

Daniel Smith's Watercolor Ground For too long, the beautiful medium of watercolor has been confined to a paper-behind-glass niche. Now, with this exciting new ground, anything you've dreamed of painting with watercolor can become a reality. It's easy to use—just brush it on—and incredibly versatile. Here are a few tips for getting the best results.



- **Preparation**

Absorbent or semi-absorbent surfaces require no special prep before brushing on DANIEL SMITH Watercolor Ground. These include paper, canvas and other fabrics, wood, plaster, shells and hardboard. Non-absorbent surfaces such as metal, plastic or glass should be lightly abraded with sandpaper or steel wool before brushing on the Watercolor Ground.

- **Application**

We recommend using Watercolor Ground straight from the container. It has a thick, brushable consistency. Use a soft-haired synthetic brush for a smooth finish or a hog bristle brush for a more textured finish. Since the ground is pigmented with Titanium White pigment, one coat will cover most surfaces; very absorbent surfaces such as unfinished soft wood may require two coats, allowing the first coat to cure before adding the second. Wash brushes immediately after use.

- **Curing**

Let Watercolor Ground dry and cure for at least 24 hours. This allows it to attain the right degree of absorption.

- **Painting**

DANIEL SMITH Watercolor Ground works beautifully with watercolors and thinned acrylics. Because it creates a surface more absorbent than paper, you will want to use less water with your paint. Experiment and see what works best for you. It also works beautifully with DANIEL SMITH Masking Fluid.

- **Finishing**

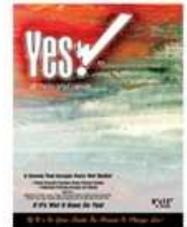
As with all watercolors, your work on DANIEL SMITH Watercolor Ground will need to be fixed if it will not be framed behind glass. GOLDEN Archival Aerosol MSA Varnish with UVLS is an excellent spray varnish that will protect your work on any surface. Use it at room temperature in a well-ventilated area.

Kathy's watercolor ground tips: I like to use it on hard board (Masonite). First seal the board with GAC 100. Then I brush on a coat or two of acrylic gesso, mostly to get the board from the dark brown to white before using the watercolor ground. I like to apply the ground with a small foam roller, and use two coats. A soft brush is an option also, but may show brush lines in your painting. Use it to add texture to your painting! You can give areas of the painting a texture with the ground. Try using a stiff brush or scraping into it. You can also try burnishing the dried surface with the back of a plastic spoon. Let it dry a day before painting. Seal with varnish. Daniel Smith's Watercolor Ground comes in white, buff, black and clear. \$16.95 pint or \$7.95 for 4 oz.

Yes!" All Media Canvas: perfect for watercolors, oils, acrylics, markers, shellac and acrylic-based inks, airbrush colors, alkyds and more! 11oz weight 100% unbleached cotton canvas. Triple-primed with acid free special wet media primer. Portrait smooth fine weave surface. Comes in 10 sheet canvas pads, stretched, panels and rolls.

8 1/2" x 11" pad.....10 sheets...\$11.00 16" x 20" pad.....10 sheets.....\$22.00

NOTE: there has been some defective YES canvas on the market....they say washing it with some warm soapy water will help.



The Portrait Cotton - Portrait artists and super realistic technique artists craved for a surface that was plate smooth but also affordable. Yes, is plate smooth using only the finest close weaved cotton and primed three times to a super smooth surface. So smooth you can easily draw on it. But here's the twist you can also paint on it with any media! The priming is the key. Imagine a canvas so versatile that it will accept any paint, ink or marker you have in your studio. Imagine the possibilities.

The Watercolor Surface - Many watercolorists draw with permanent marker as they create their watercolors. With this surface you can draw right into your watercolor without feathering or smudging or you can paint on top of the drawing. A unique twist to this canvas is that you can draw with permanent marker and use the lines to form a resist for your watercolors. This is very similar to resists used for silk painting. It is quite amazing and interesting. For traditional watercolor painting the color sits right up on the surface and allows for easy lifting, scratching into the paint film, reworking the painted surface and even layering for unique effects. Use with opaque or transparent colors. This canvas works best with tube watercolor and provides rich, vibrant expressions.

