

\* Studie BLOKNOTE

# RAW DOODLES

» \*Bold and Expressive Journaling





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[INTRODUCTION]



» \*So, you're here to explore Raw Doodles? **Love that!** Tiny, simple drawings with big energy: let's go.

This PDF is your guide to making loose, playful doodles and turning them into a bold art journal page. No fancy skills needed. Just curiosity, a brush pen, and a bit of creative chaos.

If you ever want more, you know where to find me:

Website: [www.studiobloknote.com](http://www.studiobloknote.com)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@studiobloknote](https://www.youtube.com/@studiobloknote)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/studiobloknote](https://www.instagram.com/studiobloknote)

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# Art Supplies List

This is what you'll need  
for **this lesson:**

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- \* Your art journal
- \* A small round brush (size 0 or 2)
- \* A small flat brush (size 4 or 6)
- \* **Black Pocket Brush pen by Pentel Arts**

I'm using this pen because it's one of my favorite tools, but if you don't have it, you can replace it with black acrylic ink or paint and a round brush.

- \* **Palette knife** to apply the gel medium  
(You can use a larger flat brush instead.)
- \* **Acrylic gel medium**, preferably matte  
(If you don't have gel medium, fluid acrylic medium will also work.)

\* **Acrylic paint:** black + two colors  
In this class I use Cadmium Red Deep and Burnt Umber, but you can also use another red and brown, or any colors you prefer.

- \* **Regular white gesso**  
We'll use this for mixing our own chalky paints
- \* **Colored pencils** in matching tones  
(White and brown work well.)

- \* A white sheet of paper
- \* Water to clean your brushes
- \* Paper towel
- \* Something to put your paint on.

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# My favorite pen

This is **my favorite pen**:  
The Pentel Pocket Brush  
from Pentel Arts.

## Why I love the Pentel Pocket Brush

- \* **Super black ink.**  
Like, really black.
- \* **Waterproof.**  
Cry over your sketchbook, it won't smudge.
- \* **Bold lines with character.**  
Clean or grainy
- \* **Refillable**  
Just pop in a new cartridge.



# Chalky paints

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## 5 tips for mixing your own chalky paints.

1. I combine acrylic paint with a bit of white gesso to create soft, matte, pastel-like colors.

The gesso makes the paint more opaque and gives it that lovely chalky texture I love so much.

2. I recommend adding no more than about 10% acrylic paint to your gesso. This way, you preserve the chalky qualities of the gesso at their best. Of course, you can add more paint if you like — just know it might feel a bit less matte and chalky.

3. Make a little more than you think you'll need and store it in an empty plastic bottle. That way, you can start building your own custom paint collection.

4. I love adding Burnt Umber and my signature color, Cadmium Red Deep — but feel free to experiment with your own favorite color combos. There's no wrong way to mix.

5. Here's a little trick: adding just a drop of black will tone down your mix into beautiful ashy greys.





# Doodly-do

In this class, we'll doodle freely using a black brush pen. I invite you to draw your own patterns and shapes. If you're (relatively) new to art journaling — or if you simply like the marks and figures I draw in this lesson — here's a close-up of the shapes and character I create in the video, to use as a source of inspiration.





## » Step by step

### 1.

When I doodle with a brush pen, I don't overthink it. A swirl, an X, a spiky little ball, an asterisk... It's not about meaning here. It's more about doodling being an easy and enjoyable activity.



### 2.

Doodle loose figures with your brush pen, semi-one-liner style.



### 3.

Time to cut it out (literally).



### 4.

Apply thin layers of chalky paint with a plastic card.





## » Step by step

5.

Add some collage elements with gel medium, using a palette knife. Let this dry completely.



6.

Here, I'm switching between my custom colored gesso mix and regular acrylics. I want to keep the background fairly light, but by adding a few darker touches, I create a bit more depth.



7.

Stick the doodle figure on your page with gel medium, using a palette knife.

8.

Notice how I'm basically doing the same thing all over again. I started with doodles, added paint, then glued down some collage elements. And now I'm repeating that process.





## » Step by step

9.

Don't be afraid to get some colored gesso over your doodle figure. We can always draw over it later. This way, the figure looks less bright white and blends in more naturally with the rest of the page.



10.

As we get closer to a finished piece, I start adding more and more small details. This little figure is becoming a redhead in my journal.

11.

Add some splatters with wet acrylic paint.



12.

Draw even more doodles.







## » Step by step



**13.**

Redefine the lines of the figure. I'm tracing them loosely, just enough to bring some of the details back. I draw slightly next to the lines underneath. This creates a nice sense of depth.



**14.**

This brush pen is waterproof, but it doesn't always work well on acrylic paint. Since I mainly used gesso here, it holds up fine. If your pen starts to smudge, switching to black acrylic paint might work better.



**15.**

Finally, I'm adding details with colored pencils. Since most of the background is gesso, the pencil grips well. I add a few scratchy lines, lightly shade the background to create a grainy texture and add shadows.







# YOUR GUIDE ON THIS RAW ART JOURNEY



## »ABOUT MARIEKE BLOKLAND

Hey, I'm Marieke Blokland, the artist behind **STUDIO BLOKNOTE**. I help people process life through raw, expressive art journaling. No fluff, no perfection: just raw marks, layers, and emotion on paper.

**ART** has always been my way to make sense of things. I don't do polished. I create from a place of instinct, using bold strokes, muted colors, and raw textures. My work is about feeling, not just aesthetics.

If you're here, you probably feel the pull too. That urge to create, to express, to let it out. I want to help you embrace that. To show you how art can be a space for grief, healing, rebellion, and play.

## READY TO DIVE IN?

**WEBSITE:** [studiobloknote.com](http://studiobloknote.com)

**YOUTUBE:** [youtube.com/@studiobloknote](https://youtube.com/@studiobloknote)

**INSTAGRAM:** [instagram.com/studiobloknote](https://instagram.com/studiobloknote)

»\*The art of raw  
self-expression



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