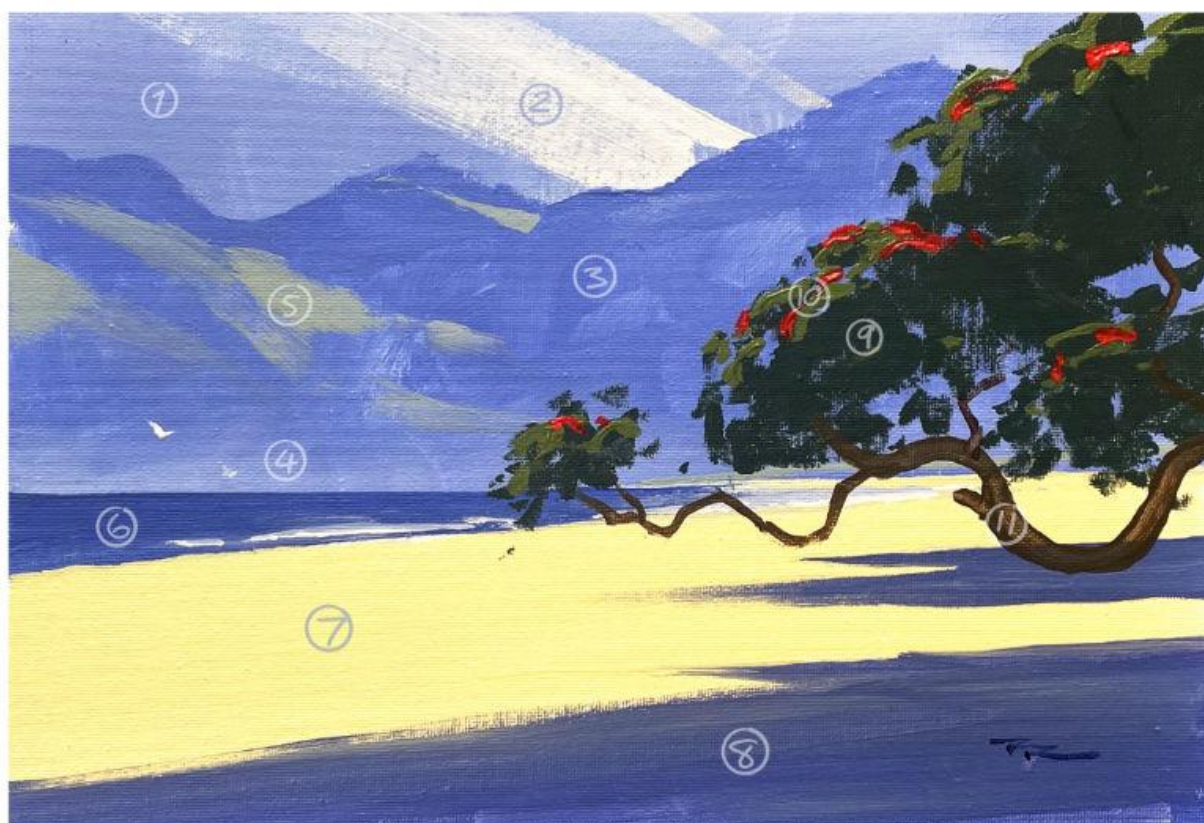




Value Scale



Ultramarine Blue
 Cadmium Red Mid
 Cadmium Yellow Light
 Titanium White

LANGS BEACH



Siplaughpaint.com

Langs Beach

A step-by-step painting guide by Richard Robinson

Watch the full lesson at <https://mypaintingclub.com/lessons/263-Langs-Beach>

MY PAINTING CLUB

Introduction

Welcome to this exciting chapter where we dive into painting the beautiful Langs Beach, a scene that holds a special place in my heart. After spending four months exploring New Zealand in my trusty camper, I felt a strong urge to reconnect with my community upon returning to Waipu. This led me to start the Sip Laugh Paint classes, where our first subject was the stunning Langs Beach. In this lesson, you'll learn to create your own masterpiece on a 12 by 8 inch canvas, though you can adjust the size to your preference. We'll explore the use of different brushes, from a one-inch flat brush for broad strokes to a filbert brush for the intricate details of the Pohutukawa tree. This scene is a rewarding subject because it combines vibrant colors and dynamic forms, allowing you to express your unique style. As you follow the step-by-step guidance, you'll discover the joy of painting and perhaps surprise yourself with your artistic abilities. So, gather your materials, invite a friend, and let's enjoy the creative journey together!



