

Bunny in Snow – Getting the Most Out of Your Watercolor

Transparent watercolor will give you the most glow with soft variations of color, so work in layers with variety.



Colors

- Blue Gray for Snow – any blue gray or [mix blue + orange or brown]. Avoid Phthalo blue as it will turn green.
- Light Green – any light green or mix your blue with yellow or gold. Use yellow and blue for variety
- Dark Green – Perylene Green or [Phthalo Blue plus Burnt Sienna] or [Hookers plus Black]
- Browns – any browns – Raw Sienna or [Burnt Sienna + Yellow], Burnt Sienna, Burnt or Raw Umber

Step 1 – Draw or trace your outline.

Step 2 - Snow Shading

Mix a bluish gray puddle with blue plus a touch of brown.

Wet the snow area with clean water.

Paint blue near the bottom of the page, shading up to lighter near the bunny. Paint blue at the top left corner, shading down to the end of the white.

Step 3 – Paint light green on everything that isn't snow or bunny.

Be sure your lines are dark enough that you can see them through this wash!

Mix a light green with your blue plus yellow, keeping some blue and yellow available.

Paint some green, some yellow and some blue over the entire background, going around the snow areas and bunny. Work wet enough that the colors blend softly – use as few brushstrokes as possible.



Step 3 – Paint the little tree and dark green areas.

Mix a puddle of very dark green, a puddle of medium green and a puddle of blue.

Paint the small tree with medium green, dry.

Paint the dark green background, going around the light green branches, small tree and bunny. Dip your brush in the blue and medium green occasionally for variety.

Step 4 – Adding Detail to the trees

Small tree – lift up pine needles with a damp brush, lift a trunk and paint with brown.

Pine branches – Paint on darker pine needles, letting some extend over the bottom of the snow area on the limb. Don't add needles evenly – have variation – more needles in a few areas and less in others.

Step 5 – Paint the bunny.

Mix puddles of light, medium and dark brown. Also mix red plus brown and paint the inside of the ear.

Paint the bunny light brown, leaving white around the muzzle and bottom of the head, and the ear. Add color and short strokes for fur where you see it.

