MARBLING practical modern techniques

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CHEVRON PATTERNS

A Chevron is very like a Gelgit, except much smaller and finer in detail. The last two passes require the use of a comb, which adds to the consistency of the lines. This example uses a 0.6 in. (1.5 cm) comb, though you can change the look of the pattern by experimenting with different widths. Since it takes some time to create, dust falling onto the pattern and making holes can become a problem. It is best to do this pattern quickly and, if you are able to, increase the humidity of your marbling space. You will also see fewer dust particles if you use acrylics rather than gouache or watercolor.

- 1. Apply your colors in a Stone pattern.
- 2. Make a Gelgit by using a stylus or a rake. Using a comb, make a Cascade pattern by drawing it across the tray in the opposite direction of the last pass of the Gelgit.
- 3. Using the same comb, move it along so the teeth are in between the last lines drawn. Push it back up the tray to the other end, bisecting the lines you have already drawn.
- 4. Lay the paper, tap, and peel from the tray. Rinse gently and hang up to dry.





PALM OR FERN

So called because of the way the lines drape like the fronds of the palm or fern, this pattern is beautifully fluid and intricate. This example is made using a 0.6 in. (1.5 cm) comb and a 1.2 in. (3 cm) rake. Try changing the width of the rake to get different effects. As with all Chevron-based patterns, the aim is to complete the pattern quickly and smoothly to avoid the issue of dust falling on the tray surface.

- 1. Apply your colors in a Stone pattern.
- 2. Make a Gelgit by using a stylus or a rake. Using a comb, make a Cascade pattern by drawing it across the tray in the opposite direction of the last pass of the Gelgit.
- 3. Using the same comb, move it along so the teeth are in between the last lines drawn. Push it back up the tray to the other end, bisecting the lines you have already drawn to create the Chevron.
- Using a rake, draw across the tray at 90 degrees to the direction of the Chevron.
- 5. Lay the paper, tap, and lift from the tray. Rinse gently and hang up to dry.









FLAME

Similar to the Palm or Fern, the Flame pattern has extra movement due to the wave in the last pass of the rake. This example is made using a 0.6 in. (1.5 cm) comb and a 1.2 in. (3 cm) rake, but you can change the width of the rake to get different effects. As with all Chevronbased patterns, the aim is to complete the pattern quickly and smoothly to avoid the issue of dust falling on the tray surface.

- 1. Apply your colors in a Stone pattern.
- 2. Make a Gelgit by using a stylus or a rake. Using a comb, make a Cascade pattern by drawing it across the tray in the opposite direction of the last pass of the Gelgit.
- 3. Using the same comb, move it along so the teeth are in between the last lines drawn. Push it back up the tray to the other end, bisecting the lines you have already drawn to create the Chevron.
- Using a rake in a gentle wave motion, draw it across the tray at 90 degrees to the direction of the Chevron.
- 5. Lay the paper, tap, and lift from the tray. Rinse gently and hang up to dry.





СОСКАТОО

An unusual but effective pattern evoking the plume of the cockatoo, this has its base in the Palm or Fern pattern. This example is made using a 0.6 in. (1.5 cm) comb and a 1.2 in. (3 cm) rake.

- 1. Apply your colors in a Stone pattern.
- Make a Gelgit by using a stylus or a rake. Using a comb, make a Cascade pattern by drawing it across the tray in the opposite direction of the last pass of the Gelgit.
- 3. Using the same comb, move it along so the teeth are in between the last lines drawn. Push it back up the tray to the other end, bisecting the lines you have already drawn to create the Chevron.
- 4. Using a rake to create the Palm (or Fern), draw it across the tray at 90 degrees in the same direction as the Chevron.
- Using the same rake, turn it 90 degrees and rake back across the whole tray.
- 6. Lay the paper, tap, and lift from the tray. Rinse gently and hang up to dry.





FLEUR-DE-LIS

This is another pattern that calls for the bouquet comb, and again the practice and effort to master this pattern is well worth it.

- 1. Apply your colors in a Stone pattern.
- 2. Make a Gelgit by using a stylus or a rake. Using a comb, make a Cascade pattern by drawing it across the tray in the opposite direction of the last pass of the Gelgit.
- 3. Using the same comb, move it along so the teeth are in between the last lines drawn. Push it back up the tray to the other end, bisecting the lines you have already drawn to create the Chevron.
- 4. Take your bouquet comb and move it in a gentle wave down the tray in the same direction as your Chevron.
- 5. Lay the paper, tap, and peel from the tray. Rinse gently and hang up to dry.