"Langs Beach" by Richard Robinson.

Materials

Gather these materials before you start. If you don't have the exact same supplies, use what you have and substitute freely.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Atelier Interactive Acrylics
- Ultramarine Blue
- Cadmium Red Mid
- Arylamide Yellow Light / Cadmium Yellow Light
- Titanium White
- Canvas
- 11x14" Canvas Board
- Brushes
- [Rosemary & Co. Richard Robinson Brush Set](#)
- Palette knife
- Paper towels
- Stay-wet palette
- Water spray bottle

1 Brushes and painting uniqueness



Select Your Brushes

Choose a flat brush about one inch wide for broad strokes. Use a filbert brush for detailed work, especially useful for painting the Pohutukawa tree. Have a pointy brush and a smaller pointy brush ready for finer details.

Embrace Your Unique Style

Remember that your painting will be unique, even if using the same resources. Each brush stroke is your signature, adding personal expression to your work.

PRO TIP

Each brush stroke is your signature; embrace your unique style in every painting.

2 Color mixing and painting techniques



Mix Sky Color

Combine equal parts of blue and white to create the sky color. Aim for the color indicated by the circle in the middle of the reference.

Mix Cloud Color

Use mainly white with a tiny bit of blue to achieve a very light color for the clouds. Ensure the mixture is subtle to capture the delicate nature of clouds.

PRO TIP

Aim for a very light color when mixing for clouds, using mainly white with just a hint of blue.

3 Brush care and horizon line



Prepare Your Brush

Fill a container with water and dip your square brush into it. Then, gently dry the brush on a paper towel. This prevents paint from drying in the ferrule, maintaining the brush's shape for better painting results.

