
Seascape in Acrylics

Getting to grips with acrylics

Jane's lesson plan, inspired by artist Dave White - 3 March 2016

Scavenger Sea, Dave White 20 x 16"



This dramatic seascape above by artist Dave White is the picture we are choosing to be inspired by for the 10 March drop in class. You can either use this picture or bring your own. I only had the book to get the image, apologies. You can find details below in the footnote where to find his book.

What you will need

What is interesting to note is that the manufacturers of acrylics vary with opacity and transparency. This is valuable as we are painting transparent subjects (water) and more opaque areas, (distance and sky). Some manufacturers label the tubes with O or T or ST (semi-transparent) SO (semi-opaque)

Daler Rowney tend to be semi-opaque

Winsor & Newton tend to be more transparent

The colours suggested if you only have one of each primary fine, if you have more than one bring them all: Note: you will use a fair amount of the blues and whites, so ensure you have enough in your tubes.

- Phthalo blue, Ultramarine, Prussian Blue
- Hookers green, Sap Green
- Cadmium Scarlet, Cadmium Red Deep or these two together Alizarin + Cadmium red
- Lemon Yellow / Cadmium Yellow
- Titanium White (essential)
- acrylic flow or matt medium (used to add to colours to make them easier to handle)
- A **large** flat brush and a smaller (say a 4) flat ended brush and one soft brush and a bristle brush (don't worry if you don't have all of them)
- Kitchen roll
- Taped watercolour paper to a board or
- acrylic board
- pencil
- a hairdryer (not essential but will speed up the process of the background)

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Colour Mixing Tips from Jane:

How do you get the grey blue colour of both sea and sky?

1. Create a bluey-purple. So add some Cadmium scarlet to Phthalo Blue = Bluey purple
2. Add a touch of lemon yellow (not too much but gradually) to the bluey-purple = grey blue (adjust accordingly - this will be shown in class)
3. Put out some white. Now add a little of the above mix to white. See if you have the desired light or darkness required.

