

Inktense Blocks Step by Step

by Glyn Macey

Materials used:

Inktense Blocks: Deep Indigo, Field Green, Sun Yellow, Violet, Poppy Red, Leaf Green, Sherbet Lemon, Iris Blue, Bright Blue, Teal Green and Antique White.

Inktense Pencils: Ink Black and Hot Red.

Heavyweight watercolour paper.

Derwent Medium Waterbrush.

Optional: Derwent grippers and Grate 'n' Shake.



Using Deep Indigo sketch the initial outline onto your paper.



Using Field Green, Sun Yellow and Bright Blue loosely lay basic colours down on certain parts of the drawing.

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Using a waterbrush wet the dry colour and move/pull it around your drawing to fill in some more of the outline. You can see how bright the Inktense colours get when wet and only a little colour is needed to go a long way.

TIP: Use a Derwent gripper, which slides easily onto your block, to keep your hands from getting messy.

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For the wall of the drawing use Violet and Poppy Red. Using the Inktense Blocks as a pan of paint, lift the colour from the block using a wet waterbrush. Apply this to your drawing remembering to keep certain areas paler depending on the direction of the light source.

TIP: You can also use the Derwent Grate 'n' Shake to make your own paint which can then be applied to your drawing!

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The benefit of Inktense is that once the wetted colour has been left to dry it becomes permanent so you can add more colour, re-wet it and the dry colour won't move at all. It is fixed. Allow your drawing to dry and add more layers of colours to the darker areas in the picture. Use Leaf Green and Sherbet Lemon to finish off the flowers.

TIP: Use the inside of your tin lid as a palette.

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Small areas of detail, such as the writing on the bottle label can be added using Inktense Pencils which are ideal for detailed work. Use Inktense Pencils Ink Black and Hot Red for the detail on the bottle label.

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Using Iris Blue, Bright Blue, Teal Green and Antique White for the waves create the seascape view out of the window.

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Using the Inktense blocks dry add definition and shadows to the various shapes. It can help to dampen the paper a little before applying the colour.

TIP: Inktense Antique White is great for adding highlights and making colours paler!