

# AirSick 101

## AIRBRUSH TRAINING

### Dagger Strokes - Adding to Your Arsenal

You may be surprised to learn that most airbrushing is done using only a handful of different strokes. There are many variations of these strokes that help us to achieve the different effects we paint. Dagger strokes are some of the most utilized strokes in airbrushing. It's a somewhat simple stroke with a multitude of uses. Once you've downloaded your free practice sheet and are ready to paint, we can get started!

Start with your brush about 2-4in. from the surface. Compress the trigger for air and slowly pull back to release paint. Create a dot, then move from left to right keeping your brush equal distance from the surface and parallel to the floor. As you reach your second line, begin to rock your trigger forward to cut off the flow of paint while you continue to move from left to right. The end of your stroke should fade out nicely into the grayed out area of the practice sheet.

Continue to practice your dagger stroke down the page staying consistent all the way down. Then try it while moving your brush from right to left. Try moving your brush closer to the surface. Practice keeping all of your strokes the same length and thickness while minding your starting and stopping points. You should also turn your practice sheet 90 degrees and practice vertically. There are several effective ways of getting your dagger strokes up to par. So feel free to experiment and choose the method that is best for you.



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**EXERCISE: Dagger Stroke** Create a dot and move from left to right. As you reach the gray area, begin to rock your trigger forward to cut off the flow of paint before reaching the third line.

