
   - 1 tile 1 tile (greens for the background)
   - 2 tiles 1 tile
   - 1 tile 1 tile
   - 1 tile 1 tile
   - 1 tile 2 tiles
3. Wood glue / WeldBond.
4. White or dark grey grout - the pattern will work with either depending on the color choice.
5. Grout sealant
6. White or black acrylic paint to paint the back of the piece
1. Paint your container with 50% diluted white PVA adhesive or keycoat. This will prepare and seal them. Trace on your pattern, then go over it with a black marker.

2. Cut your dark grey tiles into squares and stick down your border first. This is where a tile cutter comes in really handy.

3. Break or cut your 2 green ceramic tiles into random pieces and lay down your background. Then start with the circles. If you view picture 9 and the large picture, you will see the way I have cut the different pieces for the different circles.

4. When cutting a piece in this shape, you angle your nippers inwards. It is also easier if you cut your pieces, lay them out on the paper pattern first and then stick them down onto the mirror.

5. Almost halfway done. I worked slowly cutting tiles as I have needed them since the circles are all different sizes.

6. Lay down your inside border and you are ready to grout. I put a small metal ruler down and lined my pieces up against them to get an even edge.

7. When you grout, mix the grout into a smooth paste and use a flat knife or spatula to apply it to the mosaic. Be gentle with your mosaic as you do not want the tiles to work loose.
   
   I find that if I use a sponge to gently rub the grout in a circular motion, I don’t have bubbles or cracks forming.

8. Once the grout is semi-dry, wipe off the excess with old newspaper. Buff up with a soft cloth when the grout is fully dry. Do not forget to seal your grout and tiles afterwards.
   
   Wear your latex gloves or you will not have any skin left on your fingers!

9. Finish off your piece by painting the sides and back of the frame with either black acrylic or black PVA.
The Pattern:

The Pattern:

40cm x 40cm (15.7)

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