



*Living the Art Life™*

## Quick & Easy Background Tips

*By Cheryl Boglioli*

Creating an easy background for your art journal pages or the start of a mixed-media canvas does not have to be difficult. Here are some tips and technique ideas to get you started.

### Supplies:

These are just some examples – most anything can be used.

*Art Journal*      *Watercolor paper*      *Canvas boards/stretched canvas*

*Acrylic paint*      *Watercolor paint*      *Watercolor Crayons/markers*

*Brayer*      *Inks*      *Pastels*

*Markers*

### Tips/Techniques:

1. Apply a small amount of paint to a paint palette or a gelatin plate. Use a brayer to pick up paint and distribute on background surface. If you only roll the brayer one rotation on paint and one rotation on paper, you can get some neat oval shapes. Allow one color to dry before applying another layer if you want to keep your colors separate. Too much blending while wet will create mud.
2. Use watercolor pencils to scribble across substrate. Using a damp brush, blend colors.
3. Use watercolors and play with the amount of water used to change intensity of colors.
4. Apply a few drops of color on one side of art journal while open. Then close art journal book and rub pages together, quickly opening pages back up to dry.
5. Keep your art journal open next to you when working on another project. You can use your art journal pages to clean your brayer, paintbrushes, stamps, and/or stencils to create some really cool backgrounds.
6. Glue leftover scraps on blank pages and/or canvas.



**Cheryl Boglioli Designs**

[cherylboglioli.com](http://cherylboglioli.com) | [cheryl@cherylboglioli.com](mailto:cheryl@cherylboglioli.com) | 772-979-6553

**mailing address:** 597 SE Crosspoint Drive, Port St Lucie, FL 34983 | **shipping address:** 108 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Ft Pierce, FL 34950