WATERCOLOR PAINTS



Getting Started:

- 1. **Make a color chart** by painting swatches of each color of paint in small squares, preferably on watercolor paper. Use this chart when you want to see what the paints look like on paper at a quick glance. (Find a blank chart for your use at the end of this guide.)
- 2. **Designate numbers to each color**. Begin with 1 for white, working across the watercolor palette in the short direction, and end with black as 36. This number system will be used in our workshops to let you know which colors we used to create our artwork.
- 3. **Mix the CTMH color palette**. It's possible to mix paint colors to approximately match all of the exclusive colors in the Close To My Heart palette, except for white Daisy. See the color mix chart . (Find a blank chart for your use at the end of this guide.)

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How to use this chart: To the right of every color, you will find the color formula our artists use to achieve a watercolor version of each of our Close To My Heart exclusive colors. Use equal parts of paint colors when the designated numbers are shown alone, like in Cinnamon (10 + 31). An "s" before a number means to use a smaller amount of that particular color, like in Sangria ($_{s}10 + 17 + 35$). If there is more than one "s" present, then use even less of the color it is attached to, like in Paprika (10+ 6+ $_{ss}34$).

(The painted combinations are shown alongside a sample piece of cardstock from our exclusive color palette for comparison.)

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Tips:

- 1. Soften the color cakes you intend to use by adding a few drops of water to each and allowing them to sit for a couple of minutes before painting with them. This will get you the maximum color possible.
- 2. Keep the paint clean. In order to mix colors successfully, it's important to keep each paint cake clean. Use the wells on the lid of the watercolor tray to add a brushful of paint. (Use the corresponding well to keep yourself organized.) Then, mix colors in a separate well or on a craft mat.
- **3. Keep water close by** to rinse brushes out in between colors.

- **4. Secure your paper**. If you're planning a project that will use a large amount of watercolor paint, it's always a good idea to secure the paper you will be working on to an artboard. Use low-tac tape or washi tape to help prevent buckling of the paper.
- **5. Watercolor paper v. cardstock**. It is preferable to use watercolor paper with paints, but heavy cardstock can also work. Remember that cardstock will not hold as much water as watercolor paper and will begin to peel and buckle if too much water is used. Even watercolor paper will peel if overworked.

Adding Watercolor Paint to Stamped Images:

- Stamp images with an ink that will not bleed when the watercolor is applied. We recommend our Intense Black Exclusive Inks™ stamp pad (Z4189).
- 2. Achieve a "no-line" look with a dye-based ink. Use a very light ink to stamp your image and it will not show through the paint when it is applied. We recommend our Linen Exclusive Inks™ stamp pad (Z2824).
- 3. Our watercolor paint is not transparent and may leave a chalky residue on top of a stamped outline. To avoid this, paint inside the lines or use a kneaded eraser to carefully remove the undesired paint once it is completely dry.

Watercolor Paint Techniques:

- 1. Achieve lighter and darker tones. Lighter color tones are achieved by adding white (1). Darker shades are achieved by adding either grey (35) or black (36). Add a little at a time as you work toward your desired color.
- 2. Blending colors. Example: To create a pattern, such as a sunset sky, paint the desired colors slightly separated on your project. While the paint is still wet, use a clean wet brush to smooth the spaces in between the colors, blending them gently. Do not overwork.
- **3. Shading colors**. Example: Paint a balloon, and while the paint is still wet, add a darker shade of color at the sides to give the shape an appearance of roundness.
- **4. Highlighting**. Example: On the same balloon from the previous example, while the paint is still wet, add a bit of white to create the appearance of a shine mark. This can also be accomplished by using a clean wet brush, "painting" the highlight area, and then using a dry paper towel to "lift" the color.
- **5. Detail lines**. Example: On a stamped flower that has been painted (and allowed to dry) you may paint over the image to add detail, such as stamen on a flower or veins on a leaf

- 6. Splattering. Load a wet brush with quite a bit of color and, holding the brush vertically, gently tap the barrel of the brush to release droplets, or gently flick the bristles with your finger. (A toothbrush also works well for fine splattering when "flicked.")
- **7. Patterns**. Example: Make a background of dots, plus signs, or plaid, (etc.) to create an exclusive patterned paper.
- **8. Smooshing**. Example: On a craft mat, create a puddle with one or more colors and "smoosh" a piece of acetate (or plastic wrapper) in it to pick up some of the paint. Then, press the paint loaded acetate onto your paper in a controlled manner.
- 9. Wet-on-Wet. This works best with watercolor paper. Example: Wet the paper and then drop wet paint onto the wet area. The paint will "bloom" into the surrounding water. This is a nice look for backgrounds or accents around clusters.

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
23	20		20
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36

Desert Rose 10+11+33	Grape 18+19+20 +ss25	Sage 1+sss36+24+ 28+sss5	Mocha 32+8+ss16
Cinnamon 10+31	Wisteria 20+21+24 +ss5	Evergreen 30+31+s18+ s25+sss3	Toffee \$8+\$\$4+34
Scarlet 10+15+35	Carolina 21+22+s20	Clover 28+29+30 +s25+ss3	Espresso 31+32+sss30
Candy Apple s7+ss14+15	Bluebird 19+22 +23+24	Green Apple 28+21+3+ss5	Mink 1+31+ss3 +sss20
Papaya 11+15+33	Sapphire 19+23+s25 +s36	New England Ivy 28+30+sss4 +ss15	Linen 1+sss35
Peach 1+5+12	Capri 22+24+s33	Avocado 28+21+4 +sss15	Pewter 1+36+ss20 +sss22
Ballerina 1+12+ _{ss} 3 + _{sss} 20	Lagoon 1+sss3+21 +27	Lemonade 2+4+ss3	Charcoal 1+36+ss24
Flamingo 11+s14+18	Glacier 1+21+sss35	Shortbread 1+s8+s33	Black 36
Raspberry 11+14+17 +ss18	Mint 1+21+28	Sundance 4+5+ss6+sss8	French Vanilla 1+sss33
Sangria s10+17+35	Harbour 36+ss30+s25	Nectarine 5+s6+ss10	White Daisy no color
Mulberry 20+14+33	Rosemary 30+34+35	Paprika 10+6+ss34	Wild Berry 18+20+ss35