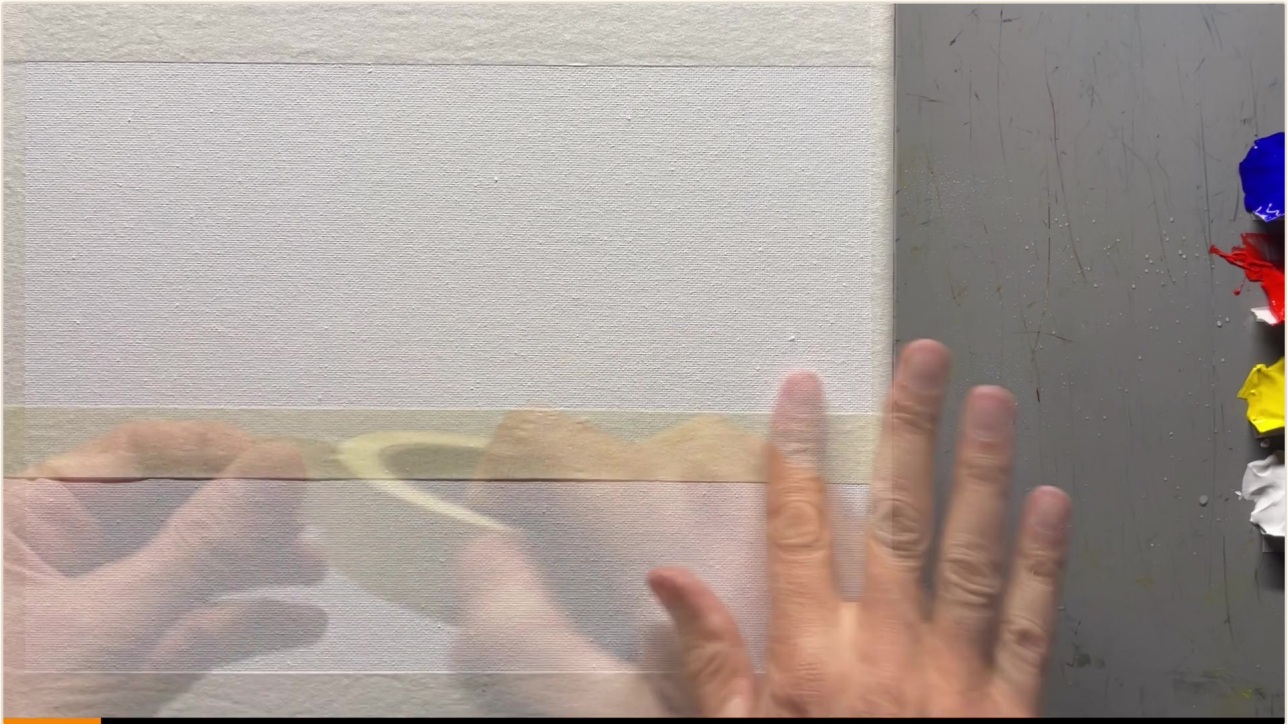
Maintain Brush Shape

Regularly clean your brush to avoid paint buildup in the ferrule. This ensures the brush retains its shape, which is crucial for achieving precise strokes in your painting.

PRO TIP

Always clean your brush in water and dry it on a paper towel to prevent paint from drying in the ferrule.

4 Drawing the hills



Prepare the Canvas

Ensure your canvas is taped at the bottom to create a straight, horizontal line. This will help define the base of your hills.

Draw the Hills

Sketch the line for the top of the hills. Feel free to invent any hill shapes you like, as these don't have to match the actual landscape. Vary the heights of the hills to add interest and avoid monotony.

Add Variation

Introduce a slight wiggle to the hill lines to make them more engaging. A smoother line might look more childlike, so adjust according to the style you prefer.

PRO TIP

Vary the heights of the hills to create visual interest and avoid a monotonous landscape.

5 Painting the sky



Prepare Your Brush and Paint

Ensure your brush is wet. Mix equal parts of blue and white paint in large amounts to cover the sky area. Adjust the consistency with a little water if the paint feels too sticky.

