

Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolour – Birdhouse with Songbirds Wall Art, by Mandy Peltier



Michaels Zoom Class: April 19, 2022 1:00 PM CST

Curriculum: Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolour – Birdhouse with Songbirds Wall Art, by Mandy Peltier

Artist: Mandy Peltier

Please join Winsor & Newton for the 3rd of our “Birds of a Feather” series of watercolour workshops, **Birdhouse with Songbirds**. In this class, Artist Mandy Peltier will guide you through the steps to create the wooden birdhouse along with 2 blue tit songbirds. She will share with you some of her favorite techniques and use colors from the Winsor & Newton Cotman Sketchers’ Pocket Box Set to bring this birdhouse and birds to life! This class is great for intermediate painters, as well as those who are just getting started with using watercolors!

There is sketch available for you to use as a reference. Please see link to download below. The link will also be on the confirmation email as well as the reminder email you will receive. Prior to the start of the class, we highly recommend that you print out and prepare the sketched outline on watercolor paper before the class if you so choose to work alongside Mandy in creating this beautiful piece of art.

RSVP for this FREE class.

Hope to see you in the other workshops in this series:

1st Class in Series, Tuesday April 5, 2022 @ 1pm CT.

Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolor – Feathers Wall Art, by Mandy Peltier

2nd Class in Series, Tuesday April 12, 2022 @ 1pm CT.

Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolor – Robin’s Egg Bird Nest Wall Art, by Mandy Peltier

4th Class in Series, Tuesday April 26, 2022 @ 1pm CT.

Winsor & Newton Cotman Watercolor – Songbird on Branch Wall Art, by Mandy Peltier

Supplies Needed:

Winsor & Newton® Cotman® Watercolors Sketchers' Pocket Box; Item # D240485S, #10435073

<https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-cotman-watercolor-sketchers-pocket-box/D240485S.html>

Using the Following Colors in the Set:

Burnt Sienna
Burnt Umber
Cadmium Yellow
Cerulean Blue Hue
Chinese White
Lemon Yellow
Sap Green
Ultramarine Blue
Yellow Ochre

Winsor & Newton® Cotman® #4 Round Brush; Item # 10269104

<https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-cotman-round-brush/10269104.html>

Winsor & Newton® Professional™ Cold Press Watercolor Paper Pad, 9x12; Item # D400258S - trim sheet to be 8x10 in size

<https://www.michaels.com/winsor-and-newton-professional-cold-press-watercolor-paper-pad-9in-x-12in/D400258S.html>

Artist's Loft™ Round 10 Well Artist Palette; Item #10207789

<https://www.michaels.com/artists-loft-round-10-well-artist-palette/10207789.html>

Glass of Water

Paper Towels

Graphite Pencil (4H recommended)

Eraser

Step by Step Instructions:

Step 1 - Prepare Work Surface Cover your work surface with a disposable covering and fill a glass or cup with water.

Step 2 - Cut Watercolour Paper Cut one sheet of 9in x 12in watercolor to create one 8in x 10in sheet of paper.

Step 3 - Mix Nine Colors and Two Washes in Watercolor Palette To mix the 10 colors with the same paint to water ratio, use a #4 brush as if it were a spoon. Place 3 scoops of water into the 10 wells on the artist palette. Mix the following colors into those wells until you have an equal paint to water ratio for each color.

Lemon Yellow: Lemon Yellow only

Cadmium Yellow: Cadmium Yellow only

Chartreuse: 5 parts Lemon Yellow and 1 part Sap Green

Black: 5 parts Ultramarine Blue and 3 parts Burnt Umber

Sienna: Burnt Sienna only

Dark Brown: 1-2 Scoops Black paint and 4 parts Burnt Umber

Light Brown: Equal parts Burnt Umber and Yellow Ochre

Ultramarine Blue: Ultramarine Blue only

Cerulean Blue Hue: Cerulean Blue Hue only

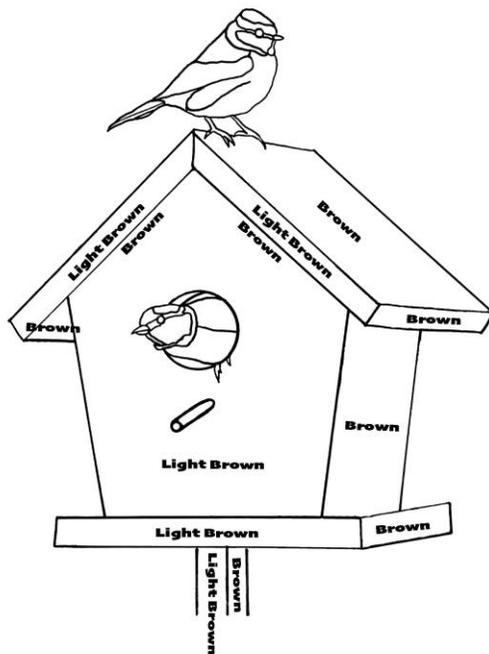
Grey: One scoop Black paint and 4 parts Chinese White

To mix the 2 washes, use a #4 brush as if it were a spoon. Place 6 scoops of water into the center well on the artist palette as well as 6 scoops of water into one well on the lid of the Sketchers' Pocket Set. Mix the following colors into these two wells until you have a mixture that is 5 parts water to 1 part paint.

