



Materials

- Bockingford 300gsm NOT watercolour paper or similar
- Board
- Masking tape
- Pencil and rubber
- Sizes 2 and 4 Da Vinci Series 438 mop brushes or similar
- Fine detail brush in size 0, 1 or 2
- Walnut ink crystals*
- *Alternatively use instant coffee
- Kitchen towel
- Pot of water

Instructions

NB it is a good idea to watch the video either before or as you paint.

1. Lightly draw the mushrooms in pencil.
2. Take half a teaspoon of walnut crystals (or coffee) then, using a wet brush, pull a few crystals away from the edge of the pile and rub with the brush to dissolve them. The more crystals, the darker the colour will be. Try creating shades from light to dark using more or less water.
3. Mix a large puddle of pale colour and, using the large mop brush, cover the picture completely.
4. Dry.
5. Use the smaller mop brush and the darkest colour to fill in where the gills are on the mushrooms. Start along the top edge where it is darkest then, adding just a little more water to the colour, continue filling the area in.
6. Now use a shade halfway between the light and dark to paint a shadow beneath the mushrooms. Sprinkle with a few dry crystals while wet.
7. Dry.
8. Darken the shadow immediately next to the mushrooms.
9. Dry.
10. Paint the outer edge of the mushrooms in a light shade - just darker than the background.

11. Add colour to the shadow on the central stalk; darker on the right hand side.

12. Dry.

13. Lift highlights to form the the gills by wetting with a clean, damp, fine brush and then blotting with kitchen towel. Experiment first: see how the brightness of the mark varies depending on how long you leave it before blotting.

NB As you work round each mushroom be particularly aware of the changes in thickness, shape and direction of the highlights.

14. Now add some thin darker shadows amongst the gills.

15. Add blemishes and detail marks to the outer mushroom areas.

16. Dry.

17. Lift highlights on the outer edges of the mushrooms and top of the stalks.

18. Using a clean wet brush, flick clear water over your picture, leave a minute then blot.

19. Now flick a dark colour around the background.

20. Finished.

Reference photo



The painting