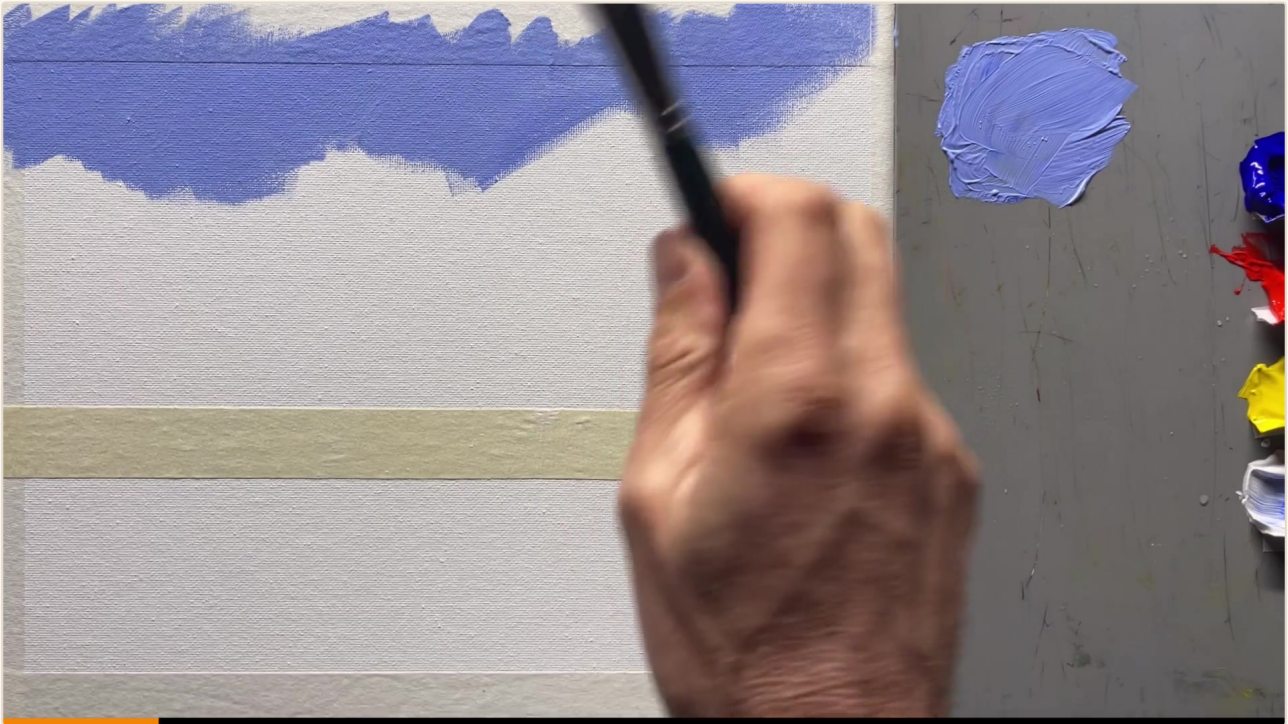
Apply the Sky Color

Use your brush to cover the sky area with the mixed paint. Don't worry about painting precisely along the edges; it's okay to paint over the lines slightly. This will save time as the hill will be painted over the sky later.

PRO TIP

Mix enough paint initially to avoid running out while covering the sky area.

6 Painting the clouds



Prepare the Brush

Dip your brush in a little white paint and remove most of it. Ensure there's a tiny bit of blue left in your brush from previous mixing.

Mix Cloud Color

Mix mainly white with just a hint of blue to create the cloud color. Avoid adding water at this stage.

Paint Large Cloud Strokes

Load your brush with a generous amount of paint. Start inside the hill and quickly brush out to the side to create an interesting texture.

Paint Smaller Cloud Strokes

Turn the brush sideways for a smaller stroke. Start inside the hill again and brush out. Adjust the edges or shapes as you prefer, and feel free to add more clouds.

PRO TIP

Use quick brush strokes to create interesting textures in the clouds.

7 Painting the hills



Mix the Hill Color

Combine a little more than half blue with a touch of white and a tiny touch of red on your palette. Adjust the mixture by adding more blue if needed, and lighten it with white until it's darker than the sky but lighter than the ocean.

Add a Purple Tint

Introduce a small amount of red to the mixture to create a slight purple hue. If the paint is too thick, incorporate a bit of water to achieve the right consistency.

Paint the Hill's Edge

Begin at the tape and wriggle the brush along to form an interesting, realistic edge for the top of the hill. Avoid smooth lines to prevent a childlike appearance.

Fill in the Hill

Fill the entire hill area down to the tape, allowing paint to overlap the tape. Use a thinner layer of paint and smooth it out to facilitate drying for the next layer.

PRO TIP

If brush strokes are too visible, add more paint and reduce water to achieve a smoother finish.

8 Painting the mist



Create the Mist Effect

Add more white to your paint mixture to create a misty effect. Start brushing along the bottom of the hill, allowing the paint to run out for a stronger effect on one side. Add a little more paint and brush lightly on top to enhance the gradient.

Adjust Mist Strength

Adjust the mist's strength by adding more white to your mixture. Brush closer to the waves for a softer edge, gently brushing across the canvas for a beautiful misty look. Keep the brush barely touching the canvas for a subtle effect.

PRO TIP

Use a light touch with the brush to achieve a soft, misty gradient.

9 Adding light to the hills



Mix the Light Color for the Hills

Combine equal parts of blue and white with a small amount of yellow to create a greenish hue. Add a tiny touch of red to tone down the green, as red is the complementary color. Ensure this mixture is lighter and greener than the background color.

Test the Color

Dab a small amount of the mixed color onto the canvas to see how it looks against the surrounding colors. Remember, color perception is relative to its neighbors, so adjust the mixture if necessary to achieve the desired effect.

Apply Light to the Hills

Use the tip of your brush to create calligraphic strokes, starting in the middle of the hill. Apply pressure, wriggle the brush diagonally upwards, then turn the brush and ease off the pressure. Repeat in the opposite direction, avoiding the mist areas.

