



FABER-CASTELL
since 1761

Acrylics

Pure or diluted

Acrylics are extremely versatile

Ingenious techniques

Collages

It doesn't get more creative than this!

Techniques

Tips and tricks for extremely expressive effects

24 Acrylics
With intense luminosity

Creative Studio

Carbon-neutral production

Faber-Castell's forests in Prata, Southeast Brazil, absorb 900,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂), according to a scientific study by TÜV-Rheinland in 2012. The 10,000 hectare forestry project not only secures stocks of sustainable wood but also protects the environment through photosynthesis, which converts the CO₂ into biomass. The pine trees and forests in Prata, one third of which have been left untouched, therefore neutralise the climate-relevant carbon footprint of Faber-Castell's global production facilities. Large parts of the forests have become a habitat for rare species of animals and plants, which is particularly important. A respectful interaction with nature is key alongside sustainability.



Carbon Neutral
Regular
Surveillance
Corporate Carbon
Footprint

www.tuv.com
ID 000040930



Wood from certified sustainable forestry is the most important raw material for the Faber-Castell product range.



The Faber-Castell Group works on reducing plastics or rather replacing them with recycled materials.



Every product contains valuable raw materials. To extend their usability, many products can be refilled.



Further information can be found on our sustainability webpage.
<https://www.faber-castell.com/corporate/sustainability>

Faber-Castell stands for quality

Faber-Castell is one of the world's leading manufacturers and marketers of quality products for writing, drawing and creative design – the brand name is world-famous. In the core area of wood cased pencils, the group is the most important and oldest manufacturer in the world with a production capacity of more than 2 billion pencils and colour pencils.

Regardless of personal motivation and individual skill level – the new Creative Studio concept allows both aspiring and hobby artists to express their creativity and offers them everything they need to do so: high-quality products for drawing and painting, a perfectly matched colour range, material that inspires and fosters, and an incomparable versatility in terms of use.



We want to impress you – with our outstanding quality and rich colours.

No other painting material offers such a wide range of applications as acrylics. The consistency of acrylics is extremely variable: Diluted with water, it is similar to watercolours, applied using the impasto technique, it is similar to oil paints.

A wide range of tips and painting techniques are provided on the following pages to help you enjoy painting and experimenting. Working with acrylics is pure fun!

**Be
inspired**



The Creative Studio

Assortment

Oil pastels

in 36 colours



Soft pastels

in 70 colours



Pitt Artist Pen

India ink pens in 66 colours



Metallics

in 12 colours



Goldfaber

Colour pencils in 48 colours



Goldfaber Aqua

Watercolour pencils in 48 colours



Goldfaber

Graphite pencils in 10 degrees of hardness



Aquarellfarben

in 24 colours



Acrylfarben

in 24 colours



Creative Studio



It's such a creative medium!

Acrylics are the perfect medium for anyone wanting to take up painting. The paints have a creamy consistency, are easy to use and extremely versatile. And the best thing: Mistakes can be corrected at any time!

This instruction booklet outlines the basics of acrylic painting. You don't need many tools as a beginner. Although specialist shops offer a wide range of pastes and tools to add texture, you will see that there are many options for creating pictures with the paint alone. Get started and prepare to be surprised.

*Ingenious
techniques*



52032 AR MACO

FABER-CASTELL
Acrylic Colour
Ultramarine - 120

Acrylic

FABER-CASTELL
Acrylic Colour
Light blue - 147

Acrylic

Let's get
inspired

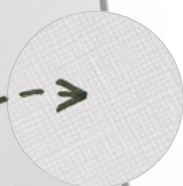


Cardboard



Rear side

Acrylic painting pad
with canvas texture



In different sizes



Stretcher frame

The substrate

How you apply acrylic paints makes a massive difference. From an aqueous diluted consistency, to creamy impasto, combined with texture pastes or influenced with structural gels – your project determines the requirements for the substrate.

The most common substrates for beginners are paper, cardboard, card, wooden boards and canvas. Whatever substrate you choose, ensure that it is free from grease.

One example of a low-cost substrate is an acrylic painting pad with canvas texture. Heavyweight watercolour paper is also suitable for your first practice runs. You can choose between grains from fine to coarse. Cardboard with canvas texture is available individually and is easy to frame.

If you prefer painting on a canvas, we recommend buying stretcher frames. The canvas is already optimally stretched on the wooden frame and usually does not have to be primed.

