



PATREON MEMBERS PREMIUM WORKSHEET

Watercolor Macaron!

Make your own macaron masterpiece!



by **Anthony**

(Download this worksheet to your computer and print out the pages as you need them)

In this lesson I'm going to show you how you can paint this macaron in watercolor in just a few simple steps.

What's included:



As a Patreon member you get access to a number of perks and bonus content. This bonus content can be downloaded on the **Patreon page for this lesson**:

Useful Links:

- **The Patreon page for this lesson** ([Click here](#))
- Mixing paints is a skill worth developing. Members of my Patreon can download my e-book “**The Essential Guide to Watercolor Mixing**” ([on this page](#)).
- You'll find a complete **guide to transferring images to watercolor paper** for my Patreon members ... ([Click here](#))
- I have a **special lesson on matching colors from other brands** ([Click here](#))

Ad-Free Video

As a member of my Patreon membership, you can watch the video tutorial for this project in an **ad-free format** (woopee!) You'll find this special video on Patreon.

Outline Drawing for Tracing

Also, on the **Patreon page for this project** you'll find my original pencil outline which you can use to trace onto a sheet of watercolor paper. My preferred technique is to use a **lightboard**. But if you don't have one of these, a simple sheet of carbon paper, or traditional tracing methods will do the trick! A **high resolution reference image** is also sometimes provided **on the Patreon members page**.

High Resolution File of My Painting

As part of my Patreon bonuses I also supply you with a **high resolution jpeg file of my original painting** for each project. You can send this to a professional printer and get this printed for yourself - keep it or give it away as a gift :-)

(please remember, this is for personal use only and my work is subject to copyright)

Paint Colors Used

The specific paint colors used on this project were as follows. All paint names refer to Daniel Smith watercolors. If you don't use this particular paint, I have a **special lesson on matching colors from other brands in the links ABOVE...**

	Hansa Yellow Deep - Pigment number: PY65
	Pyrrrol scarlet - Pigment number: PR255
	Burnt umber - Pigment number: PBr7
	Paynes gray - Pigment number: Pb29/PBk9
	French ultramarine - Pigment number: PB29

Supplies list for this lesson



The supplies used for this project include the following:

[Kolinsky Sable series 22 size 8 \(short handle\)](#)

[Rosemary & Co Kolinsky Sable pointed round Series 8 size 4 \(short handle\)](#)

[Arteza Academy Watercolor Paper](#)

[Schmincke masking fluid](#)

[Light box \(one of the best art purchases I've made\)](#)

[Original John Pike 20 well watercolor palette](#)

[Masking tape \(this type is my preferred choice\)](#)

For reference, you'll also find a more complete description of my recommended art supplies [on this page of my blog...](#)



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PDF Version of This Lesson

This is the printable version of the lesson along with step by step progress images to help you follow along with the painting process. This is like a mini-ebook of the painting lesson.



How To Paint a Macaron in Watercolor

These tasty looking pastries are very popular in France, where I live.

In this lesson I'm going to show you how you can paint this macaron in watercolor in just a few simple steps.

In all my tutorials I try to simplify the painting process into easy to follow stages so that anyone can try subjects like this for themselves.

And this is a perfect example of a very beginner friendly painting. It's a really fun and satisfying watercolor, so I hope you'll give it a try.

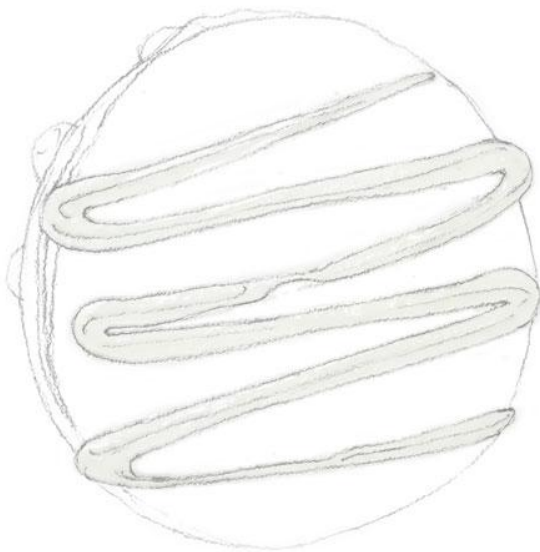
Grab your brushes to make your own **“macaron masterpiece”** in just a few easy steps.



Step 1 – Getting Started

Begin by sketching the outline of the macaron onto a sheet of watercolor paper.

When you've completed the sketch, tape the sheet onto a flat board with some **low-tack masking tape**. Before painting the first brush stroke you need to protect the wavy line that represents the icing using [masking fluid](#).



step 1
mask the icing shape



Doing this will make the painting process much easier, and it will let you paint the whole macaron shape with uninterrupted brush strokes, giving you a much smoother result.

I used a bamboo quill pen to apply the masking, and a hair dryer to speed up the drying process!

Step 2 – Foundation color (graduated wash)

Next we're going to apply the foundation layer of paint, by painting the whole macaron shape in one go.

To do this I mixed up a puddle of brown paint using [burnt umber](#). I then start to fill in the shape. But I'm being careful to leave a fairly big white highlight in the top left corner of the macaron.

