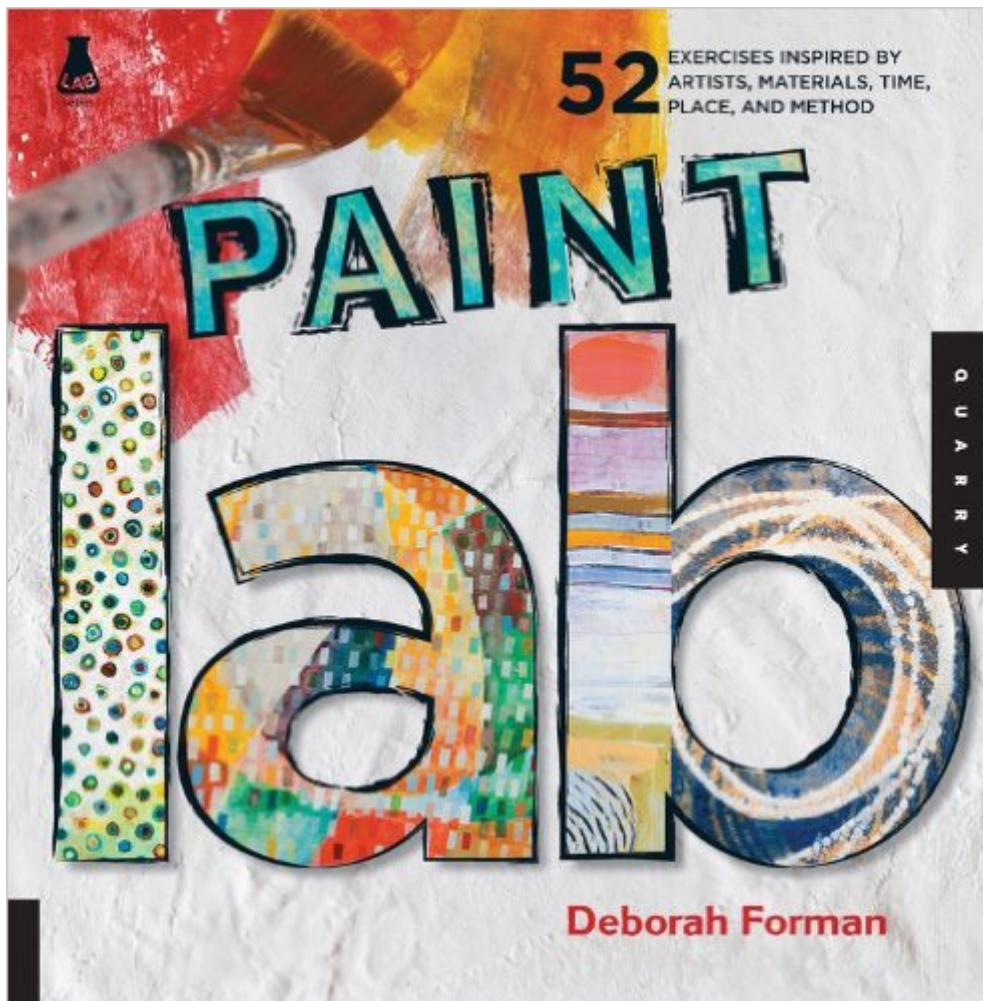


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# Paint Lab: 52 Exercises Inspired By Artists, Materials, Time, Place, And Method (Lab Series)



## Synopsis

Paint Lab is packed with unique and experimental techniques and ideas in painting. This hands-on book is organized into 52 units, which may, but don't need to be explored on a weekly basis. The labs can be worked on in any order, so that you can flip around to learn a new mixed-media technique or be inspired by a particular painting theme or application. The underlying message of this book is that, as an artist, you should learn and gain expertise through experimentation and play. There is no right or wrong result, rather you will find new forms of expression in your work and gain confidence in your skills.Â Designed to inform and inspire new artists and rekindle passion for painting in experienced artists, this book offers a range of exercises broken down by theme: Who (artist-inspired), What (tools and materials), When (a time-based concept), Where (a sense of place), and How (inspired by a technique or method). Â Â Paint Lab is illustrated with brilliant full-color images and multiple examples of each exercise. This book offers you a visual, non-linear approach to learning painting techniques, and reinforces a fun and fearless approach to creating art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I own many DIY art books. I bought them with the firm intention of making whatever they taught, but they always ended up as eye candy, since none was exciting enough to get my paint and brushes and really get involved. This book is different. It focuses on the process, not on the final result. It does not require you to spend 3 hours at Michael's and \$300 at the cash register. "If you find yourself missing a specific material, substitute something else!" writes the author in the introduction.

