

PATTERN & WATERCOLOUR

Pattern is one of the design elements that artists, designer, architects, fashion designers, interior designers etc have at their disposal when creating their work. Artists like [Henri Matisse](#) are famous for their beautiful use of pattern and colour and architect [Antoni Gaudi](#) was famous for his use of complicated organic patterns like those at Park Güell in Barcelona.



Park Güell in Barcelona

Inspiration for patterns can come from many sources such as the natural world, or the built environment, patterns can also have cultural origins like this piece of beautiful Indian wrapping paper in the example below.



How to:

1. Find a pattern you like from amongst magazines, calendars, birthday cards or wrapping paper.
2. Select a section of the pattern, cut it out and glue it into your journal leaving space around it for your drawing.
3. Add your own drawing, make sure to connect the drawing you make to the existing pattern
4. When you are happy with your drawing add colour by using **watercolour** paints.

Click [here](#) to view a time lapse of this activity.

Tip..

Watercolour paint is fluid in nature, always add the smallest amount of water first and then build up to a consistency that you are happy with. The amount of water you add determines the hue in colour (how dark or light the colour is).

If you do not have watercolours, don't worry, this activity works perfectly fine with coloured pencils, or you can even add food colouring for vibrancy.

Did you notice...

I worked directly with pen and had fun inventing patterns and swirls, dots and shapes inspired by, but not exactly the same as, the wrapping paper. You can be much more careful and try to be exact if that suits your personality. The aim is to make something beautiful, using your collage element as inspiration and have fun creating your own artwork.