

## **Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolors - Rooster Wall Art**

### **Supplies Needed:**

Winsor & Newton Cold Pressed Water Colour Paper, 9x12 - *trim sheet to be 8x10 in size*  
Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolors Sketchers' Pocket Box Set  
Winsor & Newton Cotman #4 Round Brush  
Winsor & Newton Cotman #2 Round Brush  
Winsor & Newton Cotman #0 Round Brush  
Saucer or Cup Filled With Water  
10-Well Artist Palette (to mix and hold 9 Colors)  
Graphite Pencil (4H recommended)  
Eraser  
Paper Towels

### **Preparation Steps for Snowflake Wall Art**

#### **Step 1 - Prepare Work Surface**

Cover your work surface with a disposable covering and fill a glass or cup with water.

#### **Step 2 - Cut Watercolour Paper**

Cut a 9in x 12in sheet of watercolor paper to create one 8x10 sheet of paper. Use any remaining paper trimmings to test paint consistency or to practice any strokes used in this project.

#### **Step 3 - Transfer or Freehand Draw Rooster**

Use a Lightbox or well lit window and a graphite pencil to transfer the provided outline, or freehand draw the outline by using the provided outline as a guide.

#### **Step 4 - Mix 5 Colors and Paint on Rooster's Eye, Comb, Wattle, and Beak -**

Using a #4 brush as if it were a spoon, place two scoops of water into 5 different wells on the artist palette. Then, mix the following colors using a 1:1 paint to water ratio:

**Black:** 1 part Intense Blue (Phthalo Blue) and 1 part Cadmium Red Pale Hue

**Light Red:** 1 part Alizarin Crimson and 2 parts Chinese White

**Red:** - 2 parts Alizarin Crimson

**Dark Red:** - 2 parts Alizarin Crimson and 1 part Viridian Green (adjust by adding more Alizarin Crimson if color too dark)

**Peach:** 1 part Cadmium Red Pale Hue, 1 part Lemon Yellow Hue, and 2 parts Chinese White

Begin by outlining the eye and filling in the eye's pupil using a #0 round brush and **Black**.

Then, with the #2 brush, and working on the rooster's comb, apply **Light Red** to the right third of the comb, **Red** to the middle third of the comb, and **Dark Red** to the left third of the comb. Then, apply a thin line of **Dark Red** along the bottom edge of the comb that sits just above the eye, and move this thin line up the right side edge of the far right comb. Apply the same color also to the entire left edge of the wattle.

Apply a thin line of **Black** to the bottom of the comb, going over the Dark Red that was just applied to this area, and extend the Black line around the left edge of the eye and also to the circle that sits just below the eye. Apply this same color to the left edge of the wattle and in a thin line to the very bottom edge of the beak.

Apply **Red** to the portion of the rooster that is situated in between the beak and the eye, and then apply it just next to the thin Black line that was applied along the left edge of the wattle. Now apply **Light Red** to the lower right curve on the bottom of the wattle and to the red area that surrounds the eye.

Finally, apply **Peach** to the beak, being careful to not go over the Black line that was previously painted on the bottom edge of the beak.

#### **Step 5 - Mix 4 Colors and Paint on Rooster's Neck -**

Using a #4 brush, place two scoops of water into 4 more wells on the artists palette. Then, mix the following colors using a 1:1 paint to water ratio:

**Burnt Sienna:** 2 parts Burnt Sienna

**Burnt Umber:** 2 parts Burnt Umber

**Yellow Ochre:** 2 parts Yellow Ochre

**Red-Brown:** 1 part Alizarin Crimson, 1 part Burnt Sienna, and 1 part Burnt Umber (make adjustments to the color as necessary)

Place two scoops of water into the **Cadmium Red Pale Hue, Viridian Green, Ultramarine Blue, Intense Blue (Phthalo Blue), Lemon Yellow Hue, and Alizarin Crimson** pans on your sketchers' pocket box set. This will create a thick layer of paint at the top of these pans that we'll use in the next and last step.

Using a #2 brush, begin by applying **Burnt Sienna** to the middle top of the rooster's head, starting just below the eye. Apply it using mostly hatching strokes but throw in a few cross hatching strokes here and there for movement. These strokes should be quick and loose and do not try to cover all the white of the paper. Work your way down the middle of the rooster's neck with this color. When the brush runs out of paint to smoothly deposit onto the paper, instead of picking up more paint from your palette with your brush, place your brush in your container filled with water for one to two seconds, wipe it on the rim of the container to remove excess water, and continue to add this now more diluted color to the remainder of the middle of the rooster's neck. Continue to place your brush in the water for just a second whenever the paint does not apply from the brush to the paper until you reach the first two roses. Then, using this diluted version of **Burnt Sienna**, fill in the gaps on the rooster's body that are visible in-between the roses, leaves, and stems, using the same hatching stroke.