Acrylics and Watercolors - We don't know where art will lead you but you may want to start off playing with watercolors and gouache reworking or even removing areas then fine tuning and finally finishing off the top layers with permanent acrylics. Of course you don't need to use watercolors with your acrylics but you can if you want. You'll find this surface to be fantastic with virtually any acrylic based paint from heavy body to acrylic based inks to airbrush colors.

Kathy's "Yes!" canvas tips: I like to buy the sheets and mount them to sealed hard board (Masonite)...sealed with GAC 100. Glue it down before painting, but be careful not to get glue on the front before painting! Use an archival adhesive, like acrylic gel, or Modge Podge matte. My favorite method for the "Yes!" canvas is to paint an "under painting" in watercolors, then go over it with gouache for an opaque painting. When done, you can spray varnish, and frame without glass!

Ampersand Aquabord Watercolor Panels



- **Absolutely Archival** - Aquabord™ is an archival, acid-free textured clay surface that absorbs watercolors like a fine paper. Colors retain their purity and vibrancy in a way that even the finest of watercolor papers can never match!
- **Brilliant Color and Unmatched Techniques** - Get rich, luminous color and have complete control over your watercolors. Endlessly glaze and lift to underlying layers of color or completely lift back to white without damaging the surface!
- **Watercolors & More** - Uniquely absorbent Aquabord™ is perfect for watercolors and gouache. No stretching needed! Will not tear, shrink or buckle under heavy water applications. Also an ideal surface for casein, encaustic, acrylics and more!
- **Frame Without Glass** - Watercolors can be sealed and displayed without glass keeping colors and textures true to life!
- **Artist and Environment Friendly** - Ampersand Aquabord™ is made from sustainable forest products that ensure the protection of wildlife, plants, soil and water. Always formaldehyde-free and no harmful volatile organic compounds!

Ampersand Aquabord™ Watercolor Panels - formerly known as Claybord Textured™. They come in 1/8" flat, and 2" deep cradled.

The 1/8" flat prices: A four pack of 5" x 5" is \$4.60. 8" x 10".....\$4.60 for one panel 11" x 14".....\$6.61 for one panel 16" x 20"... \$12.79 for one panel

Kathy's AquaBord tips: Brush with clear water first with a soft brush, this releases trapped air bubbles. Paint on it once the sheen of the water is gone. You may re-wet areas as you paint, the paint goes on a bit smoother when the surface is damp. You can paint on it when it is totally dry also. It is hard to get a really flat, smooth wash on this surface. Glazing is somewhat difficult, as underlying areas lift easily. I like AquaBord for subjects that have a lot of texture. It is great for painting things like fur and feathers. You can scratch into the surface easily to add fine lines and texture. My favorite method with AquaBord is to paint a bit darker than how I wish the final painting to be, then lift out the highlights. Paint is absorbed by the clay surface quickly. Finish the painting by sealing it with spray varnish, and you can frame without glass!

OTHER WATERCOLOR OPTIONS:

Coating you watercolor paper.....

- you can create texture with a mixture of 50% acrylic gel and gesso.
- Coat your paper with gesso.
- Some use a rabbit skin glue mixture.

Yupo Ultrasmooth Multimedia Paper Imported from Japan, this synthetic paper has a velvety smooth surface that takes pen and ink, pencil and marker. As a watercolor paper it has the special advantage of being non-absorbent so colors sit on top of its surface. This feature makes the color much more brilliant than with standard watercolor papers and allows you to completely wipe off unwanted sections of your painting. Yupo is the world's first erasable watercolor paper!

Yupo comes 74lb., 104lb., or 144lb, in translucent or white.

A 10 pack of 20" x 26" sheets in assorted weights, white, is \$22.65

These are like painting on plastic.