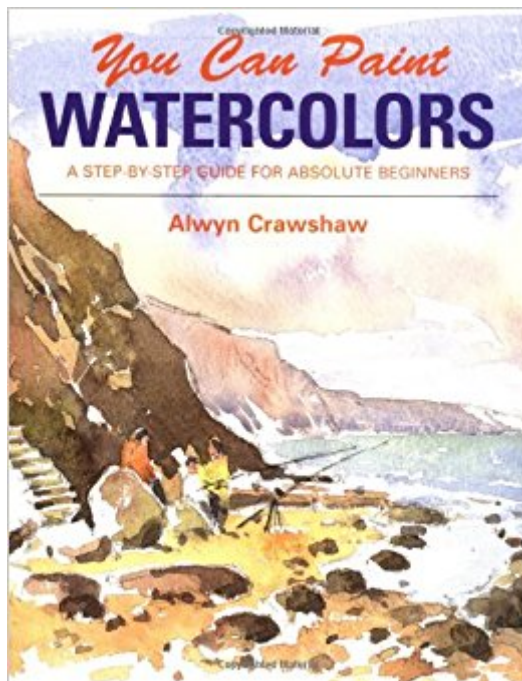


The book was found

You Can Paint Watercolors



Synopsis

Light on words, heavy on pictures, this totally user-friendly how-to book can turn an absolute beginner of any age, who has never held a paintbrush before, into a productive and proud watercolor painter. Basics open the book, as readers are shown the range of watercolors and how to mix them. Then simple wash techniques and the painting of light and shadows are presented. Next, step-by-step demonstrations show how to paint separate features of a still life or landscape—fruit, vegetables, flowers, trees, and skies—then how to combine these elements into lovely watercolor paintings.

Book Information

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Themes > Plants & Animals

Customer Reviews

I worry when I see books claiming categorically that everyone can be taught to paint. These two books confidently insist that the "absolute" beginner can produce pastels and watercolors in no time. In Blake's attempt to prove this, she sensibly points out that pastels can be seen as crayons for adults no messy oils, tubes, and brushes to deal with. She takes the student from simple marks on a page through tone, perspective, and so forth to simple still lifes, landscapes, and figures. Despite initial doubts, Blake does deliver in this volume, and for those on a budget, it's less than half the price of Jackie Simmonds's more comprehensive *Pastel Workbook: A Complete Course in Ten Lessons* (LJ 11/15/99). With an identical format and purpose, Crawshaw takes on watercolor for the beginner. Starting with a basic flat wash, he advances to simple fruits and flowers, people and buildings. Unlike Blake, he skips certain drawing fundamentals. Nevertheless, this delightful little

book will complement Mary Whyte's *Watercolor for the Serious Beginner* (LJ 3/15/98). Both step-by-step guides for the absolute beginner are recommended, especially for libraries on limited budgets. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Alwyn Cranshaw, England's top television artist and popular author of art instructionals, is known for his particular expertise in teaching beginners.

This is a superior instruction manual. Heads and shoulders above anything American I have come across in library or bookstore. I even like this title as a starter, much better than the Jack Reid title that is usually recommended as a source of self improvement lessons. Reid is a 4 or 5 star. This one is a 5, 6, 7, or 8 star... I'd rate this title a perfect 10, but it is not long enough, and I haven't found anything similar, and as good for a second go-round! Wish I had known of this artist years ago when selecting materials for teenage artists. I would recommend this title for the "absolute beginner" over his other title with that name. The other is a combination of books by various artists, and this one is simply Alwyn's work, clear, concise, nothing abridged, to the paintbrush point.

My friend and I are beginners in watercolor painting. We both love this book. The lessons are well laid out. Instructions are easy to follow. It is just fun to do watercolor with this book.

I am a beginner watercolor artist. My first step was to take a take a class. But since I could not bring the teacher home with me, this book has been my new best friend for learning the basics and giving me great lessons to practice on. Drawing is the start of a watercolor painting and this book gives you drawing lessons as well as the painting lessons. I still have several lessons to go but I gain lots of knowledge with each one I do. Would recommend for a beginner like me.

I already owned a copy of this book and purchased this copy to gift to my teenage niece who is interested in using watercolor in her journals. I think this little book describes several basic watercolor techniques and tips in a very clear and attractive format. Fun little small projects like painting a duck, birds, different types of foliage. Small format is nice for toting in a backpack on vacation and such.

I like the way the author organized this book with a carefully graduated tutorial approach. First an explanation of how to use the book, then identifying the basic materials to get started with, moving

on to elementary techniques, color mixing, 3D (depth), etc. Everything has been pared down to the basics and you don't run into unnecessary complex concepts that could get in the way of doing right away, what you bought the book for to start painting. This is a great starter book for those who want start watercolor painting and do not necessarily want to attend a class or college course. If you find you like it, you could then take a class with more confidence.

good thorough explanations

I'm an old watercolor teacher and this is the book I tell all my students to get. Nothing fancy about it, just excellent basic lessons that beginners and intermediate students can learn from. Crawshaw is English, and the Brits have been masters of WC for centuries. If you want to learn good technique and avoid bad habits, this is the best.

I like the way he teach how to paint, easy and with little complications, how to combine few colors to make our pallet and to get all the other combinations. Also all the pictures he shows us in the book are wonderful.

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