

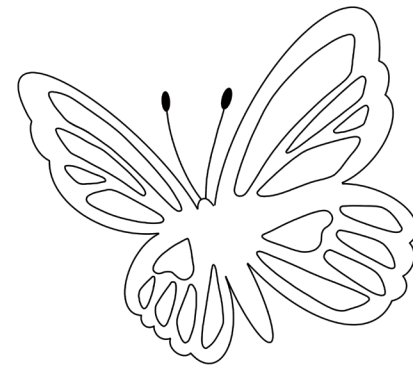
Galaxy Butterfly

Butterflies are already incredibly beautiful, but imagine if their wings had galaxies on them! Well, you don't have to imagine, we're going to paint some of our own and watch them flutter across the page.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS

- Pencil (4H)
- Brush Pens
- Round Brush (size 4)
- Water Jar
- Watercolor Paper
- Paper Towel
- Waterproof Fineliner Pen (size 03)
- White Gel Pen

PROJECT COLORS



STEP 1

Start by sketching your butterfly using a 4H pencil on watercolor paper. If you'd like, you can trace the example from the book's traceable templates (Appendix B).

When you're happy with the sketch, you can leave it in pencil or go over your lines with waterproof fineliner pen. My personal preference is to ink in the lines to make it easier to see where to add color.



STEP 2

Using your markers directly on the watercolor paper, add color to the inside of each of the panes or segments on the wings. Try to make the color ratios roughly symmetrical on both sides.

The colors I chose for this project blend nicely no matter what order you put them in, so feel free to have fun with it.

STEP 3

Using a damp paintbrush, start blending the colors together from your lightest to your darkest. If the ink is mixing too much, try rinsing your brush more often in between colors. Let the ink dry completely before moving on to the next step.

STEP 4

To make the color really pop and add to the galaxy effect, fill in the areas around the color using black marker. Because you're coloring a large area with black ink, it's easy to smudge it or get it on your hand and then transfer it to where you don't want it. I recommend putting a scrap piece of paper under your hand while coloring, to keep you and the rest of your paper clean while you ink this part of the project.



STEP 5

The last step is adding the stars using white gel pen. Mix up the size of your dots to add some variety and throw in some starbursts as well. Voilà, one pretty, galactic butterfly that would look great as a greeting card or framed and hung on the wall.

Alternate Color Blends

You could have so much fun with different-colored galaxies on these pretty little butterflies. Here's an example using greens and blues instead of pinks, purples, and blues.

