

# Tips for Proper Care of Watercolour Brushes

Taking care of your brushes can save you money and time, and a good quality brush can last a lifetime if you look after it well. Here are some general guidelines which will make sure that all of your brushes last:

## When New ...

- ❑ **Never** try to put the new brush round plastic protector back on.
- ❑ **Resist** the temptation to “bend” new bristles.
- ❑ **Always** wash new brushes before using them.

## When Using ...

- ❑ **Always** wet your brush before picking up paint. Do not pick up paint with a dry brush.
- ❑ **Never** let paint dry on the brush.
- ❑ **Always** use a low quality or old brush to re-soften dried paint on your palette.
- ❑ **Avoid** submerging a brush beyond the ferrule for extended periods.
- ❑ **Never** use a watercolor brush for painting with oils or acrylics.
- ❑ **Always** protect your brushes when transporting them.

## When Cleaning and Storing ...

- ❑ **Always** clean thoroughly with mild soap and water after each painting session.
- ❑ **Always** use tepid or lukewarm water for cleaning. Do not use HOT water.
- ❑ **Always** shape the tip with your fingers, never with your lips.
- ❑ **Always** let brushes dry laying flat or in an open jar with bristles up (never down).
- ❑ **Always** dry the handle and ferrule (metal piece that holds the bristles).
- ❑ **Only** store brushes once they are completely dry.
- ❑ **Always** store laying flat or in an open jar with bristles up.
- ❑ **Use** an airtight box if you are storing brushes for a long time.



*Professional Brush Cleaner  
and Conditioner*

**Recommended**



**NEVER, NEVER, NEVER** leave brushes sitting in jar of water  
(not even while you paint)

