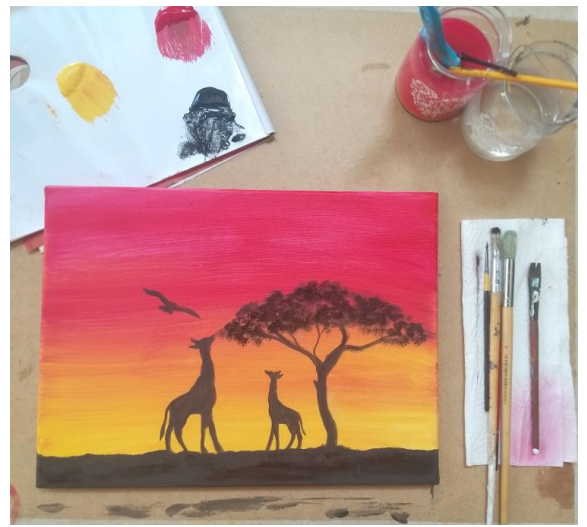




Acrylic African Sunset



Detailed step-by-step tutorial from Artist Brush Art school

- 14 Steps with detailed descriptions, comments and advice from the author.
- Photos of the process.
- Silhouette attached.

Acrylic African Sunset

Acrylic is a very famous medium and very fun to work with if you keep in mind that it dries quickly.

HAVE FUN with this project!

New terms:

Thirds - The Rule of Thirds is a general guideline for how to create an interesting composition which states that any image—painting, photograph, graphic design—should be broken into a grid with two vertical and two horizontal lines, creating nine equally proportioned boxes

Silhouette - the dark shape and outline of someone or something visible in restricted light against a brighter background.

Tips:

- Remember to keep your brushes clean.
- Acrylics dry very quickly so be careful to not let your paint dry.
- Don't overwork the painting.
- Dry your brush with the paper towel when needed.
- Remember to wear an apron as acrylics will stain your clothes.
- HAVE FUN!!

FAQS:

Why do we use two containers of water?

One container is to clean your brush in and the other to take clean water to activate the paint and use it on the painting.

What is the paper towel for?

To gently dry your brushes when you cleaned it.

Supply list
Colours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Red - Yellow - Black - White Brushes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flat brush. - Big flat brush for background. - Soft round brush - Round Hard brush Other materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canvas – stretched or panel (A3) - two containers (for water) - B pencil (graphite) - sharpener - eraser - paper towel - mixing palette - prestick - test paper



Primary Colors



Primary and
Secondary Colors



Primary,
Secondary, and
Tertiary Colors

Primary Colours

any of a group of colours from which all other colours can be obtained by mixing.

Colours

- Red
- Blue
- Yellow

Secondary Colours

a colour resulting from the mixing of two primary colours.

Colours

- Purple
- Orange
- Green

Tertiary Colours

a colour made by mixing full saturation of one primary colour with half saturation of another primary colour and none of a third primary colour

Colours

- Yellow orange
- Red orange
- Red violet
- Blue violet
- Blue green
- Yellow green

Light & Shade Basics:

To make the objects look realistic in the drawing, you will need to correctly size them.

We perceive the shape and volume of objects only when they are illuminated, meaning that we see them with the help of the fact that light is reflected from surfaces with different intensity. In order to convey the size, volume and position of objects in space, one should learn to depict “chiaroscuro” (or the treatment of light and shade), which includes:

Light - The illuminated, bright part of the subject;

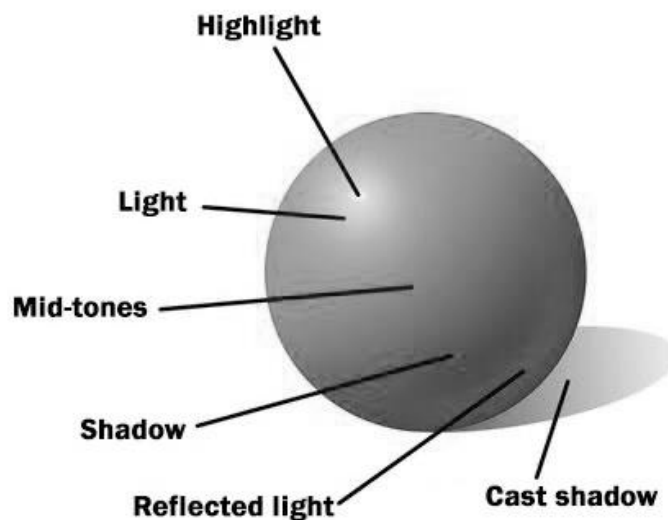
Highlight - The lightest part on the subject as a reflection of bright light. If you color a still life of several objects, each of them may have light reflecting from them in different intensity, or maybe none at all depending on the lighting and materials (example: a shiny apple vs. shaded black velvet);

Mid-Tones - Transition from light to shade;

Object's Own Shadow - the darkest part of the subject;

Reflected Light - Light and shades cast by nearby objects. As a rule, reflected light is always darker than a mid-tone, but at the same time it's lighter than shadow;

Object's Cast Shadow - The shadow cast onto other items and surfaces from the object. If the shadow is closer to the object from which it originates, then it will be darker than it is when stretching farther away from it.



