

Cactus Watercolor Techniques

by Beth Watson @CreativelyBeth

MATERIALS

- Tombow Dual Brush Pens
 - 173 Willow Green
 - 177 Dark Jade
 - 277 Dark Green
 - 346 Sea Green
 - 837 Wine Red
 - 985 Chrome Yellow
- Tombow Water Brush, 3-Pack
- Tombow Blending Palette
- Water
- Paper Towel
- Cactus image downloaded and traced onto
- Mixed Media or Watercolor paper with
- Tombow MONOTWIN Permanent Marker

	173	177	277	346	837	985	H2O
173							
177							
277							
346							
837							
985							
H2O							



TECHNIQUES

1. **Wet on Wet** – Paint image with Water Brush and clean water. Place color on the Blending Palette with the brush tip of the Dual Brush Pen. Pick up color with the Water Brush and apply to wet image while gently pressing on the barrel. Control the amount of water added and allow paint to flow organically as it dries. Has the least amount of control but creates interesting textures. Experiment with strokes, dots of color, and other patterns.
2. **Wet on Dry** - Place color on the Blending Palette with the brush tip of the Dual Brush Pen. Pick up color with the Water Brush and apply to image while gently pressing on the barrel. More water creates a transparent color, while less creates an opaque color, with a sketchy quality to the strokes. Colors will dry lighter. Has the most control.
3. **Direct Blending** – Add color (one or multiple) directly to the image with Dual Brush Pen. Use the brush tip for larger areas and the bullet tip for details. Apply less color for a light result and more color for an opaque result. Blend colors with Water Brush by gently pressing on the barrel. Do not overwork the colors or you will lose the contrast.
4. **Indirect Blending** – Place color (one or multiple) on the Blending Palette with the brush tip of the Dual Brush Pen. Pick up the color(s) with the Water Brush mixing the colors together, and paint the image, while pressing gently on the barrel. Continue to paint the image, adding more water to create an ombre effect. While still wet, push a drop of water from the Water Brush to create an organic mixing of the colors. When dry, push a drop of water from the Water Brush to create a highlight. Mix, blend and add water to create a variety of colors from a limited palette.