

Gouache Paint

Gouache is a type of opaque watercolour paint.

It's similar to watercolour but has a thicker consistency and more pigment, which gives it a matte, solid finish.

Techniques

Wet-on-Wet

- **What it is:** Applying water to the paper before adding gouache paint. The paint spreads and blends naturally, creating a smooth flowing effect.
- **How to:** Wet your paper with clean water using a brush, and then apply gouache, keeping it flowing and blending.

Wet-on-Dry

- **What it is:** Gouache is applied directly to dry paper. The paint stays more stays more opaque.
- **How to:** Paint directly onto dry, untreated paper, creating smooth lines.

Dry Brush

- **What it is:** Creates a textured effect by using a very dry brush and minimal amounts of paint, resulting in visible brushstrokes and a rough texture. Especially good with rough papers.
- **How to:** Load a very small amount of paint on a dry brush, then drag it across the paper.

Glazing

- **What it is:** Glazing involves applying thin layers of gouache on top of dry layers. It can be used to build depth and enhance the richness of the painting.
- **How to:** Let one layer of paint dry, then apply another thin layer of paint over it.

Ombre

- **What it is:** This creates a smooth transition between light and dark areas, often used to create skies, water, or backgrounds.
- **How to Do It:** Start with a very light wash of paint and gradually add colours and blend as you move down or across the paper.

Salt Texture

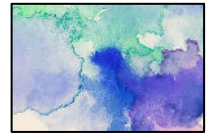
- **What it is:** Salt is sprinkled onto wet gouache paint, creating an interesting texture. The salt absorbs the paint and creates star-like or crystalline patterns.
- **How to:** While the paint is still wet, sprinkle salt onto the surface.

Masking

- **What it is:** Masking is a technique where areas of the paper are protected from paint, so the artist can work around them to preserve the white of the paper or existing layers of paint.
- **How to:** Use masking fluid or tape to cover areas you want to keep white, then paint over the rest of the paper. Once the paint is dry, remove the masking.

Sgraffito

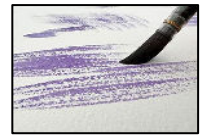
- **What it is:** It is when you scratch through layers to reveal the layer underneath.
- **How to:** Let the first layer dry before adding another thicker layer and scratching through. Works well using a palette knife or pointed tool.



Wet on Wet



Wet on Dry



Dry Brush



Glazing



Ombre



Salt



Masking



Sgraffito

Colour mixing

Primary Colours: Red, blue, yellow (mix to make other colours)

Secondary: Orange, green, purple (mix two primary colours together)

Tertiary: primary and secondary mixed together, creating the in between colours such as 'red orange.'

Highlights: use bright white over other colours

More water = more translucent.

Less water = darker or more opaque

Useful QR codes



The difference
between Gouache &
Watercolour



Basics



Tips &
Techniques



Brushes