

Waterfall

Video link



<https://youtu.be/XB02C6cfJV4>

Waterfall Materials

- Bockingford 300gsm NOT watercolour paper or similar
- Board
- Masking tape
- Masking fluid and applicator
- Pencil and rubber
- Sizes 2 and 4 Da Vinci Series 438 mop brushes or similar
- Fine detail brush - size 0 or similar
- Winsor & Newton Cotman paints in Prussian Blue, Sap Green, Burnt Sienna, Raw Umber, Cadmium Yellow, Paynes Grey, Permanent Rose (very little)
- Winsor & Newton Designers Gouache in Permanent white
- toothbrush
- Kitchen towel
- Water spray

Waterfall

Instructions

1. As with all paintings first really study your photograph and prepare your colours. Look for details, highlights and shadows. Test mixes of Prussian Blue/Sap Green, Sap Green/Raw Umber, Sap Green/Cadmium Yellow
2. Draw in pencil the top of the brown rocks and, very lightly, the position of the two streams of the waterfall
3. Mask highlights on the waterfall
4. Dry thoroughly with a hairdryer
5. Using a large brush wet all the paper above the line you've drawn
6. Paint while wet, using a water spray lightly if it starts to dry (when you start getting hard edges instead of blending). Paint in the following sequence :
 - Use Sap Green/Cadmium yellow mix along the top of the rocks
 - Add trees and bushes on the horizon in Sap Green
 - Use a Raw Umber/Sap Green mix to indicate all the bushes, below the trees and on the right
 - Paint in a pale blue sky with diluted Prussian Blue
 - Remember to scrape your brush before applying the paint to the paper
 - Add a thicker, darker mix of the Raw Umber/Sap green for shadowy areas in the bushes.
7. Dry
8. Carefully rub out any prominent waterfall pencil lines if you can
9. Wet all the paper from the grass down
10. Start painting the rocks on the left of the waterfall in vertical marks using Burnt Sienna and small dabs of Permanent Rose, leave some vertical gaps
11. Do the same on the right of the water using stronger colour
12. Use Raw umber to fill in the gaps and down the left side of the waterfall (painting over the masking of the smaller waterfall)
13. Mix Paynes Grey into the Raw Umber and use on the right of the waterfall and darkest areas
14. Tissue dab where greenery grows on the rocks to leave paler areas (press firmly)
15. Use Paynes Grey to fill in stronger shadow areas
16. Now we will paint the greenery on the right of the picture down to the more defined bush in the corner. Re-wet the paper if necessary and start by dabbing on a bright Sap green/Cadmium Yellow mix on the lightest areas
17. Add Prussian Blue to the mix then add more shadowy colour under the Green/Yellow
18. Add diluted Raw Umber to the water at the base of the waterfall

Waterfall

Instructions

Continued

- 19.** Mix a very pale Prussian Blue/Paynes Grey to paint in the waterfall, darkening the mix fractionally in more shadowy areas. Go over all of the masking fluid.
- 20.** Dry
- 21.** Use a small mop brush to paint in the greenery at the top, using Sap Green to define more bushes and trees, mix in a little Raw Umber then use this to vary the colour amongst the greenery. Use the Raw Umber/sap Green mix on all the bushes
- 22.** Paint in the greenery down the right of the waterfall, starting with a bright Green/Yellow mix then adding Prussian Blue to add shadow underneath
- 23.** In the bottom right corner start to paint in branches (Raw Umber), allowing them to dry slightly before blotting very lightly with kitchen towel to create texture.
- 24.** Add Paynes Grey to the Raw Umber then paint the tree trunks and fine branches in the top of the picture using a very fine brush
- 25.** Add leaves to the bottom right corner, varying your shades of green
- 26.** Add dabs of Sap Green/Prussian Blue into the bushes on the rock surface
- 27.** Dry
- 28.** Add shadows and detail within all the greenery using a Raw Umber/Paynes Grey mix: start at the top with tree trunks and shadows, then come down the right hand side defining bush shapes with shadow
- 29.** Dry
- 30.** Mix a strong Paynes Grey/Raw Umber and paint over the rocks on the right of the waterfall using vertical marks.
- 31.** Wet the area between the two streams of water, then run your brush down the left of the main waterfall using Raw Umber Paynes Grey (paint a line down approx 5mm from the water edge to get a blur)
- 32.** Dry
- 33.** Add more leaves to the trees at the bottom of the picture using Sap Green
- 34.** Add shadow to the bushes on the rock surface
- 35.** Dry
- 36.** Start another layer of colour on the rocks building vertical marks in mixes of Raw Umber, Burnt Sienna and Paynes Grey, varying the shades. Use Raw Umber/Paynes grey in the darkest areas of the rock on the right.
- 37.** As you come down the right side with this dark colour you will be defining bushes and adding further shadows within them

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Instructions

Continued

38. When you get as far as the tree in the bottom right corner paint round the top leaves carefully
39. Dry
40. Create a very pale Burnt Sienna/Raw Umber mix and use this as a glaze by painting lightly over the brighter areas on the rocks (only required if they seem too prominent)
41. Dry
42. Add horizontal marks and detail in the rocks in Raw Umber/Paynes Grey
43. Add outlined detail leaves in the bottom right hand corner
44. Add detail to the broken rock by the base of the waterfall
45. Add the bare tree with fine branches to the horizon using a very small brush
46. Mix white gouache with Prussian blue and paint with a fine brush between the tree trunks on the horizon and occasionally at the top of the bushes on the right to show light coming through
47. Dry
48. Use a toothbrush to spray white gouache at the base of the waterfall (mask the greenery on the right while you do this)
49. Flick white over the base of the waterfall, a little over the trees in the bottom corner and the top of the trees on the horizon
50. Dry
51. Flick a dark colour over the rocks and trees at the top (protect the waterfall)
52. Flick Sap green lightly over all the greenery
53. Finished!

Waterfall

Reference photo



Waterfall

The painting

Liz Rogers 

