

12 Tips for Painting in Watercolor on Yupo Paper

*A Few Things I've learned
(mostly the hard way)
about painting in watercolor
on Yupo paper.*

1. Handle the paper with care. Oil from your hands will interfere with paint adhesion.

2. If you get spots where the paint won't stick, wipe Yupo with a paper towel and try again.

3. Dish soap in various strengths mixed with the pigment offers interesting effects and better paint adhesion.

4. Use thicker pigments.
Paints with white in them tend to stick to the paper better. Gouache also works well.

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12 Tips for Painting in Watercolor on Yupo Paper (continued)

5. You always have the option of wiping off the pigment and going back to clean paper. Q-tips work well for small areas.

6. A light spray of water on semi-dry areas can create interesting textures. Salt, sand, splattering and blotting also offer variations.

7. Thick paint is easier to handle, but thin washes are more interesting. Experiment on wet and dry paper with paint consistencies.

8. Use pencil, waterproof ink, colored pencil or watercolor pencils. Yupo doesn't erase well, so trace finished art onto the paper.

9. Use a hair dryer to speed up drying. To avoid unwanted running of paint and possible buckling of the Yupo, use low, don't get too close or let it get too hot.

10. When you are sure you are done, spray the painting with a clear acrylic spray. I use several light coats of Krylon Crystal Clear, held about 5 - 6 inches away.

11. Add, subtract and learn to expect the unexpected. Let Yupo's forgiving nature and "Happy Accidents" suggest what to do next.

12. "Go With The Flow", stay loose, experiment and have fun! Use your imagination and please let me know of any new Yupo discoveries!

Happy Creating!

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