A FREE WINTER WATERCOLOUR TEMPLATE

Paint a Christmas Rose Hellebore

One free template to print on watercolour paper: the drawing's done, you just add the colour



A painted reference, to show one way the colours could go.

Print at 100% on A4 watercolour paper and paint along.



HOW TO PAINT IT

White petals, a green heart, and lots of bare paper

1. Petals: let the paper do it

A Christmas rose is white, so most of each petal stays as paper. Wet one petal at a time with clean water, then touch a very pale green-grey near the centre and a whisper of blush pink at the base. Let it spread on its own.

2. A glowing green heart

While the middle is still damp, drop a soft yellow-green into the centre and let it fade outwards. Keep it small: a little green makes the white look whiter.

3. Stamens once it's dry

When the flower is bone dry, dot a warm yellow over the stamen heads, leaving a few gaps of white between them. Dots, not lines, and don't fill every one.

4. Dark, bold leaves

A deep blue-green for the leaves, one or two loaded strokes per section. Leave a thin line of paper down each middle vein and let the jagged edges stay a bit rough.

5. Stem and bud last

A pale green stem with a blush of plum-pink where it meets the ground, and the bud in the same pale green-white as the petals with a pink tip. Then put the brush down.

Which colours?

A pale green, a yellow-green, a soft pink, a warm yellow and a deep blue-green from your own box will do it. A touch of red in your green gives you that plum stem.

Printing

Print at 100% (turn off “fit to page”) on A4. Watercolour paper if your printer will take it, fed one sheet at a time.

IF YOU ENJOYED PAINTING THAT ONE

There are nineteen more arriving Monday 23 November



Hellebores & Winter Garden is twenty winter garden plants drawn as soft pencil outlines: the Christmas rose you just painted, a plum Lenten rose, a speckled one, a slate one, a double picotee, winter aconite, snowdrops, witch hazel, frosted rosehips and more.

Every template comes with a painted reference and a Colour Inspiration Card, plus a winter garden index page, as PDFs and as separate PNGs. The full set arrives on Monday 23 November.

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