

Reverse tone/textured approach.



1. This approach begins with a toned canvas, usually a dark colour. Before the canvas is toned, texture can be added using thick paint, impasto medium, modelling compound.

Use chalk for the drawing and map the composition in a contrasting colour.



3. With white paint, or white paint mixed with impasto medium or modelling compound a tonal map is created. Using thinned white paint for the darker tones and thick white for the lightest tones creates tonal variation. If the paint is applied thickly it may be necessary to leave the painting to dry for several hours before going on to the next stage of adding colour.



4. Once the first layer of paint is dry, colour is added. This may be in thin, transparent layers using washes or glazes, or with thick, opaque layers of paint depending on your preference.



5. If thick paint is used, more texture can be added with the process called scraffito, scratching back into the wet paint with the back of the brush, a comb, fork or some other implement.



6. The painting is developed by continually adjusting tone and colour, and adding details until it is finished to your satisfaction.

