

Watercolours



Learn how to “paint” with watercolour pencils using materials from home

Watercolour paint is a translucent or partially see-through art medium made up of colourful pigments that are easily spread when mixed with water.

Artists use watercolours to paint directly on top of wet paper or mix colours with water to add paint to dry paper.

Special effects such as starbursts and spots that keep the paint away can also be achieved when other materials like salt, oil, and wax crayons are used in the art-making process.

Today watercolours can be found in many different forms, such as tubes, hard cake-like discs in a tray, watercolour pencils, and even crayons! The painting above, *Cape Ann* by Maurice Brazil Prendergast, was made using watercolour paints and graphite pencils to sketch the design.



Materials

You will need:

- watercolour pencils
- watercolour paper
- a pencil
- a cup or bowl of water
- a paintbrush, cotton swabs, or paper towels

Step One



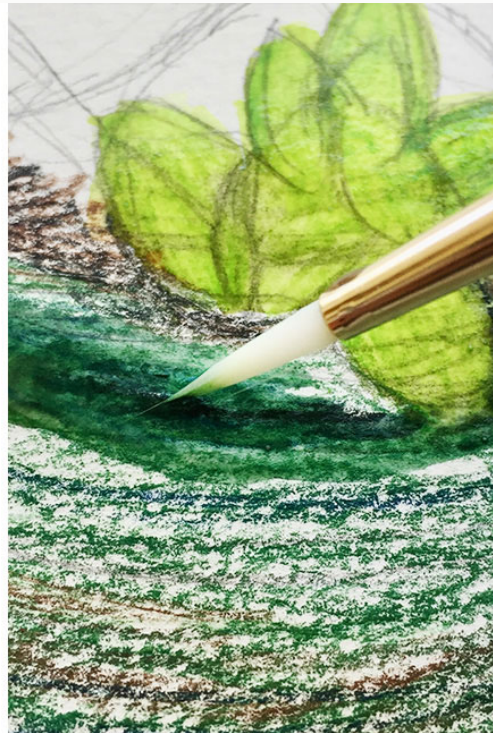
Start by lightly sketching a design with your pencil. Don't worry if it isn't perfect!

Step Two



Use watercolour pencils to add some colour. Tip: use lighter colours first!

Step Three



Blend the colours by adding water on top of the watercolour pencils using a brush, a cotton swab, a piece of paper towel, or even your fingers!

Step Four



To paint, use the watercolour pencils to draw circles on a different piece of paper.

Add a tiny bit of water to each circle when you are ready to use it. You have made a palette! Now, you can add paint to your picture with a brush or a cotton swab.

Step Five



Add some
textural
details like
dots, swirls,
or lines.

Step Six

If you like, blend
the colours by
adding water.



Step Seven



Keep adding colour to your picture. You can get the paper wet first and draw with the watercolour pencils, or quickly dip the tip of your pencil in water and “paint!”

Step Eight

Add colours until you are happy with your picture. What will you make?

