



Paint Your Summer – Art Session #3: Cheat Sheet

Move through stuck spots and finish a painting you love

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- The canvas you're working on
 - Your acrylic paints
 - Soft Gel or Modge Podge
 - Your pretty collage papers
 - Acrylic markers
 - Old hotel key card or similar
 - Scissors, palette, water cup, brushes
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TIPS TO MOVE PAST STUCK SPOTS AND FINISH YOUR PAINTING:

This proven pathway helps you transform paintings you've started into finished artwork you love

FINISHING TOUCHES: ADD A LITTLE DETAIL TO BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now that you've painting loosely, and have great expression, it's time to bring it all together.

✓ **Add a few details** – fill in 2-3 spots with a sharp detail or to, to give you painting some focus. This could be a few outlines with your acrylic paint markers, cleaning up a little area with some paint, adding a spot of detail with a piece of collage paper. Keep working with it and trying things until you feel you are loving it!

✓ **Outline something to make it show more**

✓ **POP in a few details or missing pieces** – Like the mast on your boat, the beak on your bird, the stem on flower, to give your painting more POP. This works REALLY well when you start your painting loosely like we did. But don't add too much detail or it can lose it's charm.

✓ **Use elements that delight you!** – If you use papers, color, lines, etc that delight you, the your painting will be delightful to look at.

- ✓ **Better to leave your canvas a little underdone rather than overdone** – Don't add too many details. The human brain will make sense of it, you don't have to draw in every line. It looks more elegant to leave things as more of a suggestion.
- ✓ **Move a few collage pieces around the canvas** - is there an area where something is needed? Maybe another leaf or flower or boat or tree or bird? Move some collage pieces around to see where it's working.
- ✓ **Stay playful** – Your painting doesn't have to be realistic.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK IT NEEDS SOMETHING ELSE:

- ✓ **ASK YOURSELF: Does it have a great composition?** – If not, can you fix it?
- ✓ **ASK YOURSELF: Does it have captivating color palette?** – If not, go back and take some risks and throw some bold color in there.
- ✓ **If you feel really stuck, take a break** – time away can give you clear vision.
- ✓ **Do you need feedback from outside eyes who know what they're talking about?** (Not a random friend, this should be an experienced, accomplished artist)

HOW TO KNOW WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED:

- ✓ **"Paintings are never finished, they just stop in interesting places."** – If you like where it's at, consider leaving it for a few days, and coming back to it with fresh eyes.
- ✓ **It's better to leave it a little underdone than overdone** – Overworked feels amateur. Underworked tends to have a little more expression, which is what people want to see. They want to see your personal expression!
- ✓ **Ask yourself: Do you LIKE it? Or do you LOVE it?** – You always want to make paintings you love. So if you only "like" it, keep playing with it until you love it. Use these tips and refine it until you love it.
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REMEMBER:

**If you want my support taking your art to the next level,
you can book a call with me to join my Art Mentoring program ...**

KellieDayArt.com/yourart

(This week only)