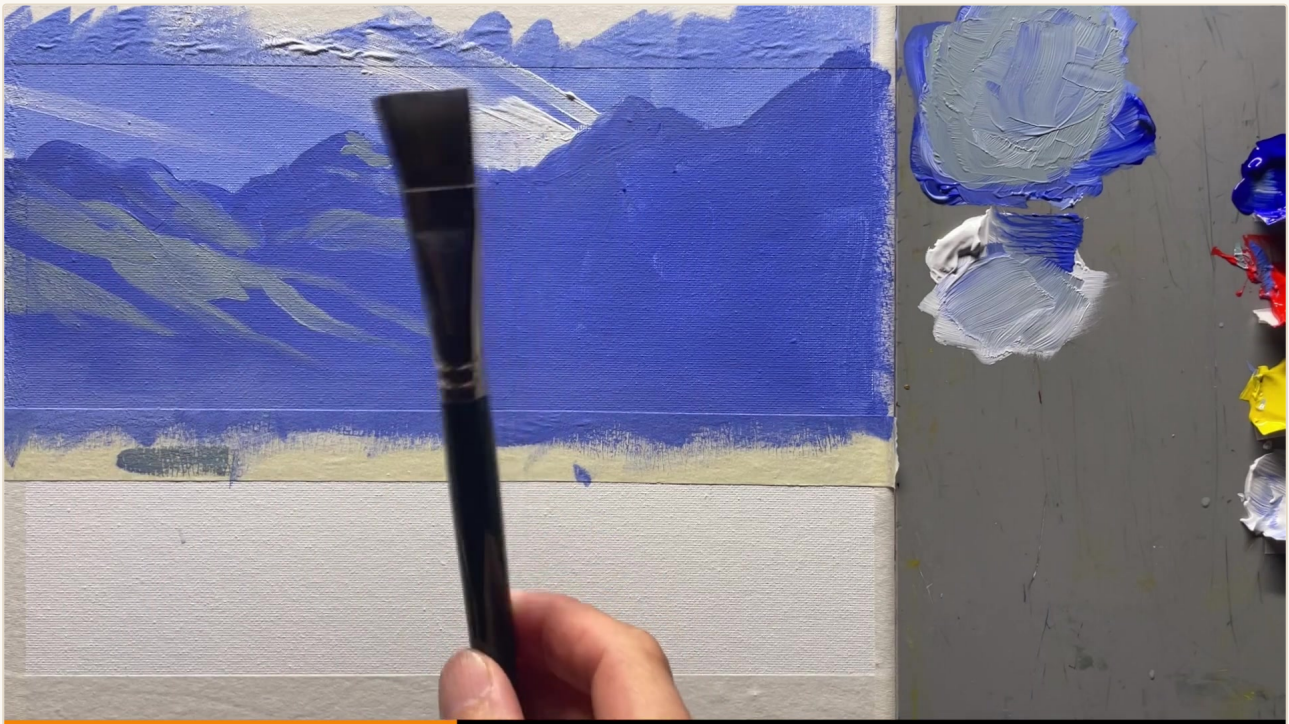
Create Depth and Detail

Continue adding small, twisting brushstrokes to suggest the light hitting the hills. Ensure not to paint into the mist, maintaining the illusion of depth with dark hills in front of light ones. Add as much detail as desired.

PRO TIP

Use complementary colors to subtly adjust and tone down hues, creating a more natural look.

10 Removing the tape



Prepare to Remove the Tape

Place your brush in a safe location away from the tape to prevent it from being disturbed during removal.

Remove the Tape

Hold your canvas securely and carefully peel the tape off. Roll the removed tape into a ball to avoid it sticking to other surfaces.

PRO TIP

Always secure your brush away from the tape to prevent accidental smudging or damage.

11 Painting the ocean



Prepare Your Brush

Wash your brush in water and dry it thoroughly to ensure the next mixture is not too wet on the canvas.

Mix Ocean Color

Combine mainly blue with a bit of white to create the ocean color. Adjust the shade to be darker than the hills by adding more blue. Optionally, add a touch of yellow to shift towards green.

Adjust Paint Consistency

Add a little water to the paint to make it fairly fluid, ensuring smooth application.

Paint the Ocean

Create a long, thin, pointy triangle shape with a flat, straight top. Start at the side with your brush turned halfway, press down onto the tape, and ease off the pressure while turning the brush to a flatter shape as you move across the canvas.

