

# Watercolor textures

## Hair and fur

Hair and fur can be painted with just a couple of layers of paint – a first wash of color, possible another shadow layer if necessary, and a few details. Here I'll show you two ways of painting fur.

Lay down a variegated wash of colors and allow to dry.



Use a fine brush to paint on hairs, using a color similar to the one in the wash below, but a bit darker.

I used this technique, with some lines drawn in with colored watercolor pencil, for the dog shown here.

Most of the hairs were painted in in the shadow areas and less in the light areas.





Short hair can be painted with just a variegated wash. Here I mixed three colors using different mixes of ultramarine blue and burnt sienna, then applied them wet-in-wet to the face.

The long hairs of the ears were rendered with loose long strokes from a lightly held brush. They were just flicked in to give them life.



As the painting progressed I made sure to keep the face painted with loose washes that kept the hair looking very short.

The hair on the ears and collar of the dog were all painted in long strokes.



You can see these effects very clearly in this painting.

