



Oil Painting Techniques

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Oil Painting Techniques

- ▶ I discuss the different oil painting techniques in this post. Here are the techniques which I use most frequently:
- ▶ Scumbling - This is a dry-brush technique which involves gently dragging your brush over the canvas to produce a broken color effect.

- ▶ Thin washes with solvent - By mixing oil paint with solvent, you can produce a very thin wash of transparent color which dries fast. This is how I usually start my paintings.
- ▶ Multi-colored brush strokes - If you leave various colors unmixed on your brush, you can create these beautiful multi-colored streaks.



Oil Painting Process

Here is my general approach for completing an oil painting:

- ▶ First, I stain the canvas with a thin wash of paint plus solvent. I generally use some kind of earth tone like raw umber or burnt sienna. This gets rid of any white on the canvas, which can be difficult to paint on top of.



- ▶ Second, I do a rough sketch of the composition. I will use more detail for more complex subjects.
- ▶ Third, I quickly block-in the general shapes and colors, trying to establish the structure and color harmony. I do not want to get caught up in the detail just yet.



- ▶ Forth, I refine what is on the canvas until there are no more problems to solve.
- ▶ Fifth, I sign the painting and go through my post-painting processes.



THE END