Step 1

Make sure you have all the supplies listed above ready and that you work on a flat surface; you can also make use of an easel if it's easier for you. Remember to only fill your cups half with water to prevent spilling water on your lovely art piece.



Notes:

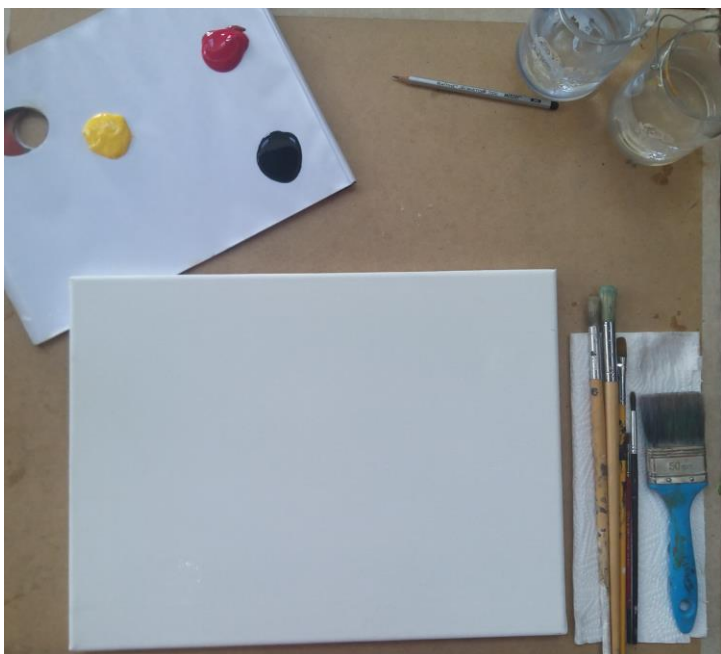
Make sure you print out the silhouette soonest.

Step 2

Prepare your canvas.

Take the plastic wrapping off then do a water wash on the whole canvas.

Let the wash dry.



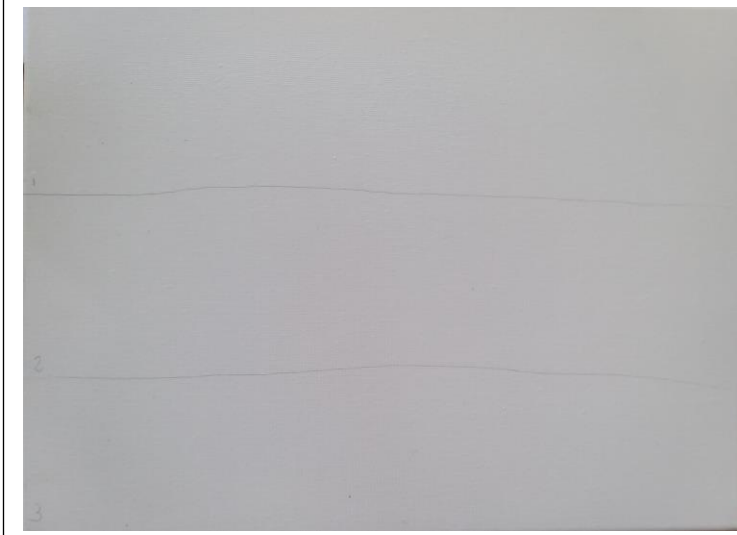
Notes:

You will do the wash with clean water.

When the canvas is no longer shining you will know the water is completely dry.

Step 3

Divide your canvas into thirds – number the thirds as per the reference photo below.
This should be VERY light or you would have to do more than one coat for the background.

