



Painting Technique: Watercolor

Difficulty: Intermediate

SUPPLIES:

Extra palette
Water

PAINT COLORS

Your Choice!

If you have used our paints you know they are nothing like watercolors. In fact, we advise against using water with our paints altogether! But I broke the rules and used water with our paints to achieve a water color look to my piece. Of course, these colors change drastically between when you leave your piece with us and when they come out of the kiln fired. Same goes for when you water down your paints, sometimes they could be darker or lighter than you imagined. This is another one of those techniques that requires being imperfect-which contributes to the look of watercolors.

I keep a bowl of water handy at all times as well as a spare pallet to mix small amounts of water and paint to use.

1. Pour your paints in one pallet, keeping the other bare.
2. Dip your brush in whatever color you choose and then dunk it in the water (you do not want to wash off the paint, just immerse it).
3. Then on the blank pallet I take my wet, painty brush and mix it together in one of the wells. If I think the paint needs a little more water, I just dip my brush back in the water and mix it in to my paint/water mixture again. I do it with the brush because it's easier to control just how watered down my paint gets.
4. Start painting!

Same rules apply: start with your lighter colors first, darker colors like black can go last. What rule doesn't apply? The three coat rule! You want these colors to be watered down and semi transparent so you do not have to do three coats. If you want some areas to be darker or more opaque you can make your paint less watery or you can go over it a second time.

I have found this technique works great to imitate watercolor styles as well as traditional tattoo flash designs (think Sailor Jerry and Ed Hardy, traditionally old school tattoo flash is hand painted with watercolors-cool, huh?). You can also use this watercolor style with our SPLATTER PAINT technique!



Beky's Watercolor Parakeets

Visit a You're Fired Studio to apply this technique.