

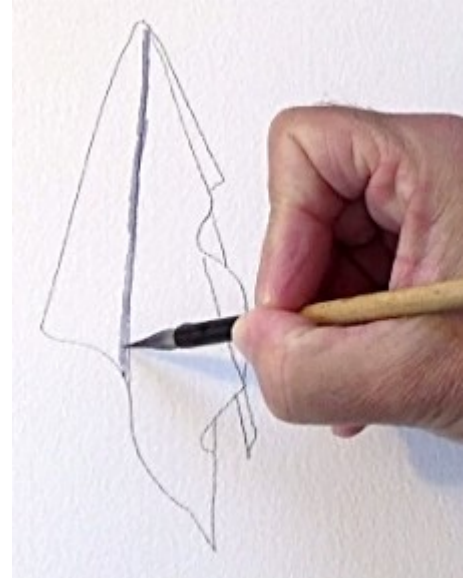
Watercolor textures

Fabric and cloth

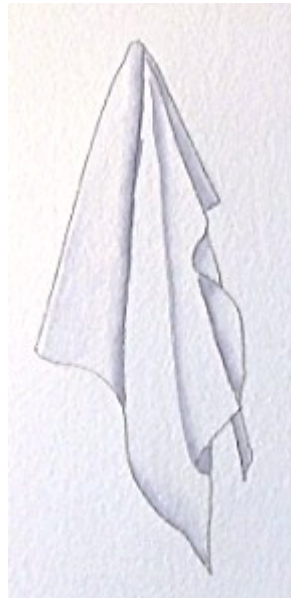
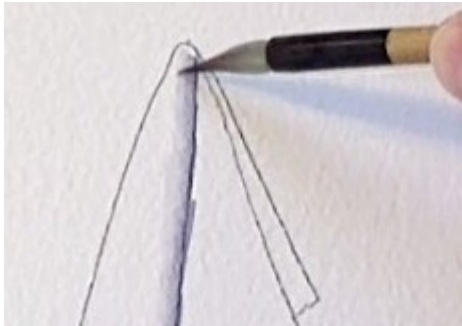
Cloth may seem daunting to paint, but in fact it is quite easy. Just follow the examples below and see how you can paint fabric with just a couple of washes and a little detail.

Hang up a tea towel or piece of cloth on a peg and allow it to fall in folds. Draw these carefully onto your watercolor paper. To create the look of folded cloth, paint in a line of shadow color (made from ultramarine blue and a hint of cadmium red), (right)

Before this dries, wash your brush and remove excess water with a tissue, then run the damp brush along one edge of the shadow line to soften it. This creates the fold in the cloth, (below).



Paint all the shadows in this way.



Add some vertical stripes to follow the shape of the cloth (left), and then paint in some horizontals to finish the sketch, (right).





Let's use this photo to take our cloth painting skills a bit deeper.

Draw the outlines of the jacket and jeans and also the lines of the shadows.



Paint a light wash of color over each garment and allow to dry.



Paint in the mid-tones and allow to dry. You may need to soften the edges of some of these.

Then add the darks and any details.

And that's it! Often less is more when it comes to painting!

Try playing around with textures such as drybrush and spattering to create textures such as burlap (hessian or sacking).



This straw hat was painted in two layers. The first was a wash of light paint, and then when this had dried I added a few details with the tip of a fine brush.

Have a go at this.