

Back to School Teddy Bear

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Palette: Decoart Americana Paint: Deep Midnight Blue, Baby Blue, Golden Straw, Honey Brown, Light Cinnamon, Bittersweet Chocolate, French Vanilla, Country Red, Lamp Black, Avocado, Jade Green, Hauser Dark Green, Sapphire Blue, Payne's Grey, Light Buttermilk,

Brushes: Royal Soft Grip Gold Taklon Series SG150 #8, #10 flat; Series SG250 round #1; Royal Langnickel Aqualon Wisp Brush Filbert Series 2935 1/2"; soft stencil brush or soft scruffy brush for blushing cheeks, sponge brush for base coating

Supplies: Mousepad, Decoart Multi Purpose Sealer, stylus, graphite paper, small sanding oval

Seal mousepad. Base with Deep Midnight blue, two coats if needed for good coverage.
If edges seem rough, sand.
Apply pattern.

Bear—Paint, using a dampened Wisp brush with slightly thinned Honey Brown paint. Work in a circle, starting at the outer edges of the head, pulling the strokes out away from the center. Be generous with your paint. Fill in the circle of the head, then the ears (inside the ear, too). You may still see some of the background color at this point, so try to fill it in enough to be semi-opaque. There will be more layers which will help fill in. Paint the arms in; you will make them look more dimensional when you highlight them.

Without cleaning the brush, and even while the base coat is still wet, pick up some Golden Straw. Use this to create light highlights in the hair, and for the arms going across the body. Highlight with a lighter touch than when you base coated, using just the ends of the brush, so it doesn't completely blend in with the Honey Brown. The highlights in the arms go across and down in a curve.

Create the **muzzle** by making an oval in the center of the face with Golden Straw, pulling the strokes out from the center, the same as you painted the head. With the Golden Straw still in your brush, add more highlights to the rest of the bear. To intensify the highlights a bit more, pick up some French Vanilla in your brush and add a few more strokes with the Wisp Brush.

Clean your brush before shading. Shade around muzzle, in the ears, at the base of both sides of ears, and between the paws with Light Cinnamon, still using the Wisp brush, patting the color in. If it seems too dark, pick up more Honey Brown. Pull out the dark shadows with the Wisp brush, patting the color in, not painting it heavily. When paint is dry, shade again behind and between the arms with Light Cinnamon using a flat shader brush and traditional shading methods. Add darker shading with a flat brush and Bittersweet Chocolate in the tops of ears, around muzzle. After shading you may want to pull light hairs out over the shading using your Wisp brush and Honey Brown + Golden Straw.

When the fur is dry, blush the **cheeks** with a circular motion using Country Red on the soft stencil brush. **Eyes, nose and mouth** line are Bittersweet Chocolate. Highlight eyes with a tiny dot of Light Buttermilk in the upper right, and a small stripe of Light Buttermilk on the nose. Freckles are Light Cinnamon.

Pencils are Golden Straw, shaded with Honey Brown and highlighted with Light Buttermilk. Top of pencil is Honey Brown + Light Buttermilk. Lead is Lamp Black highlighted with Light Buttermilk.

English book is Avocado, shaded with Hauser Dark Green and highlighted with Jade. Letters and pages are Light Buttermilk.

Math Book is Sapphire Blue shaded with Payne's Grey and highlighted with Baby Blue. Letters are Baby Blue, pages are Light Buttermilk.

Apple is Country Red, highlighted with Country Red + Golden Straw and shaded with Lamp Black. Stem is Honey Brown, lined with Bittersweet Chocolate. Leaf is Avocado, highlighted with Jade and shaded and lined with Hauser Dark Green.

Ruler is Golden Straw, shaded with Golden Brown and highlighted with Light Buttermilk. Lettering is Lamp Black.

Crayons—Sapphire Blue, highlighted Baby Blue and shaded with Payne's Grey. Label is Baby Blue. Red—Country Red highlighted with Golden Straw and shaded with Lamp Black. Label is Lamp Black. Green—Avocado, shaded with Hauser Dark Green and highlighted with Jade.

Alphabet—letters are Light Buttermilk.

Using Wisp brush and Baby Blue make horizontal and vertical lines in background behind bear. Using round brush and Baby Blue, add shaky line around edge of mousepad.

Varnish, using at least two coats.