

## Painter 7 Watercolor Quick Reference Guide by Karen Sperling

After playing with Painter 7's watercolor brushes, and reading the manual and the other tutorials about them, I felt that the settings were sounding more complicated than they are. So I put together the following quick reference chart for the watercolor settings.

In the following chart, I put the feature in the middle and the effect of moving the slider to the left on the left-hand side, and the effect of moving the slider to the right on the right-hand side. This way, a quick look lets you determine what a given slider setting does.

To speed up the brushes, use less diffusion, or bleeding, which results in more pronounced hairs in the brush strokes. You can find a balance pretty easily by using this quick reference guide.

You quickly access the Brush controls palette, where all these settings reside, by pressing Command+7, Mac; Ctrl+7, Windows.

I also found that frequently deleting the pre-built brush file in the Painter brushes folder keeps things running more quickly. To do so, quit Painter, delete the file, then relaunch Painter. Painter creates a new, smaller pre-built brush file automatically.

<b>Move slider to left</b>	<b>Setting</b>	<b>Move slider to right</b>
more hairs, slower brush	Brush controls: size palette: feature	less hairs, quicker brush
less wet	Brush controls: water: wetness	more wet
less bleed	Brush controls: water: pick up	more bleed
slower drying, more diffuse	Brush controls: water: dry rate	quicker drying, less diffuse
more spread	Brush controls: water: evap threshold	less spread
dry paper	Brush controls: water: diffusion amt	wet paper
less texture	Brush controls: water: cap factor	more texture
less texture	Brush controls: water: grain soak in	more texture

Check my web site for more Painter 7 information soon!

<http://www.artistrymag.com>