

6 Watercolor Techniques

Watercolor paint is a very useful, economical tool for artists. It provides and opportunity for expression, exploration and pleasure in its versatility. This small exercise will help us practice some of the many ways to use this media. It will also give us something to refer to in the future to refine our skills with watercolor paints.

Making the Watercolor Technique Samples

1. Collect the essential materials:
 - a. A practice sheet of paper for use with watercolor
 - b. Two small strips (3”X9”) of good watercolor paper
 - c. Salt
 - d. Isopropyl rubbing alcohol
 - e. Kitchen plastic wrap
 - f. Drinking straw
 - g. Plastic fork or knife
 - h. Glue stick
 - i. Paint kit(in this case it will be a watercolor set, water, brush, and paper towel)
2. On the sheet of practice paper practice the following techniques as shown by your teacher in class:
 - a. Wet on dry
 - b. Wet into wet
 - c. Glazing
 - d. Blowing
 - e. Salt
 - f. Water blooms
 - g. Rubbing alcohol
 - h. Double dipping
 - i. Plastic wrap
 - j. Scoring
 - k. lifting
 - l. Graduated color field
3. Chose the six techniques that were the most successful and challenging out of those you tried on the practice paper and creatively cut them out from the practice strips.

Mounting the Watercolor Technique Samples into your sketchbook:

1. Open your sketchbook to the next blank page.
2. Glue in the sample strips in a creative way to allow for writing around them.
3. Make sure the sample strips are well glued down so that they do not become dislodged from the repeated turning of pages.

Authoring the Watercolor Technique Page

1. Label the page of your sketchbook “Watercolor Techniques” at the top neatly.
2. On this page in full, complete sentences, and in a visually creative way, answer the following question correctly:

Watercolor Technique Questions:

- a. Which technique worked best in the samples you see?
- b. Why do you think that sample is the best?
- c. Which sample is the worst?
- d. What should you have changed to make this sample better?

Media Questions:

- a. What do you like best about working with watercolor so far?