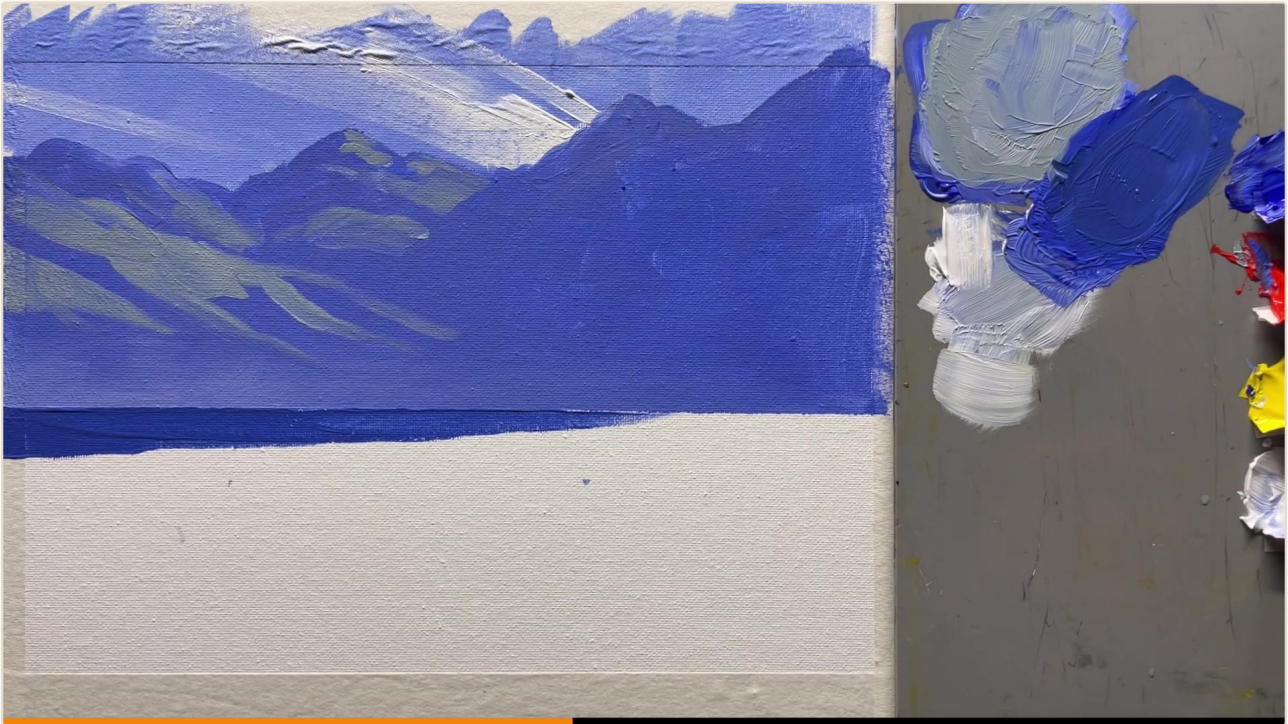
Complete the Stroke

Finish the stroke about two-thirds across the painting. If the canvas isn't fully covered, go back and fill in any gaps. Remember to breathe as you work.

PRO TIP

Keep your eye on the top line to maintain a flat, straight horizontal edge as you paint the ocean.

12 Adding waves



Prepare the Brush

Load your brush with white paint on both sides to create a crisp chisel shape. This will help you achieve clean lines for the waves.

Paint the Waves

Start at the bottom edge of the area where you want the waves. Press down with the brush, drag along the canvas, and release as you go to form the wave shape.

Reload and Refine

Clean the brush slightly to remove any picked-up blue. Reload with pure white, pressing into the paint to form a ridge on the brush tip. This helps in creating fine lines.

Add Fine Wave Details

Lightly touch the canvas with the brush to apply a thin strip of white paint. Move the brush along gently to create fine lines, leaving a thin blue strip underneath the white for contrast.

PRO TIP

Press lightly to create thin, delicate wave lines and maintain a blue strip underneath for contrast.

13 Drawing and painting the beach



Draw the Beach Line

Mark a spot two inches up the side of the canvas on the right and one centimeter on the left. Draw a line joining these two points, curving slightly as the beach meets the water. Create a crisp zigzag by drawing another line slightly above the first and joining them with a straight line.

Define the Tree Shadow

Go one centimeter up from the previous mark and then another centimeter up. Draw a point close to halfway and join these points with sharp lines to define the tree shadow.

Paint the Beach

Mix mainly white with a little yellow and a tiny touch of red. Add water to smooth out the mixture and fill in the beach area, avoiding the shadow. Use the brush to create a crisp edge at the ocean's edge.

