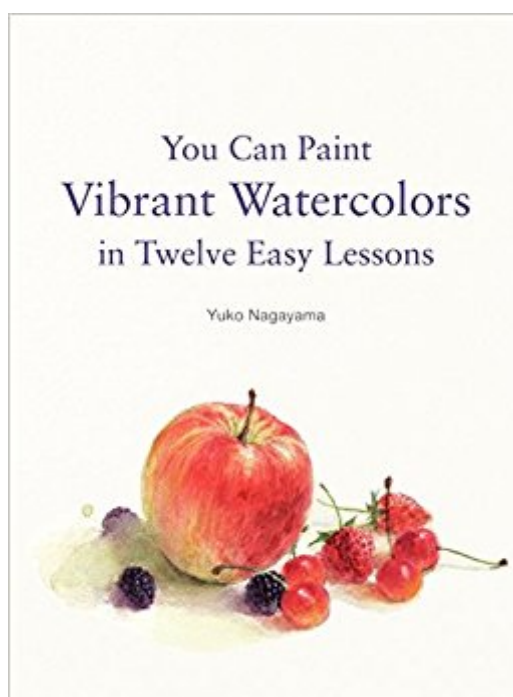


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# You Can Paint Vibrant Watercolors In Twelve Easy Lessons



## Synopsis

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced painter, *You Can Paint Vibrant Watercolors In Twelve Easy Steps* is a visually rich guide that will help you master the stunning, but often complex techniques for creating beautiful, vibrant watercolors in twelve simple lessons. With its delicate strokes, incandescent washes, and seemingly effortless appearance, watercolor painting is one of the most beautiful mediums to work with. Yet those elements also make it one of the most difficult techniques to master. These water-based paints are known for diffusing, altering the shape of the paper and the appearance of the tint itself as it dries. In *You Can Paint Vibrant Watercolors in Twelve Easy Steps*, Yuko Nagayama, a leading expert in watercolor painting, shows painters of all levels how to improve their skills using her unique, foolproof, easy-to-follow directions. This book includes a review of all of the essential tools you'll need to create dazzling watercolor paintings, tutorials about different paints, instructions on how to mix colors on a palette, and initial sketching techniques. Here, too, are illustrations that will excite and inspire. With *You Can Paint Vibrant Watercolors in Twelve Easy Steps*, painters can hone their expertise and achieve the most vibrancy in every watercolor painting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Create Beautiful Watercolor Paintings in Twelve Easy Lessons *You Can Paint Vibrant Watercolors in Twelve Easy Lessons* by leading Japanese watercolorist Yuko Nagayama reveals the artist's unique and highly successful process for creating beautiful paintings. Complete with step-by-step illustrations and detailed instructions, Nagayama's approach makes learning the medium simple

and fun for beginning paintersâ ”and serves as an invaluable resource for more experienced painters as well as those who are looking to refresh their skills. From learning how to mix colors on a palette to adding highlights and shadows to produce depth, Nagayama offers all the essential techniques, along with numerous helpful tips and tricks, that make this guide an ideal reference for painters of all levels.

YUKO NAGAYAMA is a leading watercolorist and teacher known for her easy-to-understand instructional style. Her paintings are exhibited and sold in galleries across Japan, the United States, and France, and she is featured regularly in *Watercolor Magazine*. She is currently a professor at Musashino Art University and presides over the Otsuka Atelier. She has both undergraduate and graduate degrees in painting from Tokyo University of the Arts.

