



CLIMATE INFORMATION SHEET

Climate Has A Huge Effect On All Acrylic Paints

If you work in an air-conditioned studio or you have a dehumidifier you can ignore these notes.

COLD CLIMATE

In a cold climate, if you are toughing it out and not using a heater, you will find acrylics work much better at ambient temperature, so be kind to your painting and use a heater. All acrylics work better above 70°F (21°C).

HUMIDITY

Water cannot evaporate in an atmosphere saturated with humidity, so your acrylic paint can't dry properly or cure. Humidity levels above 75% slow down the drying of all acrylics. If you have a smart phone you can check a weather app to determine your local humidity on the day that you are painting.

THE WAY TO CONTROL THIS

- If you are painting regularly and want to get on with the job in warm humid climates, you will be amazed at the amount of water that a dehumidifier will pull out of your studio atmosphere; air conditioning also rectifies the problem.
- In cold climates your own body should tell you when you need a heater.
- When working outdoors you have to put up with the prevailing weather.

PAINTING WITH ATELIER INTERACTIVE IN HUMID OR COLD CONDITIONS

If you are using Atelier Interactive and you want to paint wet-in-wet, you can go ahead as usual, but if you want to over paint afterwards, you may need to dry out or cure your painting first by using dry warmth.

BLOCKING IN

If you just want to block in with fast drying paint you can use any of the traditional Atelier mediums and they will help a bit. If you use Binder Medium, although it is quite liquid when you mix it into the paint, it has a thickening effect which you might find pleasing and it will help a little with drying in humid conditions. If you want to mitigate the thickening effect, you could add water to the Binder Medium to create the degree of fluidity that pleases you.

VARNISHING

Please read the separate notes on varnishing. Water-based varnishes can be problematical, and we get about three phone calls a week from people worried about their varnish being tacky sometime after application. This is caused by humidity and can be corrected with dry warmth, and will right itself simply by the passage of time.