Create a Crisp Beach Line

Wipe any lumps off the brush and load it smoothly with paint. Place a finger on the canvas for stability and draw a very thin triangle line, starting horizontally and perpendicular to the canvas. Release pressure as you move along to show the beach continuing around the water's curve.

PRO TIP

Use a finger on the canvas for stability to create crisp, precise lines.

14 Painting the shadows



Mix Shadow Color

Mix a shadow color using mainly blue, a bit of white, and a touch of red. Ensure it has more red than the ocean color to push it towards purple. Adjust the mixture to be slightly lighter than the ocean color if needed.

Apply Shadow to Canvas

Start on the tape with a slightly curved brush stroke. It's okay if the paint doesn't fully cover the canvas initially. Repeat the stroke in the opposite direction to fill the space.

Create Sharp Triangle Shape

For the thin triangle at the top, load your brush with paint and start slightly above the area. Press down hard, then gradually release pressure to form a sharp shape. Repeat if necessary to avoid white spots on the canvas.

PRO TIP

Add a bit more water to your paint if needed for smoother application.

15 Preparing for the tree



Clean Your Brush

Wash your brush thoroughly to prepare for painting the tree. This ensures that no residual paint will affect the new colors you apply.

Allow Background to Dry

Let the entire background dry completely before starting on the tree. This prevents the tree colors from merging with the background, maintaining clear, distinct edges.

PRO TIP

Always ensure your background is dry before adding new elements to avoid unwanted color blending.

16 Doodle Dash activity



Prepare for Doodle Dash

Set up a new piece of paper or canvas. Gather all your brushes and colors, as you can use any that you like for this activity.

Create Your Disco Hippo

You have about 10 minutes to paint a Disco Hippo. Use your imagination and be playful with your brushstrokes and color choices.

Develop a Backstory

While painting, think of a name and a backstory for your Disco Hippo. This will add personality and context to your creation.

PRO TIP

Let your creativity flow freely and don't worry about perfection during the Doodle Dash.

17 Painting the Pahutukawa tree

"Disco Hippo"



Prepare Your Brush and Paint

Wet your Filbert brush to prevent damage, then dry it slightly. Mix a dark, dull green using mainly blue, a little yellow, a tiny bit of red, and optionally a bit of white. Add water to the mix to extend its use.

Paint the First Clump

Mark the area for the first clump with dots, aiming for halfway between the top and the sand. Use small shapes, turning the brush to avoid patterns, and fill in with larger shapes, leaving some gaps to see through the tree.

Add the Second Clump

Mark the position with dots to outline the second clump. Use small shapes around the edges, turning the brush, then fill with larger shapes, leaving gaps to reveal the background.

Create the Third Clump

Position the third clump just below the sand. Start with small shapes, then fill with larger ones, ensuring to paint over the tape for continuity.

Complete the Fourth Clump

Place the fourth clump in the middle, using small shapes initially. Avoid joining it to the main clump, and fill with larger shapes, maintaining some separation.

PRO TIP

Turn the brush and use different parts to create varied shapes, avoiding repetitive patterns.

18 Adding light to the tree



Mix Light Color

Add yellow and white to your previous mixture to create a greener and lighter color. This will be used to highlight the tops of the tree clumps where the sunlight hits.

Apply Light with Filbert Brush

Use a filbert brush to apply the lighter paint. The brush's shape allows for creating nice curvy shapes. Apply thicker paint to the tops of the clumps to make them stand out and catch the light.

Create Varied Arcs

Smooth out the paint and push the brush into it to form a ridge. Make little arcs along the top of the tree, twisting the brush for variation. Some arcs should be small, others fat, but all should be along the tree's outer edge.

Add Light Touches Inside

With a light touch, add a few spots of light inside the darker areas for interest. These should be minimal, just enough to add depth and variation.

Clean Your Brush

Wash your brush thoroughly to remove all paint residues, preparing it for the next use.

PRO TIP

Use a filbert brush to create varied, curvy shapes that mimic natural light on tree tops.

19 Painting the blossoms



Prepare the Red Paint

Reach for pure red paint and smooth it out on your palette. Gather a lump of it on the end of your brush.

Paint the Blossoms

Apply the red paint on top of the green areas, creating rows of blossoms or long joined-up blossom shapes. Allow the canvas to pull the paint off the brush for a nice impasto effect.

