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Tips, color combos, and more!

Discover Alcohol Inks

Let's talk about alcohol inks!

In this guide you will find color combos, tips and techniques

Alcohol Inks are such an amazing medium to use.

They can also be a bit intimidating but I am hoping this guide will help give you the confidence you need to try them for yourself.

Shop Alcohol Ink favorites **HERE!**

Check out upcoming classes **HERE!**

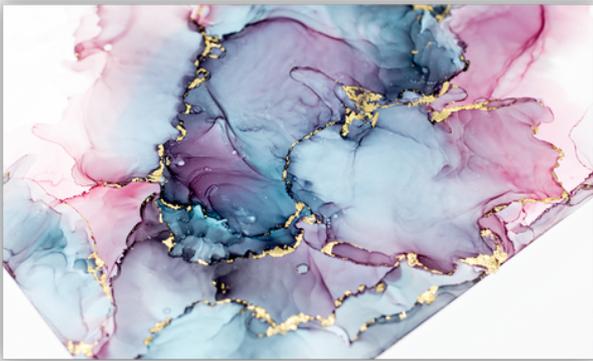
*Work in a well ventilated area and NEVER spray or splatter blending solution. Protect your work surface and wear gloves if you don't want your hands stained.

Alcohol Ink Tips

Check out the video playlist I have over on YouTube! Click [HERE!](#)

Inks:

If you put isopropyl alcohol in a small **bottle with a fine tip** it will help control the amount of alcohol you add to the paper.



Clickable photo



Clickable photo



Clickable photo

Quick tip:

Now let's talk **ink**. There are many different brands of Alcohol inks. I use a couple different brands. Ranger and Copic Refills. Between the two I get a wide range of colors!

Wispy effect:

To achieve the wispy look I find using a drop of alcohol ink color and 3 or 4 times the amount of isopropyl alcohol.

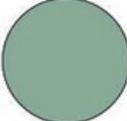
Paper:

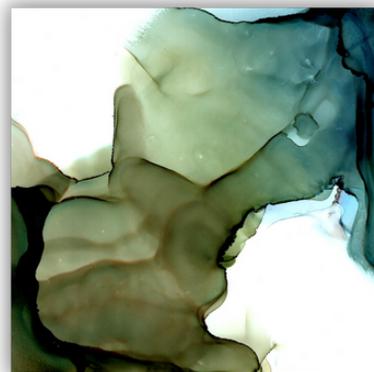
There are many surfaces alcohol inks work on. but they do work best on a non porous surface, like synthetic paper. I have tried several and my favorite is called **Craft Plastic**. It is cheap and I have a full review in this video [HERE!](#)

Blower tool:

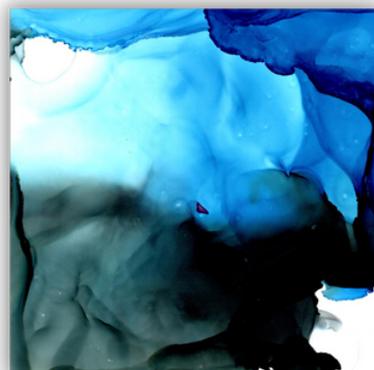
There are many tools that you can use to move the ink around but my favorite is actually a **hair dryer**. You can check out the video [HERE!](#)

