



## Artist Paint Brush Shape Guide



### **Round**

-Available in both bristle and soft hair. Used for outlining, detailed work, controlled washes, filling in small areas, decorative stroke work and thin to thick lines.



### **Rigger**

-Very thin, long round, traditionally used for painting rigging in marine pictures. Used for extra thin lines, detail work & lettering.



### **One Stroke**

-A flat soft hair brush which allows an area to be covered in one stroke, traditionally used in signwriting for block letters.



### **Short Flat / Bright**

-A chisel ended, square headed bristle brush. Bright was a painter. Used for short controlled strokes, blocks of thick, heavy colour, blending and sharp edges.



### **Flat**

-Usually Long flat; flat hog brushes with a chisel end. Used for decorative strokes, bold strokes, blocks of colour, blending and impasto. The fine edge can be used for fine lines, sharp edges and stripes. Long flat brushes are ideal for varnishing.



### **Filbert**

-Flat brushes with oval shaped heads, available in both bristle and soft hair. Used for blending, petal shapes and strokes with soft, rounded edges.



### **Angled**

- Flat brushes with bristles ending at an angle rather than straight. Used for curved strokes and filling corners, the tip can reach small areas. Can also be used to cover larger areas, similar to flat brushes.



### **Fan**

-A flat fan, used for blending, available in both bristle and soft hair. Used for blending, texturing and softening. Great for foliage & grass. Hairs will clump if paint is used too thickly.



### **Wash**

-Large flat soft hair brushes, used primarily for flat washes in water colour.



### **Mop**

-Large, round, domed brushes, often goat or squirrel, used primarily to cover whole areas in water colour.

## **Brush Care**

- Always clean your brush immediately after use.
- If colour has dried on the brush, household brush restorer can be used but it is unlikely that the brush will return to its original shape. Masters Brush Cleaner is much better for the bristles.
- If you are storing brushes for any length of time, make sure they are clean and perfectly dry before putting them in an air tight box.
- Never leave brushes standing on their bristles.