Create Curved Shapes

Roll the brush slightly as you lay it on the canvas to form curved shapes, enhancing the natural look of the blossoms.

PRO TIP

Think of the blossoms as long joined-up shapes rather than individual flowers for a more cohesive look.

20 Painting the tree trunk



Prepare the Brush and Paint

Wet your brush and mix a really dark brown-gray using blue, red, and a bit of yellow. Avoid any white from other mixtures. Add enough water to make the paint fluid but not too thin, ensuring it covers the canvas without blobs.

Load the Brush

Remove any excess paint by wiping off the outside of the brush. Ensure the brush is loaded with a controlled amount of paint for creating thin lines.

Paint the Trunk

Start on the tape and paint a wobbly U shape, pressing down hard and wriggling as you go. The trunk should start thick and get thinner as you run out of paint. Reload the brush if necessary.

Maintain Brush Position

Keep the brush perpendicular to the canvas and use just the tip to avoid creating fatter marks. Adjust the pressure to make the line thinner as needed.

Add Branches

Squiggle along the trunk, extending thinner lines for branches. Use less pressure for thinner lines. If needed, switch to a small pointy brush for finer details and add a few branches, including broken ones and some inside the tree.

PRO TIP

Keep the brush perpendicular to the canvas to maintain control over line thickness.

21 Painting the seagull



Prepare Your Brush

Use a round brush and clean it thoroughly. Load it with white paint, ensuring there are no chunks and the paint is fluid enough for smooth application.

Practice the Stroke

Practice on your palette first. Use the very tip of the brush and support your hand with your little finger for stability.

Paint the Seagull

Make a small flick outwards with the brush. Start from the same point and flick diagonally the other way to create the shape of the seagull. Use very light strokes and consider using an even smaller stroke for detail.

PRO TIP

Support your hand with your little finger for better control while painting fine details.

22 Signing the painting



Prepare the Brush

Load a small brush with red paint, ensuring there are no clumps. Make sure the red is fluid enough for smooth application.

Sign the Painting

Use the tip of your brush to sign your initials in the corner. Position the signature about two inches from the right and one inch up from the bottom. Keep the initials as small as possible for a subtle touch.

PRO TIP

Ensure the paint is fluid enough to allow for smooth and precise brushwork when signing your painting.

23 Removing the tape and final touches



Prepare for Tape Removal

Move any brushes and palettes away from the canvas to prevent accidents. This ensures that the tape doesn't catch on them and cause a mess.

Remove the Tape

Hold the canvas securely as you gently pull off the tape. This prevents the canvas from moving and ensures a clean edge.

Address Paint Bleeds

If paint has run under the tape, don't worry. You can paint over these areas with white once the painting is completely dry.

PRO TIP

Hold the canvas firmly while removing the tape to maintain clean edges.

Summary & Key Takeaways

Embark on your painting journey with confidence, knowing that each brushstroke is a unique expression of your creativity. Begin by selecting the right brushes for broad strokes and fine details, and embrace the individuality of your work. As you mix colors, aim for subtlety and precision to capture the essence of your subject, from the delicate sky and clouds to the vibrant Pohutukawa tree.

Maintain your tools with care, ensuring your brushes are clean and ready for each step. As you sketch and paint the landscape, allow your imagination to guide the shapes and forms, adding interest and depth with varied hill heights and misty gradients. Pay attention to the interplay of light and shadow, using complementary colors to achieve a natural look.

As you add the final touches, from the shimmering ocean waves to the intricate details of the tree, remember to let your creativity flow freely. Each element, from the beach to the tree, contributes to the overall harmony of your painting. Celebrate the completion of your artwork, knowing that it reflects your personal style and artistic journey.

LESSON POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Choose the right brush for each task, from broad strokes to fine details.
- Mix colors with subtlety, using mainly white for clouds and a hint of blue.
- Regularly clean your brushes to maintain their shape and performance.
- Vary hill heights and shapes to create visual interest in your landscape.
- Mix enough paint initially to cover large areas without interruption.
- Use quick, varied brushstrokes for textures in clouds and foliage.
- Ensure the background is dry before adding new elements like trees.
- Let your creativity flow in activities like the Doodle Dash, embracing imperfection.



"Langs Beach" by Richard Robinson.