Note that in the reference I'm using, the light is coming from the upper left – this will influence the way you shade and shadow the macaron.

My first brush strokes use a pretty diluted mix of brown. And as I progress from the upper left to the lower right hand portion of the shape, I'm adding more and more paint into the mixture, making a more intense color. In this way I'm suggesting the direction of the lighting, and making a more convincing three-dimensional effect.

step 2
paint a graduated
shape – light to dark



To make the shaded side of the macaron even darker, you can add some [french ultramarine blue](#) into the mixture.

Mixing with a complementary color like this is a good way to neutralize a color.

Step 3 – Shading & shadows

Leave the first layer to dry then in the next stage we'll add some shading and shadows.

Begin by **adding a cast shadow** on the lower right of the macaron. I started with an extremely diluted puddle of [Payne's grey](#), which I blended out to almost nothing. After I had defined this shadow shape, I charged in a more intense mix of grey into the damp wash, adding a stronger color close to the edge of the macaron.

Leave the cast shadow to dry so you don't smudge the paint while painting...

Next I used a mid-toned brown color to add a **cast shadow to the curvy icing**.



step 3

add shadow & shading

Do to this, think about the direction of the light and add brush strokes to the shadow side of icing all the way down to the bottom.

I'll let you follow along in the video so you can see the brush marks I used to paint these shapes.

Finish off with a few lines of darker detail where the two sides of the macaron are sandwiched together.

Before continuing with the rest of the painting, **it's time to remove the masking fluid**. You can use a rubber cement pickup tool [like this](#) or just an ordinary eraser.

Step 4 – Paint the “icing on the cake”



step 4
remove masking
& paint the icing

Now we can fill in the shapes of the icing. I’m using a **mid-strength mixture of brown** paint for this.

I began with the small blobs of icing protruding from the underside of the macaron. And since we’re now painting the details, I also swapped to a small pointed brush.

The icing shape itself is also quite shiny, so I’m being careful to **leave some small white highlights** on the parts of the icing shape that are turned towards the light.

Leaving those white highlights in a watercolor painting adds a level of interest and liveliness. It’s all about adding contrast – those bright spots make the colors around them pop!

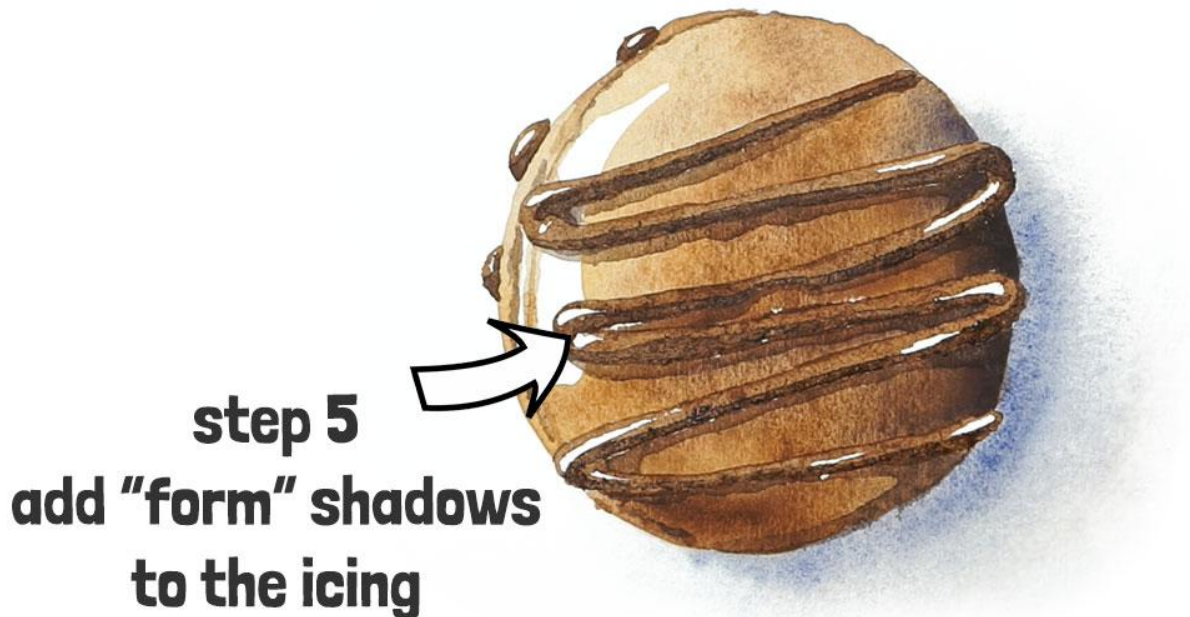
This is quite a fiddly and intricate part of the painting process... *(I have a video of this on my YouTube channel – just search for “watercoloraffair”).*

Add a few more lines of color along the separation between the two parts of the macaron.

When the icing shape is complete, leave the paint to dry completely.

Step 5 – Final shadow details

To give a more three-dimensional feel to the icing I'm going to finish off by adding some shading to this wavy shape.



We already painted a cast shadow for the icing earlier on... but the icing itself looks slightly flat. To do this I added a few brush marks to the shaded underside of the icing. This “shading” is also called the “form shadow”, this is the part of a form that is not directly illuminated by light. Adding this adds depth to your artwork and makes it seem less flat.

