

Scenes By Val West Naber adapted from what I learned with Janaan Rasmusen.

These scenes can be any colors you would like, contrast is important. You need to use an open medium for this method.

1. Determine the area you want to be the scene and draw a border line.
2. Determine your horizon line. Horizons should be above or below the center on your piece, never directly center.
3. Paint in the sky color (s). Sky can be pink, lavender, blue, orange yellow, skies come in many colors.
4. On the horizon line lightly paint in the shadow trees in a muted color.
5. Now paint tree shapes over the shadow leaves. Use a darker value so you will be able to pull the building out of the color.
6. Using a clean dry oiled brush, pull down at an angle to create the roof. The size of your square shader determines the size of the roof. At times a turp brush works too. If you like you can draw your roof in with a thin wipe out tool than pull down the roof.
7. Then set up the sidewalls pulling down leaving shadows of color to separate the roof and the walls.
8. Determine light source if desired, then shade building sides accordingly. Add a sun/moon if you'd like. Add suggestions of doors and windows.
9. Build a village adding building like houses, church, barns, whatever. You can sharpen your edges with a pen line in the same color (optional).
10. Now lay in the foreground, can be in shades of grey/blue to suggest snow.
11. Then lay in flowers/trees to set up the building foundations. Pull out shapes with the rubber band if desired.

Rubber band border

Choose 3 colors that compliment you painting and paint them randomly around the border. Determine where your pine cones will be, (just in your head). Then with a thin liner and dark green paint, lay in pine needles that will be coming from behind pinecones. Then lay in shades of brown in pine cone shapes within the needles. Using your bound rubber band tool, dab into brown area creating pine cone. Simple, practice, they are just suggestions of pinecones.

Fire at 016 or your normal firing temp.

Magic Paste

Janaan had a product that she called Magic Paste. I believe that her recipe for that was lost when she passed away. How sad. I used Base for Gold mixed with glycerin as a replacement. I used a syringe to apply it in various places on the piece to accent the design and create a separation between the scene and the border. Then Fire 018.