Plywood boards or three-dimensional wooden bodies have their own special appeal and are particularly well suited for collages.

MDF board



Plywood

Including three-
dimensional



*It's best
to ask*



Good to know

Gesso is a chalk base. gesso is available in white, black and transparent.

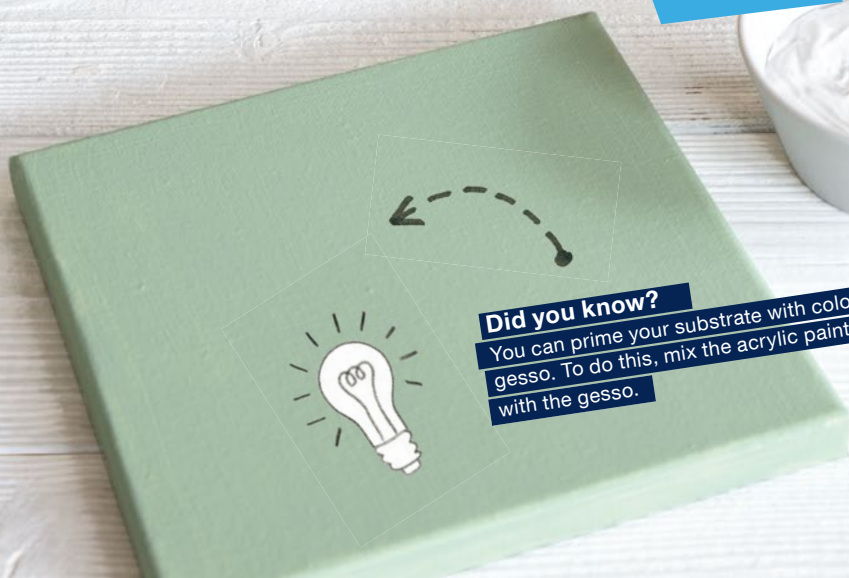
Priming: **YES** or **NO**

Priming seals the substrate and forms a layer between the substrate and the acrylic paint. It ensures that the acrylic paint sticks well and retains its luminosity. Untreated wooden boards, for example, can distort the colours without a primecoat and cracks may also occur in the colours after drying.

Check when purchasing canvas or stretcher frames whether they are already primed. If not, it is advisable to apply a prime coat before painting. Prime coats can be found under the names gesso, primer white, acrylic binder or primer. Gesso is a low-cost primer that can be applied in one or multiple coats. The chalk base is the perfect base for acrylics after drying for 2-3 hours.



Priming with
white Gesso



Did you know?

You can prime your substrate with coloured gesso. To do this, mix the acrylic paint with the gesso.



Round brushes



Flat brushes



Flat and round brush

**Brushes
+ Co**

Brushes

*Clean
brushes
immediately*

You can work with many different tools when painting with acrylics, but the brush is still the main tool. Pig bristles or synthetic bristles are the best choice for acrylic paints. They are low cost and suitable for all techniques.

Pig bristles have branched tips, which provide soft strokes and can hold lots of paint.

Brushes are available in a wide range of shapes. Experiment with a flat brush, oval brush and round brush. You can also use wide brushes from DIY stores, which are ideal for painting large surfaces.

You can create expressive results with trowels or palette-knives. Apply one or two colours directly on the substrate and spread them across the substrate with the palette-knife. Great colour effects are guaranteed!

We strongly advise you to clean your painting tools thoroughly. Acrylic paints dry extremely quickly and are insoluble in water after drying. This means that residues can form quickly in the brush and destroy the bristles. Brushes should therefore be washed out immediately after use with cold water.





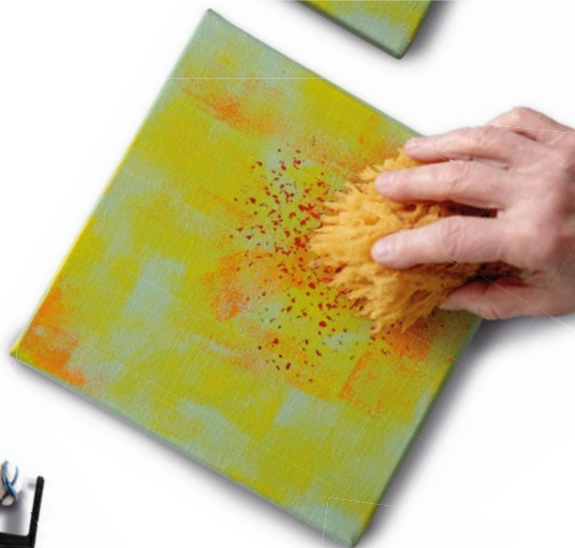
Does it work?

