

Watercolor textures

Grass and Shrub

Find out how to paint grass and shrub land that looks natural and organic.

Whatever you do, don't paint grass with lots of w's as shown top right here.

For a more realistic and natural approach paint a patch of variegated colors and while this is still wet work into it loosely with a variety of tools.

You can use your fingers to smudge the edge of the patch of paint...



... you can dig lines into the paint using the end of a brush or a fingernail. If you do this in wet paint you get dark lines, and if the paint is almost dry you scratch away the surface and get light lines...

... you can make a brush with small twigs and drag these over the paint to create texture...



... or use an old stiff brush to push the paint across the paper.

Try out these methods and see what works for you.

Now have a go at painting a small scene and use your techniques to create a bank of shrub at the front.

Paint in a background first – something like this.



Then use your techniques to create the foreground, something like this.

