BRUSH HAIR GUIDE

SABLE



- Best hair for watercolour due to its strength & ability to retain its shape.
- Holds a fine point or edge & has a great capacity for holding liquefied colour. A favourite brush for watercolourists.
- Sable hairs commonly originate from a weasel or mink.



HOG HAIR

- Course and tough hairs.
- Mainly used for oil and acrylic painting.
- Works well with medium & heavy bodied paints.
- Leaves a brushstroke mark which produces painterly effects.

SQUIRREL



- Very fine & thin hairs. Works best with thin liquid paints or inks.
- Most commonly used in watercolour painting.
- Holds an extraordinary quantity of water within their fibres.
- Hairs have little or no spring.

SYNTHETICS



- Really good all-rounder hair.
- Synthetic bristles will generally be nylon or polyester filaments.
- Very easy to clean and easy to care for as they are resistant to damage from solvents & wear and tear.

HAKE



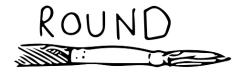
- Unique, flat, wide brushes Ideal for applying media over large areas: washes, sizing, gluing and more.
- Long flat handle & soft hairs suited for delicate washes of watercolour and ink.
- Holds a great amount of liquefied colour.

COLOUR SHAPERS



- Mix, spread, move & remove paint.
- Use for application of masking fluid for watercolour painting.
- Easily clean with damp cloth.
- Use to smudge & blend charcoal and pastel.
- Carve and make marks into heavy bodied paints.

BRUSH SHAPE GUIDE



For line and detail work, although not as delicate as rigger brushes.



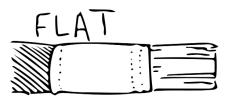
Good for blocking in areas and soft shading and blending. Rounded shape is suitable for blending skin tones.



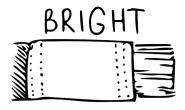
Also called a dagger liner. For fine detail, line work and lettering. Long hair holds plenty of water and colour for long continuous lines.



Angled tip is really versatile. Point for line work and detail, flat for washes and blocking.



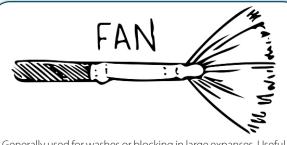
Similar to a chisel brush but with a flat head rather than angled. Long bristles have high carrying capacity for unbroken lines or even blocking.



Similar to a Flat but with shorter bristles. Good for dry-brushing techniques since colour carrying capacity is lower.



Also called a mop brush. Large, soft brush for washes. Generally used for watercolour. Highly absorbent, holds plenty of colour and water.



Generally used for washes or blocking in large expanses. Useful for blending. Can be used for texture work through stippling.

Brush illustrations by Crystal Lim.

