

12" x 9" Canvas**Brushes Use:**

- 1" wide background or chip brush to apply medium
- 3/4" Flat (#16)
- small (1/4") flat for details (#4)
- small (1/4") filbert for flowers (#4)
- #2 or #3 Liner
- Small mop
- Palette Knife (for mixing colors)

Colors Used:

- Titanium White (TW)
- Indian Yellow (IY)
- Cadmium Orange (CO)
- Alizarin Crimson (AC)
- Burnt Sienna (BS)
- Burnt Umber (BU)
- Ivory Black (IB)
- Sap Green (SG)
- Ivory Black (IB)
- Prussian Blue (PRB)

Mixes:

- SG + Black (very dark green)
- SG + IY + TW (pale yellow/green)
- PRB + TW

Canvas Prep

On a 12" x 9" canvas trace your pattern using black transfer paper.

Next put a very thin, even coat of a painting medium over the entire canvas. Make sure this is very thin and even. You can use any painting medium (liquid clear, 1/4 linseed oil mixed with 3/4 odorless thinner, walnut oil mixture, etc.). The idea here is to make the paint go on easier and thinly and allow for blending of colors right on the canvas. Be sure not to use too much. Take a paper towel and gently blot most of it off by putting the paper towel on the canvas and brushing over it firmly with your chip brush. This will take off just the right amount.

Painting Instructions

Always refer to your reference photos often to see placement of colors, etc.

Background: Using a 3/4" brush and the light blue mixture and light green mixtures. Loosly add these colors into the background. Keep your strokes loose and allow brush strokes to show. Add the brighter circles with a little lighter version of these colors. You can use a mop brush to smooth out and soften the background if you wish.

Leaves: Using the 3/4" brush, fill in the leaves and stems around the flowers and behind the bee with very dark green. Just put in the shapes. These will be highlighted with lighter greens, blues and yellows later. Keep the leaves soft in the background. You can use the mop brush to soften the larger ones, especially the ones in the bottom right corner.

Leaf highlights: Using lighter shades of green add highlights on the right side and tips of the leaves. Add low lights (shadow highlights) with a light blue shade. Make sure the blue is not bright by adding a touch of darker color to it. The leaves can be highlighted with other colors to add interest as well.

Bee: The bee is painted using first the 1/4" filbert to lay in basic colors using IB and CY. Then add the shadows using a light blue and highlights using IY + TW. Do these details using the liner brush and keep the legs and antennae very thin. If you get them too big, you can always go back with the color behind the bee to make them smaller.

Sunflower: You must pay close attention to the light source for your flowers. Start by using the 3/4" brush with BU to fill in the center on the right. Add BS as you come out to the right edge of the center. Highlight with a touch of IY + BS.

Next start with a mix of CO + IY and fill in each petal with a mid-tone orangeish color. The highlight on each flower is created with IY+TW (maybe a touch of CO). Look at your reference photo to see the placement of this color and stroke the brush in towards the center. Next go with a BS+BU mix and add use the brushes chisel edge to stroke in the dark lines. Use this color to separate petals as needed. Last go back with IY+TW to add final brighter highlights.

The last thing I always do to any painting is step back and look at it from a distance. Do I need to lighten any of my lights or darken any of my darks.

I hope you enjoyed this painting. Check out my other packets on my website.