If you have gesso and some blue, red and yellow, you can start right away. What you'll produce, even if it's not the focus of the book, will often be surprisingly beautiful. And without realizing it you'll learn about color, you'll develop a style instead of just copying. Then you can go back to making cards and you'll figure out how much you learned. A final note -- it's a beautiful book, like most books in the "Lab" collection. I am not sure what the previous reviewer expected. It is not an art book or coffee table book but the colors are vivid and the binding solid.

As an artist who tends to be a bit too meticulous and serious about my own work, I look forward to taking the author's advise to play more, without any expectation of the outcome. I'm guessing I am not the only one out there with a stockpile of art supplies collecting dust in my studio, always deferring to the same tried and true tools. The styles and methods of painting covered in the "Paint Lab" are so varied, and I look forward to straying outside of my comfort zone and trying something new. I also bought this book for my niece, who is a budding young artist, and I am hoping we can work on some of the same projects - it will be interesting to see the results. I too would like to address a previous negative review of this book, which took issue with the quality of the paper and printing, and seems to miss the whole point of the book. Isn't it supposed to be a tool to inspire creativity, as opposed to an object d'art to be leafed through and admired? As paperback books go it is sturdier than most, and the picture quality is great. I intend to prop mine up in my studio, and if all goes well it will wind up dog-eared and splattered with paint.

The paint lab is well-written, fun, bright, vivid, and joyful. It's a pleasure to read and browse through. Owning it is like finally enrolling in the college art class that I always wanted to take: educational AND enjoyable. In fact, I tried an art project with my seven year old daughter, and we had a fabulous time and felt like real artists on what otherwise would have been a dreary rainy Saturday afternoon. With very few materials, and as complete novices, we each made a beautiful abstract painting. I cannot wait to do another project now. The paint lab is like my favorite Italian cookbook: tempting, easy to follow, and perfect to peruse and re-use (and luckily, it's far healthier than making (and eating) Tiramisu). This is an amazing book for any family to inspire modern, colorful, and imaginative times!

I really, really love this book. It's exactly what I have been looking for- it's not an "from start to finish" instructional book, but more of a collection of ideas and inspiration to change up your paintings a little bit. This is great book for any library, whether you are looking to dabble in paint or already have

experience under your belt and just want to shake up your approach to painting. There are 52 "labs" in the book, each of which is a 2-page spread with lots of photos that either gives step-by-step instructions for a certain technique, an introduction to a particular artist and their style, or suggestions on how to use the world around you as inspiration for your paintings. Most of the labs in the book are based around abstract and intuitive art, so keep that in mind. I'm thrilled to have this book and go through the "Labs" inside of it. Wonderful inspiration!

I've begun working through this book and am really enjoying it so far. The exercises are diverse, interesting, and require minimal supplies - most of which, you probably already possess (assuming you have basic painting materials). You also get a nice little bit of art history to spark your interest and branch out to learn more. I have several of the "Lab" series books and truly cherish all of them.

I love this book! As an artist, not only has 'Paint Lab' introduced me to new and exciting materials and techniques, but it has provided art historical references which are interesting, informative and inspired. Bravo!!

[Jan 2015] Help is in the eye of the beholder so I hesitate to write negative reviews, but this book - in my experience - was really disappointing. REALLY disappointing. It's a very brief overview ( pages) and the printed pictures for each art style were few, lackluster and uninspiring selections due to paper quality. I didn't find there was enough instructional information to experiment adequately in any genre, and most examples were abstraction art. I sort of expected this focus, but examples and labs lacked depth and complexity of even that genre. I purchased this book to inspire students to expand their repertoire of skill, but there wasn't much for them to see, let alone pique interest. Unlike other instructionals, it was flipped thru it disinterestedly and never picked up again.

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