Apply **Yellow Ochre** to the right side of the rooster's neck, using the same hatching strokes and technique as with the Burnt Sienna. Overlap these colors slightly where they meet.

Apply **Red-Brown** to the left side of the rooster's neck, using the same technique as above. After applying it to the left side of the rooster's neck, apply a few strokes of this color just below the rooster's eye as well.

While these three colors settle into the paper and start to dry, repeat step 4 if necessary to intensify the colors on the rooster's comb, wattle, and beak.

Working now wet on dry or at least wet on partially dry, take a wet #2 brush and wipe directly on the **Cadmium Yellow Hue** pan that is in the sketchers' pocket box to pick up a thick amount of this color. Apply a few random strokes over the top of where the Yellow Ochre was applied on the right side of rooster's neck to brighten this area up a bit.

Apply **Burnt Umber** to the left quarter of the rooster's neck in the same manner as the previous colors. Apply this color also to a small section on the top of the rooster's head, using the photo reference as a guide for placement.

Apply **Black** to the very left edge of the rooster as well as a few strokes to the top part of the rooster's head where you just applied Burnt Umber.

### **Step 6 - Mix 1 Color and Paint on Roses and Rose Leaves -**

Using a #4 brush, place two scoops of water into 1 more well on the artists palette. Then, mix the following color using a 1:1 paint to water ratio:

**Green:** 1 part Viridian Green and 1 part Sap Green

With your #4 brush, pick up a thick amount of the **Alizarin Crimson** from its pan on your watercolor set, then make a dot in the middle of the bottom left red rose and then 2 "C" strokes: one that is to the left of the dot and one that is to right of the center dot and looks like a backwards "C". Continue to make "C" strokes that go in different directions around the rose. When you no longer have enough paint on your brush to make a "C" stroke, dip your brush in the water for a second, wipe the bristles once or twice on the rim of the glass, and then continue on. You may only have enough thick paint to do the initial center dot and first two "C" strokes before you'll need to add water to your brush. Add more water to your brush as often as necessary to finish the rose.

Without cleaning your brush, immediately dip just the tip of the brush into the Green paint that was mixed on the 10-well artist palette, and then paint on the leaf that is connected to this rose. Allow the red on the rose and the green on the leaf to merge into each other and do not fuss with where they meet. Clean your brush now, and remember to clean your brush in between each rose and its corresponding leaf.

Now, paint the rose that is directly above the rose you just painted. Pick up a thick amount of the **Alizarin Crimson** from its pan on your watercolor set and then place just the tip of your brush into the **Dark Red** paint color on your artist palette for just a second. Paint on this new rose in the same manner as the previous rose and then immediately paint on the connected leaf in the same manner.

Paint the bottom orange rose. Pick up a thick amount of the **Cadmium Red Pale Hue** from its pan on your watercolor set and then paint on the orange rose and leaf in the same manner as above.

Paint the last red rose and its leaf in the same manner as the second red rose and paint on the second orange rose and its leaf in the same manner as the first orange rose.

### **Step 7 Paint Stems with Leaves -**

Each stem with a leaf will receive a similar process as with the roses where you will use a gradient technique by diluting the paint with water once the paint is already on the brush.

Use the photo reference as a guide for which color to use on each stem. Basically, starting with the top middle green stem and then working clockwise around, the stems will receive color directly from each pan in your watercolor set:

Stem 1: Viridian Green  
Stem 2: Intense Blue (Phthalo Blue)  
Stem 3: Viridian Green  
Stem 4: Cadmium Red Pale Hue  
Stem 5: Alizarin Crimson  
Stem 6: Viridian Green  
Stem 7: Ultramarine Blue  
Stem 8: Lemon Yellow Hue  
Stem 9: Cadmium Red Pale Hue  
Stem 10: Intense Blue (Phthalo Blue)

To apply these colors to the stems, you will begin by picking up a thick amount of paint from the color's pan in your watercolor set. Apply the thick paint to the bottom of the stem and to the first two bottom leaves. Do not worry about completely covering the tooth of the paper with the paint. Then, place your brush in the water for a second, wipe it on the rim of the glass a couple of times, then paint on the next 2 leaves and the stem that goes through them. Repeat the process of placing the brush in the water for a second and then painting on two more leaves. This will create a gradient effect on each stem.

### **Step 8 - Paint on the Rooster Legs:**

Use **Black** to paint the dark part just above the legs. Then, use the **Peach** color on your palette by applying short, wispy hatching strokes to the legs and toes. Do not be afraid of negative space. Apply **Red-Brown** to add a bit more color to the toes and the upper part of the legs. Finally, draw thin lines of **Black** on the toes. Let the colors merge and blend together naturally.

If you want, you can now add a few more strokes of color on the rooster's neck - more Black on the left edge, more Cadmium Yellow on the right side, more Red-Brown or Burnt Sienna in the middle, etc. Just be careful to try and leave some negative space.

When the paint is fully dry, you can erase any visible graphite lines with an eraser.