



Pinterest & Purpose

IN THE HOME WITH LAURA THOMAS

WATERCOLOR WORDART SUPPLY LIST

- MASONITE BOARD- CAN BE BOUGHT AT LOWE'S OR HOME DEPOT. YOU CAN BUY AN ART BOARD AT A CRAFT STORE, BUT IT IS MORE EXPENSIVE AND NOT NECESSARY.
- WATERCOLOR PAINTS- IN TUBES, NOT HARD PALETTE. PIGMENT PAINT IS BEST.
- WATERCOLOR OR CRAFT BRUSHES (SOFT- NOT STIFF LIKE OIL PAINT BRUSHES). YOU WILL NEED ONE SMALL (ABOUT A #2) AND ONE LARGE (3/4"-1")
- WATERCOLOR PAPER: 140LB, COLD PRESS OR 300LB COLD PRESS- ANY SIZE YOU LIKE, CAN BE FOUND IN SINGLE SHEETS, OR PADS.
- WATERCOLOR PALETTE- WHITE PLASTIC, CAN BE FOUND AT CRAFT STORE, OR JUST USE A WHITE OR CLEAR TUPPERWARE LID :)
- GUM ERASER OR A WHITE HI-POLYMER/PLASTIC ERASER- DON'T USE A PINK ERASER AS IT IS TOO ABRASIVE.
- LIQUID FRISKET OR MISKET.
- COMPUTER AND PRINTER OR LETTERING TEMPLATE
- MASKING TAPE (AND PAINTER'S TAPE)
- APRON- WATERCOLORS DON'T COME OUT OF CLOTHES!
- MATTE AND FRAME AS DESIRED

Word Art Step-By-Step

1. Select your paper, don't use too thin-less than 140lb the paper will not flatten properly after drying. When handling the paper, make sure you have clean hands. Any excess oils from your hands will absorb into the paper and not allow the paint to be absorbed.
2. Decide how big you would like your finished work to be. Common frame & matte sizes are 5x7, 8x10, 11x14, 12x16, 8x8, 12x12. You might want to keep those in mind to make your job easier.
3. Decide which colors you would like to use. They can match your décor, or the feeling of the verse, etc... With watercolors, you always want to mix colors, so if you want to go with blue, make sure you get more than one color blue. You can also mix green, or red to make different hues.
4. Using the computer, a letter template, or just freehand, trace/draw the verse with pencil onto the watercolor paper. To trace, print out the verse in large font. (Hint: using a font that looks like handwriting is more forgiving). Place the print out behind the watercolor paper. Tape it to the back of the paper using painter's tape, then tape to the window also using painter's tape. Painter's tape won't take the finish off the paper.
5. As you trace or draw the words onto the paper, your hand will be resting on the paper. To keep oils from your hands from getting on the watercolor paper, just slip a regular piece of paper under your hand. Also a good thing to do when you are painting the Misket over the letters.
6. Grab your Misket and shake it well. Using your small brush carefully paint inside the letters making sure to get it all. This might take some practice. Go slow and be patient. Remember to keep a slip of regular paper under

your hand, it will also keep the pencil from getting smudged. Once you are done, let it dry for at least 15-30 mins.

7. Once the Masket is dry you can begin your watercolor wash. Tape the watercolor paper onto the hardboard board all around the edges. When the paper is wet it will warp, but if it is taped down it will flatten again as it dries.
8. Make sure your board is flat, the watercolor will obey gravity! Using your large brush wet the paper all over up to the tape (but do not soak the paper) try to keep the tape dry if possible.
9. Once the surface of the paper is wet you can add other colors. The fun of a watercolor wash is that you never know exactly how it is going to turn out. You can add color by dropping it in, brushing it on, flicking it, etc... the wet paper will allow the color to move on its own. Don't overwork the colors on the paper, or it will end up like soup- all one bland color. (Hint: do a practice first to make sure you have the colors the way you like them.)
10. Once you are done, keep it taped down and let it dry, at least an hour- maybe more- until it feels dry to the touch.
11. Removing the Masket- using the gum eraser gently rub the letters and the Masket will come off like rubber cement. Don't be overly worried about the pencil lines. You can erase them completely if you would like, but even professional painters sometimes leave them. Be sure to rub gently- too vigorously and you will remove the top layer of paper.
12. Your work is done! Now you can decide what kind of mat and frame would be best to show off your original Word art!