

WALKING ON WATERCOLOR CLOUDS-watercolor painting lessons with Dani Mrdaque

IMPORTANT TOOLS TO GET BETTER RESULTS

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IMPORTANT TOOLS TO GET BETTER RESULTS

by Dani Mrdaque



1.

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to use **PROFESSIONAL -GRADE WATERCOLOR PAPER.**

All artists must use good quality cotton -rag paper in order to get the maximum performance from their brushes and paint.

2.

RULE TO REMEMBER-ALWAYS STRETCH OUT YOUR WATERCOLOR PAPER BEFORE YOU START PAINTING.

This is important,because you want to prevent *wrapping,bending or folding*.For this you are going to need a masking tape,meaning the pages are glued together,all the way around,all 4 sides.You have to make sure that there are no water slips under the paper. We also do not want any air under the paper.After you finish with your painting,let the paper dry,and carefully remove the tape.Stretching helps you to tighten the fibers of your paper .

3.

You always have to start by wetting the paper.

Wet-in -wet technique allows you to establish transparent and light value,and also a soft color transitions.When you apply more water to your watercolor paper it will become more saturated and some of the sizing will be removed.

4.

Create your own **color palette**,write the names of the colors you used in order to mix the colors and always use that color reference chart.

Use a palette with more space and always prepare enough color.

5.

Observe the variety of ***nature, not only the shapes of the trees, bushes, grass, rocks, hills, roads.***

Those shapes repeat themselves, and when you overcome that first level of observation you will notice the rich colors that blend, that appear in the sunset or sunrise, the colors of a rainy day, cloudy or in winter time. Absorb those colors and transfer them into your work of art.

6.

Always experiment, search for the new ideas and objects to paint. Use your camera to make interesting photos of nature, people, animals or some interesting scene.

7.

Use your ***Sketch pad-daily***. You may not have the time to paint every day, but, you can collect your ideas in your Sketch pad every day. That will help you a lot to develop your observation and to paint more expressively.

8.

Explore the psychology of colors and the effect they have on human emotions and motivation, behavior.

9.

SPEND SOME TIME OUTDOORS

Yes, to make the photos, to do your drawings, you must go out and spend some time in the nature. You can also take your sketch book with you and spend an hour or two doing something you like, outdoors.

10.

REARRANGE YOUR SCHEDULE

If you really want to do something for yourself, to develop your artistic skills and make your artistic dreams come true, you will have to find a time for that. Time waits for no one. You must create the time, the ambient and the conditions needed for painting. Make some time for CREATIVE HOURS.

If you have the best inspirations in the morning, then get up earlier and do SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF EVERY DAY.

No one will give you your creative time as a birthday present. You are the only one who knows how to make it.

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