Dark Brown Wash: 1-2 Scoops Brown Paint

Light Brown Wash: 1-2 Scoops Light Brown Paint

Step 4 - Apply Washes to Birdhouse and First Layer of Paint to Blue Tits Apply the **Light Brown Wash** to the left arch of the roofline. Then, apply the **Dark Brown Wash** to the right arch of the roof line. Leave a gap of space without any wash right where these two arches meet to avoid these two colors from bleeding into each other. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** to the top of the roof. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** to right far side of the roof. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** just under the roof line on the front or main side of the birdhouse. Extend this wash down about one inch and then apply **Light Brown Wash** to the remainder of left half of the main side of birdhouse. Repeat or mirror this process to the right half of the front or main side of the birdhouse. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** to the far right side of the birdhouse. To base of the bird-house, apply **Dark Brown Wash** to the far right side and **Light Brown Wash** to the left side. To the post, apply **Light Brown Wash** to the left side and **Dark Brown Wash** to right half. To the underside of the roof that looks like a triangle, apply **Dark Brown Wash**. Now apply another layer of wash to the birdhouse, but apply it in strokes that mimic wood grain, using straight lines, arched lines, and even a circle here or there. Begin at the left arch of the roofline and apply the **Light Brown Wash**. Repeat on the right arch of the roof line. Apply wood grain using **Dark Brown Wash** to the top of the roof. Then, apply **Dark Brown Wash** to the right side of the birdhouse and also apply it just under the roof. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** to the bottom right base of the birdhouse. Apply **Dark Brown Wash** under the roof arches to serve as a shadow. Then, apply **Light Brown Wash** to the front of the birdhouse and to the perch. Apply **Light Brown Wash** to the base of the birdhouse. Apply **Light Brown Wash** to the left side of the post and **Dark Brown Wash** to the right side. Apply **Lemon Yellow** to the bellies of both birds using a dab stroke. Then, apply **Cerulean Blue Hue** using the same stroke to the forehead and wing of each bird as well as to the blue strip on the neck.



Step 5 - Apply More Wood Grain to Birdhouse and Second Layer of Paint to Blue Tits Apply **Light Brown** in vertical stripes that are equally spaced to the front of the bird house. Make each of these lines varying widths by lifting and pressing the brush onto the paper as the lines are created.

Apply a pure version of the **Light Brown** and **Dark Brown** to the wood to continue to create wood grain and deepen values. Start with the left arch of the roof line. Apply **Light Brown** to both the bottom left and right side by placing a few parallel lines using a hatching stroke to this section. Place the brush in the water for a second, wipe it repeatedly on the edge of the glass container, and then use this diluted version of Light Brown to smooth and add a bit more wood grain to this section. Repeat this process to the other arched side of the roof line. To the top of the roof, apply **Dark Brown** to the top edge and then repeat with the diluted water technique to bring this color down the rest of this section and apply more wood grain. Do not try and cover all the color that was previously applied. Apply **Dark Brown** to the right side of the birdhouse, using the same technique. Do the same to the lower right of the birdhouse using **Dark Brown**. To the main or front side of the birdhouse, apply **Dark Brown** just under the roof line. Then, apply **Light Brown** in hatching strokes just under where Dark Brown was applied. Wet the brush and apply a diluted version of **Light Brown** down the rest of the front side of the birdhouse. Apply **Light Brown** to the bottom front base of the bird house. Apply **Dark Brown** to the right side base of the birdhouse. Finally, apply **Dark Brown** to the underside of the roof that looks like a triangle.

Apply **Sienna** to the front of the birdhouse with very loose, wide strokes. If this color goes on too dark, place the brush in the water for a second and then use this to dilute the color, smooth the paint, and bring it further down the front side of the birdhouse, avoiding the perch.

Outline the top of the perch lightly with **Dark Brown**.

To the blue tits, apply **Grey** to the face area that has grey hues. To the top blue tit, apply it just under the tail as well and a few loose strokes to the bottom left of the belly. Apply **Chartreuse** loosely over the Cadmium Yellow on the belly of both birds. Apply **Ultramarine** loosely over the Cerulean Blue Hue.

Step 6 - Final Touches to the Birdhouse and Birds Outline the dark parts of the birdhouse with **Dark Brown** and also go over the vertical lines on the front of the birdhouse with this color as well using a very thin stroke and not trying to fully cover the Light Brown previously applied. Apply **Dark Brown** just under the roofline on the main or front side of the birdhouse. Apply this wide and loosely to this section, and take a wet and blotted brush to smooth this paint if necessary.

Apply Black to the songbirds: to the eye, beak, neck, and to the tail and wing of the top bird. Apply Black to the legs as well.

Now apply **Black** to the darkest portions of the birdhouse. Outline the top of the foot stool lightly with **Black**.

Make any other adjustments to the birdhouse by adding more wood grain using any of the colors previously used.