I had this book for about 3 weeks now. One of the pictures is my first painting when I received the book and the other is what I just paint yesterday. I follow most of the lessons and I can really see my improvements. After I have this book I also start looking at other resources I could find that Yuko Nagayama has given, like youtube. It really shows what she taught in this 12 lessons. This 12 lessons is always the basic of her painting. Especially understanding shadows, the objects and how to use color and keep the color vibrant, not overdo to create mud. I have a few other watercolor and gouache books. They are not nearly instructive as this one is. Each lesson has its own goal. I really enjoy this book and will continue follow the lessons. Note: She is using Holbein 24 color in this book. Just in case if you are thinking to buy this book and hasn't bought any watercolor paint yet. I already have Shinhan professional 30 color. I was so tore thinking if I should buy another set, but I think it works out fine. For people who already have paint, I would say stick with what you have. Besides "Opera(a really bright pink)" maybe very different from other sets, I would say the other should be pretty similar and you should be able to mix some color to get what you need. This is THE ONE and enjoy painting!!

Excellent for a beginner watercolor artist. Step by step is what you need and this does it.. Beginning with watercolors is daunting and this smooths the way. Remember--it's only paper!

I would say that I'm an intermediate watercolor painter, and I love this book. Everyone can use more of the basics, and Nagayama presents her lessons in a very clear and straightforward manner, step by step. One reviewer criticized the author for focusing too much on observing and drawing, but I

think that is one of the strengths of the book. I once asked a much more advanced painter what I could do to become better, and she said, "Learn to draw better," something I now wholeheartedly believe. Nagayama shows you how to have a strong foundation of drawing in your paintings; even though she herself may draw in detail only a couple of flowers in a bouquet, and the rest of the painting is fairly abstract, that focus on getting the drawing in shape before you paint is very important. I sat down and read this book from cover to cover (it's short), and now am excited about adding her suggestions to my painting.

This is a helpful beginners book for learning watercolour. The author and artist is Yuko Nagayama (Yuko Nagayama) from Japan. The original edition of this book is titled "Watercolor for Beginners" (水色で描く本). This edition is translated by publisher Harper Design. There are 104 pages. This book takes a very hands-on approach to teaching watercolours. There are several step by step tutorials to follow along. It even teaches you basic proportional drawing so that you can sketch the outline of the subject before you add watercolours. I find that very useful for beginners with absolutely no knowledge at drawing. There are even tips on sketching. The tutorials feature good looking examples. Even though the subjects are simple such as fruits or flowers, after Nagayama's watercolour treatment, they look really nice. The instructions are simple to follow, and the colours to use are clearly listed. Compared to other watercolour books, this is not comprehensive, so it does not teach you effects like splatter or more advanced techniques like wet on wet. What it does well is to get you comfortable at painting simple subjects with watercolour. And you can then build on what you learn for more challenging subjects in the future. It's a great instructional book for watercolour beginners. The Japanese edition is also very favourably rated on Amazon Japan.

I absolutely love this book!! I wish I had it when I was first starting to paint watercolors. The simple manner in which the author explains how to draw shapes and how to get your painting started with the correct use of colors is so helpful. Anyone who is interested in painting watercolors, whether beginner or more experienced, should have this book in their reference library. I am having a ball posing and painting just ordinary objects around the house. Bananas and apples will never look the same to me again. This book has helped me to train my eyes to see the colors within colors, the colors within shadows, and shapes.

Good teaching for all who wants to start learning naturalistic style in painting. Marvelous examples of this complex medium.

Well thought out and easy to follow. I like that the colors are listed with a sample so that you can check your colors against them - each brand has it's own recipe, so some results can be quite different, even though the name of the paint color is the same.

Yuko is a truly gifted artist; I find her paintings absolutely beautiful. This book is mainly about drawing the initial image and getting shapes and perspective correct. Yuko does not go into any real detail about brushes, paints etc. She does list the paints used in each exercise. The artist assumes you have prior knowledge about how to lay down paint. I do like how she discusses the spaces between objects within a painting and the importance of leaving white paper. There is emphasis on observance. I find this book thought provoking as Yuko speaks about handling object like fruit prior to painting them. I wouldn't describe this as Twelve Easy Lessons. For me it is quite technical in the drawing etc. A beaut book if you wish to paint in quite a formal way.

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