Alcohol ink color combo inspiration

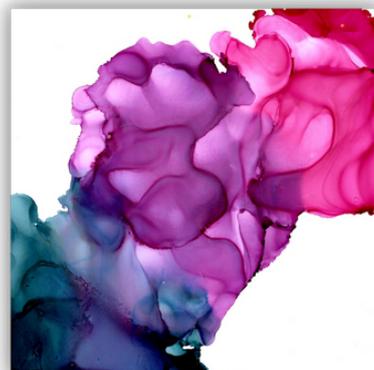
1  Moss  Mushroom  Monsoon

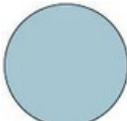


2  Slate  Glacier  Pitch Black



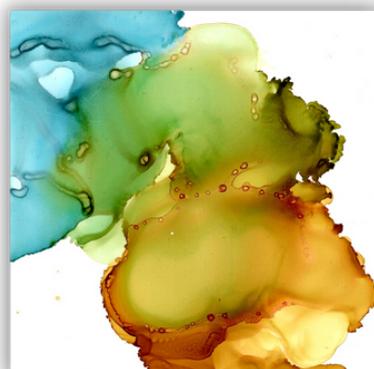
3  Wild Plum  Boysenberry  Monsoon



4  Cloudy Blue  Aquamarine  Pool



5  Citrus  Dijon  Mermaid



***All colors are Ranger Alcohol Inks**

Alcohol ink color combo inspiration

6



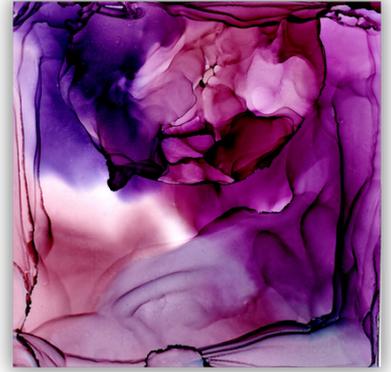
Boysenberry



Vineyard



Eggplant



7



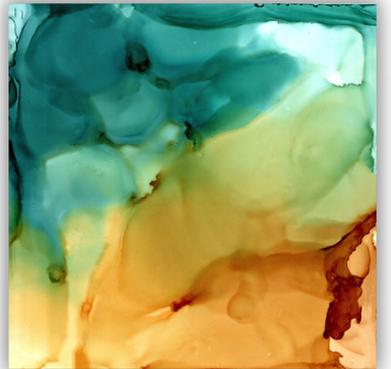
Butterscotch



Mermaid



Rust



8



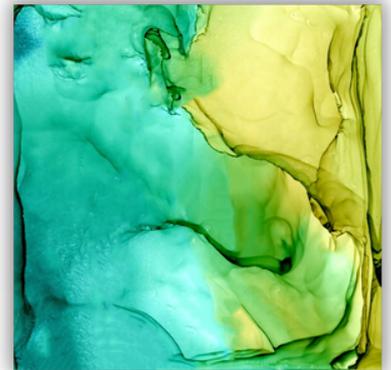
Citrus



Stream



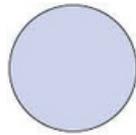
Laguna



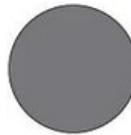
9



Cloudy Blue



Cool Peri



Slate



10



Wild Plum



Stream



Sunshine Yellow



***All colors are Ranger Alcohol Inks**

Alcohol ink color combo inspiration

11



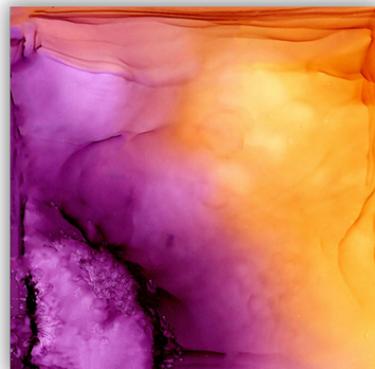
Boysenberry



Peach Belini



Sunshine Yellow



12



Slate



Mushroom



Pitch Black



13



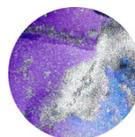
Wild Plum



Vineyard



Glacier



Sterling Alloy



14