We all know that you can create spatters of colour with a toothbrush. But try painting with completely crazy tools and see for yourself how well it works!

You can create wonderful textures by gently applying a sponge roller, for example. Change the direction and the pressure as desired and also experiment with overlapping colour layers.

Or what about a natural sponge? Dab interesting textures onto your picture with its porous surface.

Painting with fingers is a particularly sensual experience! Feel the creamy consistency and enjoy merging the colours.



Good to know

Tie an elastic band around the sponge roller to create interesting patterns.



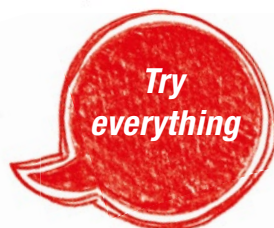
Techniques

PURE OR DILUTED

The choice of colour consistency and substrate has an astounding impact on the result. Test for yourself how pure or diluted paint looks on canvas or watercolour paper.

For impasto application, use undiluted paint, i.e. opaque. Take up generous amounts of paint on the brush and paint it on to the substrate.

Dilute a paint with water to achieve a transparent layer of colour known as a glaze. The amount of water determines the transparency of the glaze. In contrast to watercolours, acrylics dry waterproof. Allow a glaze to dry before applying a new layer of paint over the top. See whether you prefer painting diluted acrylics on canvas or watercolour paper.





Diluted paint on
watercolour paper

Pure paint on
canvas





Good to know

Mix sufficient paint if you want to paint in gradations.

Techniques

Lightening + Darkening

Several options are available for lightening a colour: Lightening by adding water, mixing in white or overlaying a colour with a lighter colour.

When mixing with white, remember that white also gives a colour a higher opacity. It is best to test the effect with a small quantity.

If you only want to lighten a colour slightly, it may only be necessary to apply a light glaze over the colour. You can work up to the result with multiple glazes.

When darkening with black, the colour often becomes extremely cold. It is therefore best to use mixtures of black and other dark colour shades. Control the colour temperature with red or blue tones.

You can also use glazes to darken a colour.

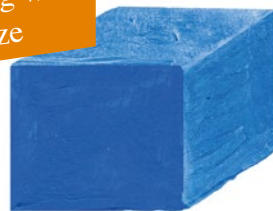
Lightening with white



Lightening with water



Lightening with white glaze



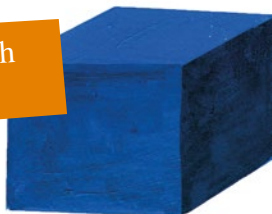
Darkening with black



Darkening with brown glaze



Darkening with black glaze





Good to know

You can use porcelain plates, plastic plates, tear-off sheets, plastic or wooden sheets as a mixing pallet.

Colour gradient

With the colour gradient too, you can work in opaque or transparent. It is important to work quickly, as the acrylic paint dries extremely quickly.

Opaque gradient

To create an opaque colour gradient, start with the pure paint and then gradually mix in another colour shade. After applying the pure blue paint, for example, mix in a little white with the blue and apply the lighter blue next to the original shade. Stroke a dry brush gently over the transition and blend the colour gradients into each other. Repeat the process until you have achieved the lightest shade.

Transparent gradient

Here too, start by applying the pure paint first. Wash out the brush lightly and run the damp brush over the edge of the previously applied paint to spread it outwards. Repeat the process until the desired colour shade is achieved.

Opaque: blue-white

Opaque: black-black

Transparent gradient

Good to know

Instead of expensive trowels or palette-knives, you can also use trowels from the DIY store.



Techniques

IMPASTO

Impasto refers to thickly applied paint. Paint edges created by the brush or trowel are left intentionally. With impasto, you use the volume of the paint for a more abstract way of painting.

Paint application with a brush

The impasto technique actually works with any brush. Particularly distinctive strokes can be achieved with a bristle brush. Exciting results can also be achieved with a colour shaper. The flexible rubber tip comes in different shapes.