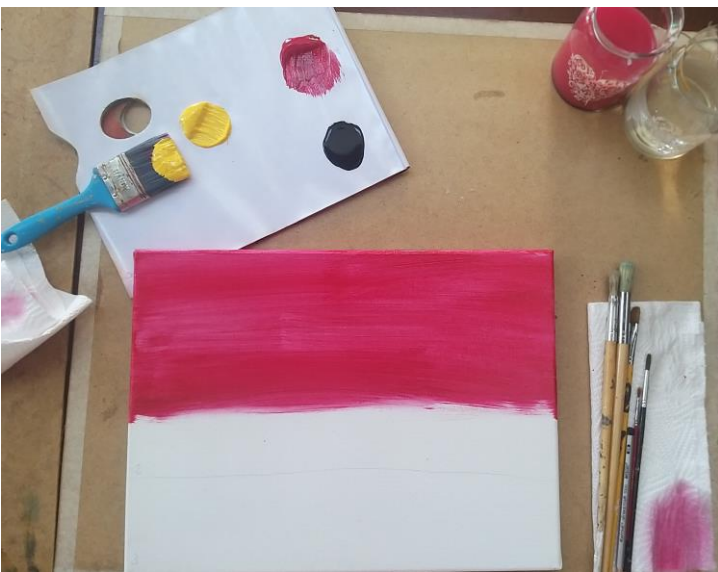


Notes:

The Rule of Thirds is a general guideline for how to create an interesting composition which states that any image—painting, photograph, graphic design—should be broken into a grid with two vertical and two horizontal lines, creating nine equally proportioned boxes.

Step 4

Take red paint and cover your first third with red and also the half off your second third.



Notes:

Red is a primary color.

Step 5

While the red paint is still wet start adding your yellow from the other half off the 2nd third to the bottom off the canvas. Take a clean dry brush and gently blend the two colours where they meet in the second third. Wait for this step to dry completely.

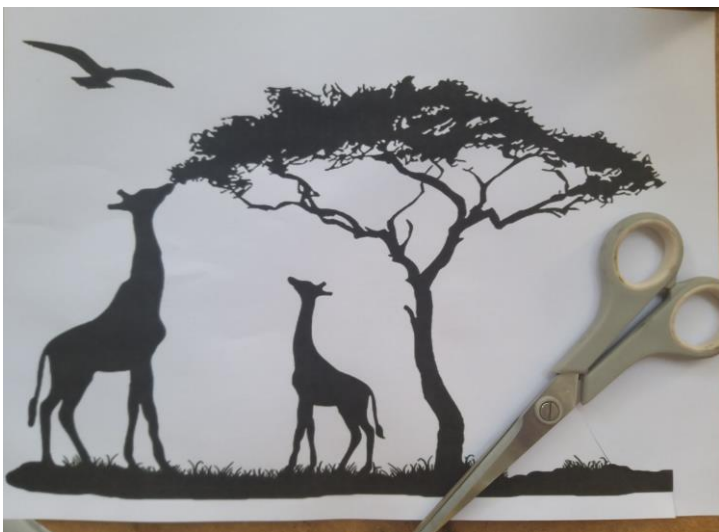


Notes:

What color do you get when you mix red and yellow?

Step 6

While your background is drying start cutting out the silhouette. Ask mom to help you with the small parts If needed. You don't need to cut around the leaves of the tree – the basic shape should be just fine.



Notes:

Silhouette - the dark shape and outline of someone or something visible in restricted light against a brighter background.

Step 7

You can now trace the provide silhouette onto your canvas. Use prestick if needed to make sure the picture doesn't move as you draw. You can use a graphite pencil or a watercolour pencil for this step.



Notes:

Place your silhouette as close as you can to the right side of your canvas, you will need to make the surface longer to fill the bottom part of your canvas.

Step 8

You can now start painting the silhouette with your small round brush and black paint – it's important that this layer is not transparent – if your background shines through your silhouette you might need to do a second and maybe third coat of black paint. Once this layer is completely dry you can start with step 9.



Notes:

To get the sides of the silhouette smooth dip your brush in water and wipe it on the paper towel before you paint.

Step 9

You will now be exercising brush strokes on your test paper. By using your round hard brush you will press the brush lightly downwards and up – this is a repetitive movement. Make sure to not have too much paint on your brush – less is more. Also be sure to not overwork your leaves to prevent it from looking like a black blodge of paint. Remember you can see the sky through grouped leaves.



Notes:

Take a breather, go outside and look at the trees in your yard or around you and look how the sky shines through the spaces of the leaves – nature is just magical!

Step 10

Now paint your leaves on your canvas.



Notes:

Don't overthink it – just do it! I know you can.

Step 11

Once your painting is dry sign your name and your masterpiece is done!



Step 12

Clean all your brushes in water and wipe gently with paper towel.
Make sure your paint tubes are all clean and that all tubes/tubs are closed to prevent them from drying.
Wash your palette with water and dry.
If you do not wash your brush after you used them for an acrylic painting they will become hard and you won't be able to use them again.
Remember to look after your art supplies and brushes they can last for years!

Notes:

You are welcome to do more paintings like this – just google a silhouette print it out and create your own sunset – you can even change the color of your background – be creative.