Pool



Pink Sherbert



Turquoise



Wild Plum



15



Lemonade



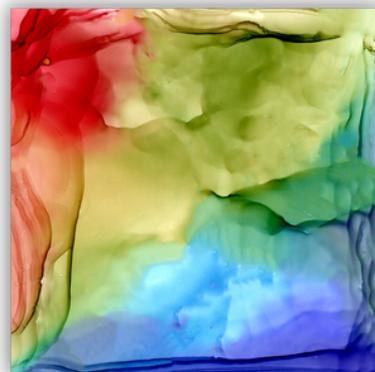
Watermelon



Amethyst

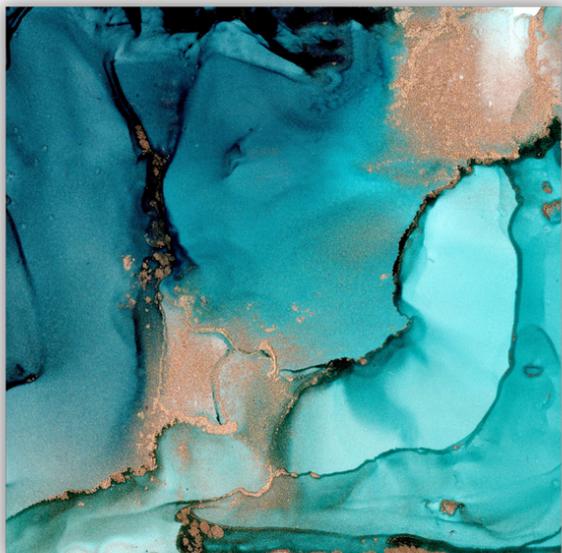


Meadow



***All colors are Ranger Alcohol Inks**

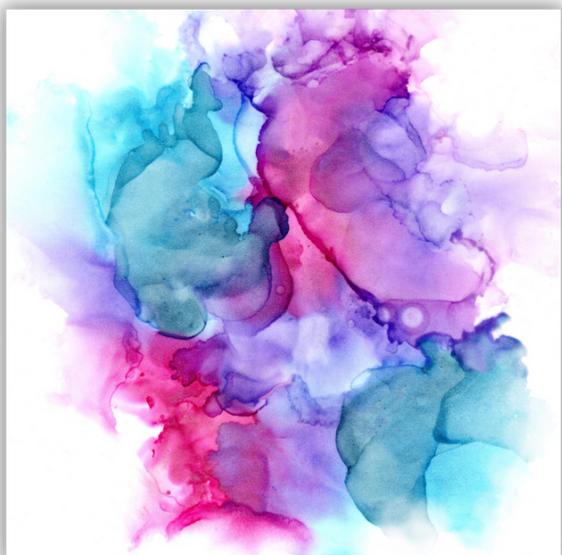
Mixative, Alloy, and Pearls



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Alloy ink

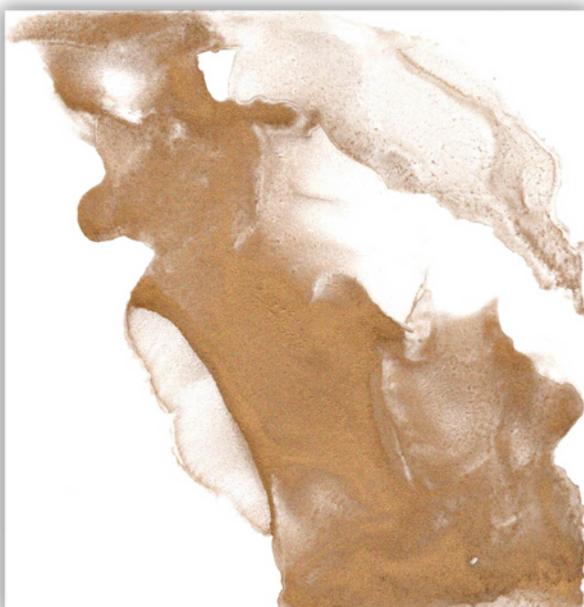
Alloys are reflective metallic unique metal powders to create metallic highlights. Alloys will sit on top and not mix well with alcohol inks. They work great with isopropyl alcohol. I love using alloys to splatter gold accents but **please do this with caution! Alloys will work with iso but they need to be sealed or used with blending solution so they don't wipe off**



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Pearl ink

Alcohol Pearls are permanent pigment and dye inks made to create pearlescent effects. With pearls you have to use blending solution. They will not work with regular isopropyl alcohol. I love using the pearls on vellum. It is such a dreamy look. Check out a video where I show the technique **HERE!**

