

Hands-on at Home | Watercolor Resist Art

Follow the instructions below to learn a fun watercolor technique with crayons. Crayons are made of wax, which is hydrophobic, which means “scared of water.” While wax isn’t really scared of water, it does repel it!

SUPPLIES

- Water in cup (for rinsing brush)
- Paintbrush
- Watercolors [Or Watered-Down Food Coloring]
- Watercolor Paper [Or Thick Paper]
- Crayons

DIRECTIONS

- Set up your workstation by lining your table with newspaper, or by putting your paper in an easy-to-clean container. Watercolor can get a little messy, so make sure you protect your surface.
- Once your workstation is set up, take your crayon in the color of your choice and draw on your paper. If you are using a white crayon on white paper it will be difficult to see where you’re drawing. The crayon will prevent watercolor from coloring the paper under the crayon’s wax. You can vary how much crayon will be seen by doing multiple layers of crayon on the same spot, or by going over the paper very lightly with crayon. Experiment and find out what you think looks best!
- Begin painting with your watercolors. This can be done many different ways! Using more water will dilute, or spread them out, your colors, making it lighter. Using less water will give you a darker color, but it will be harder to spread the color on your paper. Make sure to clean your brush before switching to a new color.
- After you feel you are done with your painting, set it to dry.
- Additional Option: Before your paper is dry, sprinkle table salt on your paint. It will create a cool splatter effect as the salt absorbs the water and color where it lands. Brush the salt off of your paper when dried.

CLEAN UP

Drain the water from the paint cup, rinse the brushes in running water, and wipe down messy surfaces. Watercolor is water-soluble, which can easily be wiped up with soap and water. Food Coloring will stain, so be extra careful.