



## Paint Your Summer – Art Session #1: Cheat Sheet

Get started on taking your summer inspirations and creating a study that will lead to a finished painting

Focus on your joy and inspiration first – worry about technique later. This simple process will help you practice getting ideas out of your head and onto paper.

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Pencil and black pen (Sharpie works great)
- Watercolor pad
- Simple watercolor kit
- Colored markers

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## 4 STEPS TO CREATE YOUR INSPIRATION STUDY:

### 1. FIND YOUR INSPIRATION SPOT

Walk around your scene to find the perspective that excites you most.

- ✓ **Start simple:** Choose a couple of flowers or trees rather than a whole landscape
- ✓ **Don't settle for "okay" – find what makes your heart sing**

### 2. DO A QUICK SKETCH

Sit down and capture your inspiration with a contour drawing.

- ✓ **Look mostly at your subject, not your paper**
- ✓ **Exaggerate shapes and be playful**
- ✓ **Focus on lovely lines, not detail**
- ✓ **Keep it whimsical – capture the character, not perfection**

### 3. PLAN YOUR COMPOSITION

Draw 3 small composition boxes with your Sharpie (same dimensions as your future canvas).

- ✓ **Sketch 3 different layout options**
- ✓ **Keep these very basic – no detail!**
- ✓ **This saves you hours of frustration later**

#### **4. CHOOSE YOUR COLOR PALETTE**

Pick 3-4 colors that look great together.

- ✓ **Focus on colors that POP together**
- ✓ **Better to limit your palette than grab too many colors**
- ✓ **This guides your painting and prevents color overwhelm**

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**Remember:** Your painting will evolve naturally on paper – let it be whimsical and uniquely yours!

*Next: Turn your inspiration study into a finished painting in Art Session #2- coming on Wednesday at [KellieDayArt.com](http://KellieDayArt.com)*

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