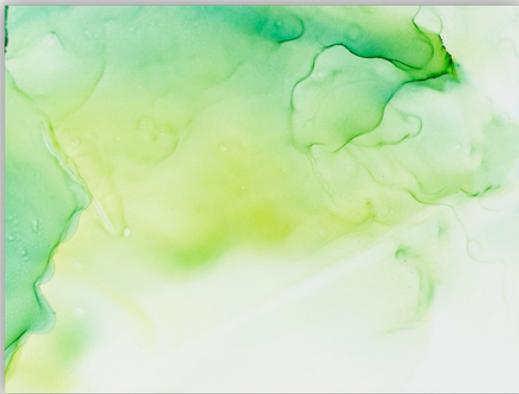


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Mixative Ink

Mixatives are pigment ink made to create beautiful highlights. These will mix together with alcohol inks. These work well with isopropyl alcohol. I have learned that a little goes a long way. Mixatives will work with iso but they need to be sealed or used with blending solution so they don't wipe off

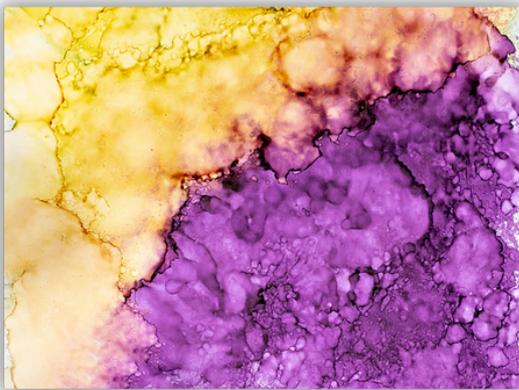
No Blower Tool Techniques



[Class coming soon](#)



[Clickable photo](#)



[Clickable photo](#)



[Clickable photo](#)

Smoosh

The key is to add more isopropyl alcohol to dilute the color. You need 2 panels of synthetic paper and you need to add alcohol ink to one of them. Take the second piece and place it on top and smooch them together. Lift up and dry in place.

Swipe

There are many ways to swipe alcohol ink. I like to use this tool from Scrapbook.com. It is a scraper tool that has replaceable felt. There are so many effects you can get.

Cotton Ball

Use cotton balls to add alcohol ink onto the synthetic paper. You can get some amazing texture and results. I share how to do this technique in this video [HERE!](#)

BONUS! Alcohol lift ink:

If you want to take your alcohol inked backgrounds to the next level you can use some [alcohol lift ink](#) and some stamps. You ink up the stamp with lift ink and just stamp it on any part of your background you want. The ink will transfer onto the stamp and then you stamp the image onto a new piece of paper.

Check out the Technique [HERE!](#)

Adding Texture



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Splatters

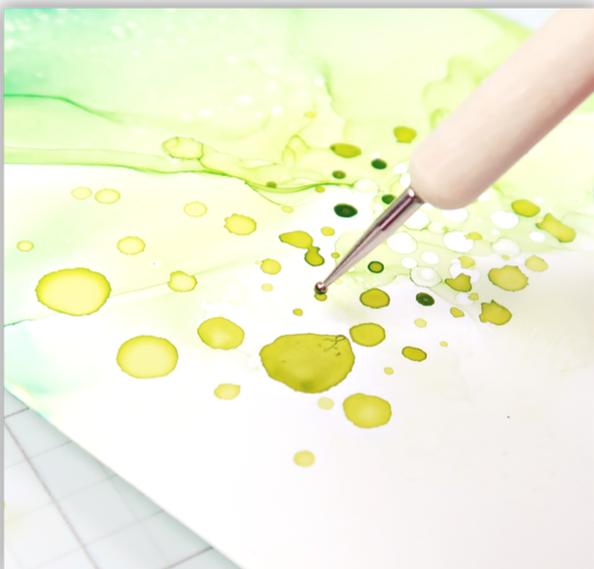
Adding splatters to your backgrounds can easily elevate your piece. I like to add splatters multiple ways. Using an accent color, using isopropyl alcohol and using alloy ink to add a metallic look. You do need to do this with caution.



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Bubble wrap

Using random things to add texture to your background is a great way to make your piece unique. I like to use bubble wrap. You can stamp with it using the alcohol ink, isopropyl alcohol, and alcohol lift ink. Bubble wrap comes in all different sizes to use what you can find.



Adding dots

Using dotting tools is a great way to add texture and have more control. I like to use these **clay tools**. They come in different sizes so you can get a variation of dots and texture.