Paint application with a trowel

Painting with a trowel is perfect for creating even more abstract effects. Apply the paint directly on the substrate and spread it with the tip of the trowel or even with the wide edge of the trowel.

Fillers

For an extravagant impasto painting, mix fillers such as sand, sawdust, pieces of shell or golden glitter with the paint. Alternatively, you can also sprinkle the filler directly onto the wet paint.

With a brush



With a trowel



Colour Shaper



Sprinkle on sand





Granulation

This technique gives your pictures a unique depth. With practice and patience, you will achieve great results.

To achieve the full effect with this technique, a textured substrate is required. The paint is applied in thin layers and remains on the highest peaks of the substrate.

Use a dry flat brush for painting. Take up a small amount of paint with the brush, wipe the brush off again on a cloth so that very little paint remains in the bristles. Now hold the brush flat and apply strokes back and forth over the parts of the picture you want to work on, applying minimal pressure.

The painting technique with a dry brush can also be used on a substrate with less texture. In this case, the result will be an extremely thin layer of colour, which allows the colour below to shine through. The advantage of this technique is that the layers of paint interlace visually and appear much more vibrant than monochrome coloured areas.

*Start
with smaller
areas*



Good to know

You can also use this technique with a rag, cloth or sponge roller.





Did you know?

A trowel is ideal for mixing large quantities of paint. This ensures that less paint is wasted than when mixing with a brush.

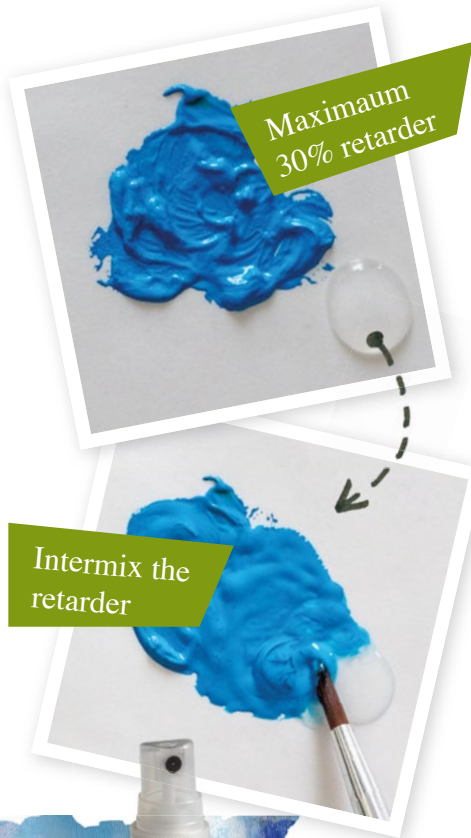
Techniques

Useful aids

Pastes, gels, retarder, matting agent, and on and on... there are so many painting tools in the world of acrylics, that you can stand quite lost in front of the packed shelves. So what does a beginner actually need?

Acrylic paint sometimes dries quicker than you would like. Particularly when it is used in undiluted form. A spray bottle is useful here. If you notice that the paint is starting to dry, spray on a little water. An alternative here is a so-called retarder. This agent is mixed in with the paint and delays the drying process, giving you time to paint without stress.

Our recommendation: Get to know all facets of acrylic paint first before trying out a wide range of painting tools.



Maximum
30% retarder

Intermix the
retarder

Keep surfaces
moist

Spray bottle





FABER-CASTELL
since 1761

Create
great
collages



Did you know?

Craft glue or wood glue is
perfect for sticking on the
collage elements.



You're ready for *off!*

With the techniques outlined here, you are now well equipped for painting interesting pictures with acrylics. But acrylics also have other uses: collages!

With collages, there are no limits to your imagination. Combine the painting techniques with templates, films, printing techniques, stamping, newspaper clippings, photos, gift wrap or decorative tapes. The list is endless.

As an example, we will show you the creation process for these two collages on the next two pages. It's sure to inspire you to try some of the techniques for yourself. Give it a try!





Good to know

Spray the water onto your substrate with an old toothbrush. This creates spontaneous sprinkles.

Techniques

Using only **Water**

The wash technique can be used for truly unusual substrates. The only thing you need is water.

First apply a layer of slightly diluted paint. Before the paint dries, use a brush or pipette to drip water onto parts of the painted area. The paint will now dry more slowly in these areas. After the first layer of paint has dried, dab the areas of paint that are still wet with a cloth or spread the wet paint with a brush. The substrate will now become visible again.

