

Zara's Guide to the Magic of Watercolors

Dive into the flow and let your creativity grow!

- Watercolour paint is translucent, meaning light can pass through the layers. Always start with your lightest colors first to keep your painting bright.
- A 'wash' is a technique where you use lots of water and a little paint to cover a large area of your paper evenly.
- The 'wet-on-wet' technique involves painting onto paper that is already damp, which allows colors to bleed and blend softly into one another.
- To change the intensity of your color, adjust the water-to-paint ratio; more water makes the pigment appear paler and more transparent.
- Brushes for watercolour are often softer than those used for acrylics, allowing them to hold more water and paint for smooth, flowing strokes.

Did you know? Did you know? Watercolour paints are made by mixing finely ground pigments with a binder, usually gum arabic. Because the paint is translucent, artists work from the lightest colors to the darkest, letting the white of the paper shine through to create highlights!

Key vocabulary: Pigment · Wash · Transparency · Wet-on-wet · Blending · Consistency