

Dumgoyne Evening Snow by Frances Douglas Teaching Tips & Guidelines



Materials

Isabel Wash brush No 2
Round brush No 6
Paper: Bockinford NOT 300gsm
Paints: Winsor & Newton Artist watercolour tubes
Kitchen Roll
Pencil & Rubber
Masking Tape

1. I mixed a wash each of C/B and R/S. Start by laying a flat wash for dry paper from the top of the sky where it the colour is strongest and then use the R/S to paint from the hill line going round the edge of the hills to preserve the shapes and white. Bring the R/S up to meet the blue and they should merge together. *The other way to do this graded wash would be to start at the top and work down gradually diluting the blue and changing to the R/S. Keeping the paper slightly tilted helps the wash to flow down and the colour to merge.* I felt I was more in control of the colours doing it the other way at this scale.

2. Use the B/S with a touch of P/R to loosely paint the warm tones on the distant hills

Mix a soft blue/violet using the C/B and P/R (*or you could just use a purple from our palette*) and use this to paint in the large shadow areas. In this particular scene it is much easier to do this now than to try and paint around the trees etc at a later stage.

Allow to dry.

3. I used a mix of P/B & B/U - veering to the brown side of the colour, and loosely painted the nearer trees. Doing this brings out the shape of the near snow covered slope. I used the same mix to add a few tufts of grass in the foreground. Next I used the violet mix with a touch more blue to create distance for the shadow on the distant hills.

Let dry.

I can't resist another winter scene as I love the colours we get at this time of year!

Colours:

Cobalt Blue C/B
Permanent Rose P/R
Prussian Blue P/B
Burnt Sienna B/S
Burnt Umber B/U
Raw Sienna R/S

4. Using the same colours as before - P/B & B/U - mix a dark green blue for the darker distant trees and paint them in. At this scale there is no detail, just shapes. This colour was also used to add some deeper shadow to the foreground trees. I decided to use the same colour mix for the fence posts and some of the foreground grass on the shadow side. B/S would work well for the grasses on the sunny side. I then added a very pale wash of R/S to hint at the warm light on the snow covered slopes.

5. I decided the painting needed more contrast between the light and dark areas and added a deeper violet shadow coming from the left hand side and a blue shadow in the foreground - partly because like playing with the shadow colours! I also added some B/S detail on the distant hills. I felt at this stage the painting was coming slightly over worked! The B/S was too warm a colour for those details on the hills, but I just left it.

6. Finally I felt a bit more contrast was needed in the foreground and added some darker blue shadows in the grasses. Finally I used the green mix to add a few tufts in the slope.