Timing is essential with this technique. With practice, you will get a feeling for the right timing.

If the substrate becomes too busy for your taste, you can soften the contrasts by painting over with glazes.

Apply the paint



Apply water droplets



Spread the paint



Dab off the paint



Simple techniques



**Collect
nice
newspaper
clippings**

**Stick on collage
elements**

The wash technique is great for larger areas, which you can use as a base for amazing collages later.

Cut out suitable photos, newspaper clippings or elements you have painted yourself. Arrange them on the substrate and stick them on with craft glue.

Enhance the elements by painting on acrylic paints and other elements.

Making collages is really fun and the result is always unique!

**Continue
painting**



Techniques

*Use
strong
contrasts*

Give it a TRY

You can protect specific areas of the picture with Vaseline.

First apply a layer of acrylic paint on your substrate and leave it to dry.

Then apply Vaseline on specific points of your picture with your finger. It's best to wear a disposable glove for this.

Now paint one colour over the entire picture and allow everything to dry. The paint on the Vaseline does not dry and can be removed again with wet cloths, along with the Vaseline.

This blocking technique is extremely artistic and creates vintage effects that add lovely visual elements to your picture.

Good to know

Use wet cloths or baby wipes to wipe off the Vaseline.



Apply paint



Apply Vaseline



Apply paint



Dab off





Good to know

Cut out templates
from cardboard to help
you create recurring
elements during painting.

Cut out



Cut out photos, newspaper clippings or elements you have painted yourself, arrange them on the substrate and stick them on with craft glue.

A drawing element can be added extremely effectively with Pitt Artist Pen ink pens. Add elements with black or white lines. The Pitt Artist Pen is waterproof once dry, so you don't need to worry about its mudding when painted over with glazes.

Stick on



Finish



Mixed Media

Mixed Media

Would you like more ideas? Why not try combining your pictures with pastels, charcoal, oil pastels or the waterproof Pitt Artist Pens! Graphic accents can add the final touch to many pictures.

Pastels or charcoals are also great for sketching.



Acrylic +
pastels



Acrylic +
charcoal





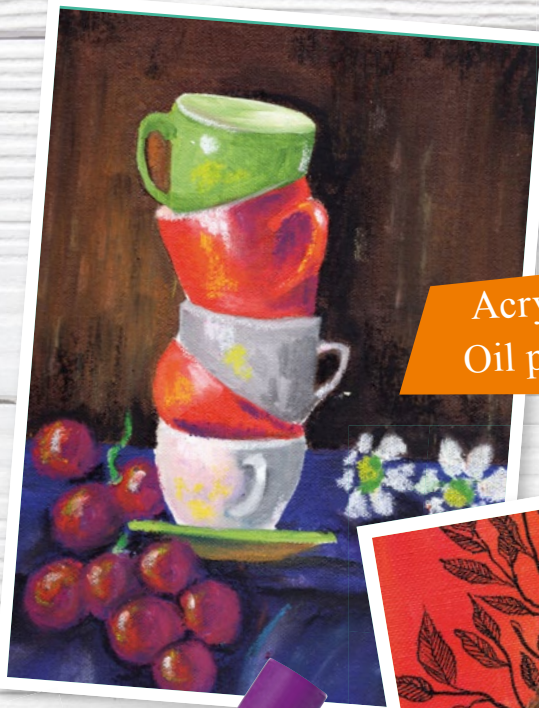
FABER-CASTELL
since 1761

Find
your own
style

Acrylic +
Pitt Artist Pen



Acrylic +
Oil pastels



Acrylic +
Pitt Artist Pen



Colours



No.	Colour
101	white
105	light cadmium yellow
107	cadmium yellow
109	dark chrome yellow
115	dark cadmium orange
121	pale geranium lake
126	permanent carmine
131	coral
125	middle purple pink
136	purple violet
143	cobalt blue
120	ultramarine
147	light blue
156	cobalt green
161	phthalo green
163	emerald green
166	grass green
167	permanent green olive
183	light yellow ochre
192	India red
176	Van-Dyck-brown
273	warm grey IV
233	cold grey IV
199	black





37 90 12 (12× 9 ml)



37 90 24 (24× 9 ml)



37 92 12 (12× 20 ml)





Find out more:
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