

Zara's Guide to Watercolour Magic

Dive into the flow and let your colours glow!

- How does the transparency of watercolour paint influence the order in which an artist must apply their colours?
- Why is it important to control the amount of water on your brush when attempting a 'wet-on-wet' technique to prevent the colours from becoming muddy?
- Explain the difference between a 'flat wash' and a 'gradient wash' in terms of visual effect.
- What happens to the paper fibres when you use too much water, and how does this affect the finished artwork?
- Compare and contrast 'wet-on-dry' and 'wet-on-wet' techniques: which one allows for sharper, more defined edges?

Did you know? Did you know? Watercolour is one of the oldest painting mediums in history! Because the paint is translucent, artists build up their images in layers, starting with the lightest colours and finishing with the darkest, allowing the white of the paper to act as the brightest light source.

Key vocabulary: Pigment · Transparency · Wash · Bleeding · Opacity · Gradient · Bristle · Palette