

Sassy Geese with River Landscape



Hard edges – painted on dry paper

Soft edges – painted on damp or wet paper

Step 1 – Sky and water – First washes of blue

- Mask out the geese (at least the top edges and heads), lily pads and a few grasses
- Wet the entire paper down to the bottom of the geese. You want the sky darker at the top to lighter at the horizon line. You want the water lighter at the top down to darker towards the bottom.
- Don't dry – keep painting on Step 2.

Step 2 – Green on trees and grasses – First light washes

- You can use whatever colors you like for the trees and grasses – adding some brown or oranges would make it more realistic.
- Tree - Paint light green on the tree mass and reflection. Paint some medium green in the middle.

- Grasses – light green on grasses and reflections, medium green in middle.
- Don't dry – keep painting.

Step 3 – Paint water below geese with darker blue.

- Wet the paper below the geese so it's damp. Paint darker blue in horizontal strokes AROUND the reflections. If the color floods the reflections, lift it out with a thirsty brush for soft edges.

Step 4 – Second wash to grasses, tree and reflections.

- The second wash on the tree could be sponged on for an airy look.
- Add a second wash of color to the trees and grass, as needed.
- Be sure to add the color to the reflections below. Wet the edges with a damp brush to soften.

Step 5 – Remove the masking and paint the masked grasses and lily pads.

- Redraw the eyes and beaks as needed



Step 6 – Paint shading on the geese – front, bottom and suggestion of wings.

- Mix a puddle of blue and a puddle of orange, plus a neutral dark
- Paint the shadow areas on dry paper with blue, then with orange. Add darks where you see it.

Step 7 – Paint the beak areas.



Step 8 – Use leftover shadow color to add reflections under the geese.

Step 9 – Opaque white

- Tiny white lines around the base of the tree area and grasses – not solid, but hit or miss.
- Tiny white lines for ripples.
- White for clean up of geese edges.

