



## Watercolor Techniques

### Supplies

Watercolor Paint  
Watercolor Paper  
Watercolor Paint Brush (Large Flat)  
Water in a container  
Paper towel or rag  
Salt in a container or bowl  
Rubbing Alcohol in a container or bowl (be careful!)  
One straw  
Push Pin (be careful!) or toothpick  
Masking Tape (Optional)

### Steps

1. Use masking tape to create 8 spaces on your paper (You could also just draw 8 squares or shapes)
2. Make a puddle of water in the tray, or on a plate, and add some color to it
3. Paint a wash in one of your squares, overlap the color slightly, making sure you don't scrub the paper
4. Paint a second wash next to it (this will be used for a glaze later)
5. Paint a third flat wash and get your salt ready! After you paint in the square, sprinkle in some salt before it dries and leave it till it is completely dry
6. Make a wash that gradually gets lighter by starting at the top of your square with paint from your puddle (you can make more than one puddle for different colors), then start to add water to your paint brush as you move towards the bottom of your paper.
7. Paint in one square using only water. While it is still wet drop color into it, this is the Wet on Wet technique.
8. Paint a flat wash in the next space. While it is still wet, use the end of your paintbrush to dip into the rubbing alcohol then touch your paper with it.
9. The Dry Brush technique is next. In the next space, dip your paint brush into a puddle of paint or right into a color in your paint tray, dry it off a little on your paper towel, smash the hairs on the brush flat then paint them onto your paper. It should look a little like grass or hair.
10. Scratch into the next square with your push pin or toothpick, then paint over it with a wash (anywhere you scratch should be darker) This is called Sgraffito



11. Add a drop of paint to a square with a flat wash. Use your straw to blow the puddle and create branches
12. In one of your flat washes paint another color over part of it. Make sure not to scrub it with your brush. This is called Glazing technique. Take the tape off.

### **Adaptions**

**Younger Children** - Use only a few techniques, salt, wet in wet, flat wash, gradated wash

**No supplies besides the paint and brushes?** No Problem, you can still do the flat wash, wet in wet, dry brush, and gradated wash

**No Masking Tape?** You can just draw 8 shapes for the techniques, just don't make them too small

### **Extensions**

**More Techniques** - Plastic wrap, crayon resist, stamping, blending color into color, shading

Create paintings for each of the techniques

Create a painting using ALL the techniques

Create a color wheel

Science - What other liquids and solids can you use to create a reaction in your watercolor paint? (soap, India ink, etc). Why does alcohol cause the color to "move away" Why does the salt cause snowflake patterns?

### **Homework**

Use 2-3 of these techniques to make a new painting

### **Vocabulary**

Wash

Glaze

Sgraffito

### **Tips**

**The Techniques we use in this video are:**

Flat Wash

Glazing

Salt

Gradated Wash

Wet in Wet

Alcohol  
Dry Brush  
Sgraffio  
Straw Branches

**Vocabulary**

Wash  
Glaze  
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