

Pumpkin Painting On Canvas - Acrylic Painting Tutorial



Learn how to paint pumpkins with string lights at night. Add optional faces on the pumpkins for jack-o-lanterns.



Materials:

- Acrylic Paint (I recommend the Liquitex Basics brand or Apple Barrel Brand)
- Paint Colors:
 - Orange (cad orange hue)
 - Yellow (primary yellow)
 - Blue (primary blue)
 - Brown (burnt sienna)
 - White (titanium white)
 - Black (mars black)
- 16" x 20" Canvas
- Various Brush Sizes:
 - 1" Flat Brush
 - 1/4" Flat Brush (12 bright)
 - Small Round Brush (4 round)
- Water
- Palette or paper plate for palette
- Covered work space

Directions At A Glance:

Paint Fall Pumpkins Step By Step Acrylic Canvas Tutorial



Video:

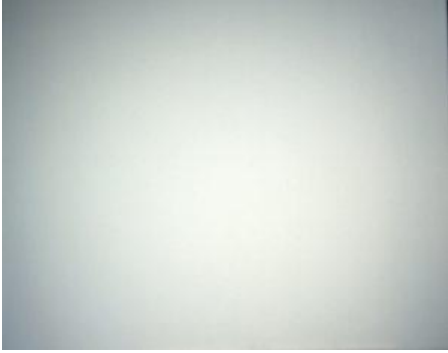
This is a supplemental video that shows you how to paint the pumpkins with the faces:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcvSH4OtKU>

Step By Step Directions

1. Paint Canvas Blue

Start with a blank canvas in the "landscape" position.



Next, grab your wide flat brush. Paint the entire canvas blue. Add water to your paint brush and the blue paint to make the paint flow faster and cover easier. I painted in left and right strokes.



2. Paint Stars

Then grab your small round brush. Paint small white dots everywhere on the canvas to represent stars. Paint the dots unevenly for a more realistic effect. Some dots are clustered together like constellations, some are larger, some smaller.



3. Paint Pumpkin Outlines

Next with your same small round brush, paint an arc, or part of a circle in the lower left corner.



Paint a smaller round shape next to that. These are the outlines of our pumpkins.



4. Paint Pumpkins White

Next, with a medium flat brush, paint curved strokes of white. These curves will represent the curves of a pumpkin. Notice the direction of the paint. Your strokes MUST curve in this direction to create the effect.



Then continue to paint in the pumpkin white using curved strokes. Notice the direction of the paint is switched on the left.



The curves will meet in the center to form a "cat eye" shape. Also, the white is not solid, 100% white. Notice that blue still shows through. That is on purpose!



In like manner, repeat the technique on the second pumpkin.

5. Paint Pumpkins Orange

Now, clean off your brush completely. Then add orange. In the same manner that the white was painted, paint over the pumpkin with orange.



Continue to paint the pumpkin orange. Make sure your strokes are going in a curved manner in the same direction as the white paint.



Next, repeat the orange on the second pumpkin. Do you see how some of the white and blue still shows through? It's not solid 100% orange. There is also blue showing through from the background and that adds to the texture of the pumpkin!



6. Paint Stems

Now rinse off your brush completely and switch to a round brush. With brown paint, add a small curved line in the area shown on the two pumpkins. Those lines are the base of the stem. Notice that the stem base is not right on top of the circle, rather a little bit down.

Next, start to paint the stem. Paint a squiggly line upwards and then complete the shape.



Then repeat with the second pumpkin.



Paint the stems solid brown.



Then, without rinsing the brush, add white to the tip. Paint a line on the top of the stem.



Add another line on the side to represent light hitting the stem. Repeat with both pumpkins.



7. Paint Pumpkin Lines

Then, with the brown paint and your small round brush, paint this line by the stem as shown.



Now paint another line on the other side of the stem as shown.



Next, paint a curved line from the stem to the bottom.



Next add another curved line like shown - stem to bottom in one stroke.



Continue to paint more lines on the right side of the pumpkin. Again, stem to bottom in one stroke.



Then repeat the same thing on the second pumpkin.



Next, rinse off the brown paint. With black paint, trace over the brown lines. Notice that some of the brown still shows through.



Then rinse off the black. With white paint add some curved lines to the pumpkins as shown. You are not tracing over the black/brown, you are adding lines very close to (next to) the black/brown.



Continue to add more curved white lines on both pumpkins. Notice the curve is in the same direction as the black/brown curves.



Next clean off the white from the brush. Add yellow paint. In the same manner, add more curves on your pumpkins between the white lines.

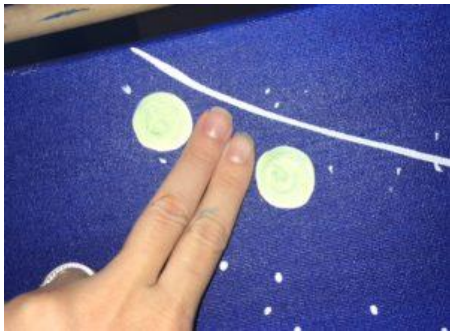


8. Paint String Lights

Now it's party time. Let's paint outdoor string lights! With a small round brush, paint a curved line in the sky.



Then mix white and yellow together on your palette. Paint yellow-white circles that are about two fingers apart and positioned off the line as shown.



With black, paint a trapezoid or rectangle shaped light socket that connects the lights to the string.



Then paint another set of outdoor string lights on the left side.



With black, paint a line over the white line but leave some area of white still visible.



Next add some "interest" to the bulbs by painting solid white in the center and adding some white lines on the outside of the bulbs as pictured.



9. Paint Optional Faces On Pumpkins

To do faces, first draw the shapes out with a pencil or chalk. Then paint the shapes yellow mixed with white paint (adding the white into the yellow makes it opaque). Then outline the shapes with a small round brush and black paint.



Finally, you are finished!

