

## Tip #85

### *MORE found art supplies*

Keep an open mind when looking for a tool to fit the job at hand - it isn't necessary to have a "texture brush" to paint texture, after all, or a "blender" to blend with! Many things can perform more than one function or be used in a variety of ways, if you just let your mind play a bit.

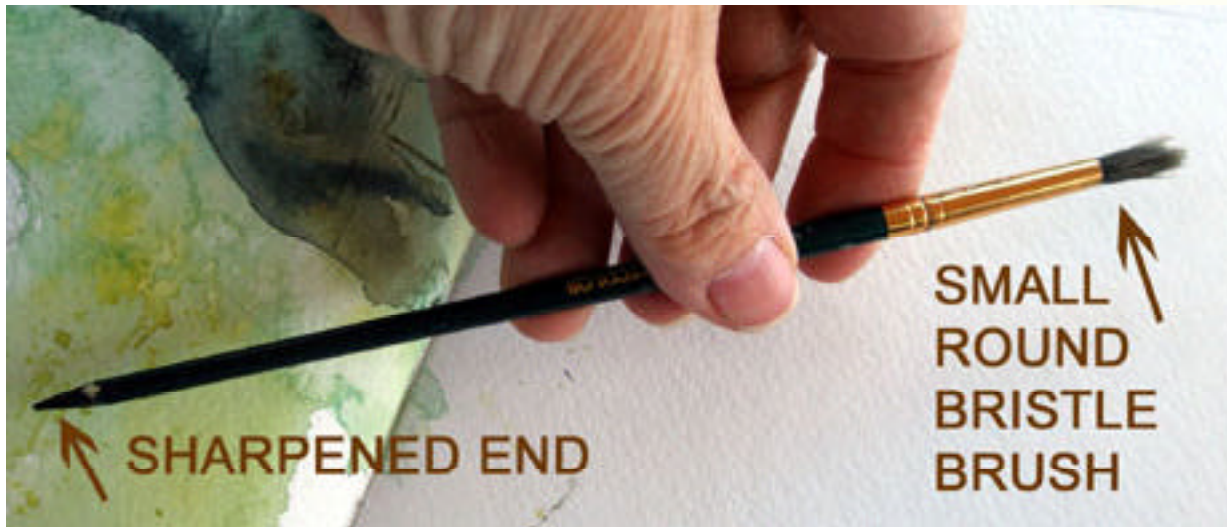
#### 85-1, Bamboo pen

Artists are often on the lookout for a good applicator for liquid mask, especially for fine lines ... or how about the perfect brush to paint those tree limbs and such? You may already have the solution on hand ... a bamboo pen fills both these needs! Maskoid dries on the nib and can be easily rubbed off, too. Paint flows off the nib and your lines get finer, so they make wonderful branches and twigs. (Find these in art supply stores, calligraphy stores, in stationers or office supply stores, or even at Amazon, where you can get a set of 3 bamboo pens -- <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000EJVUUG?ie=UTF8&tag=httpcathyjohi20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=390957&creativeASIN=B000EJVUUG> -- for very little cash outlay.)



Art 85-1

#### 85-2, Sharp Brush

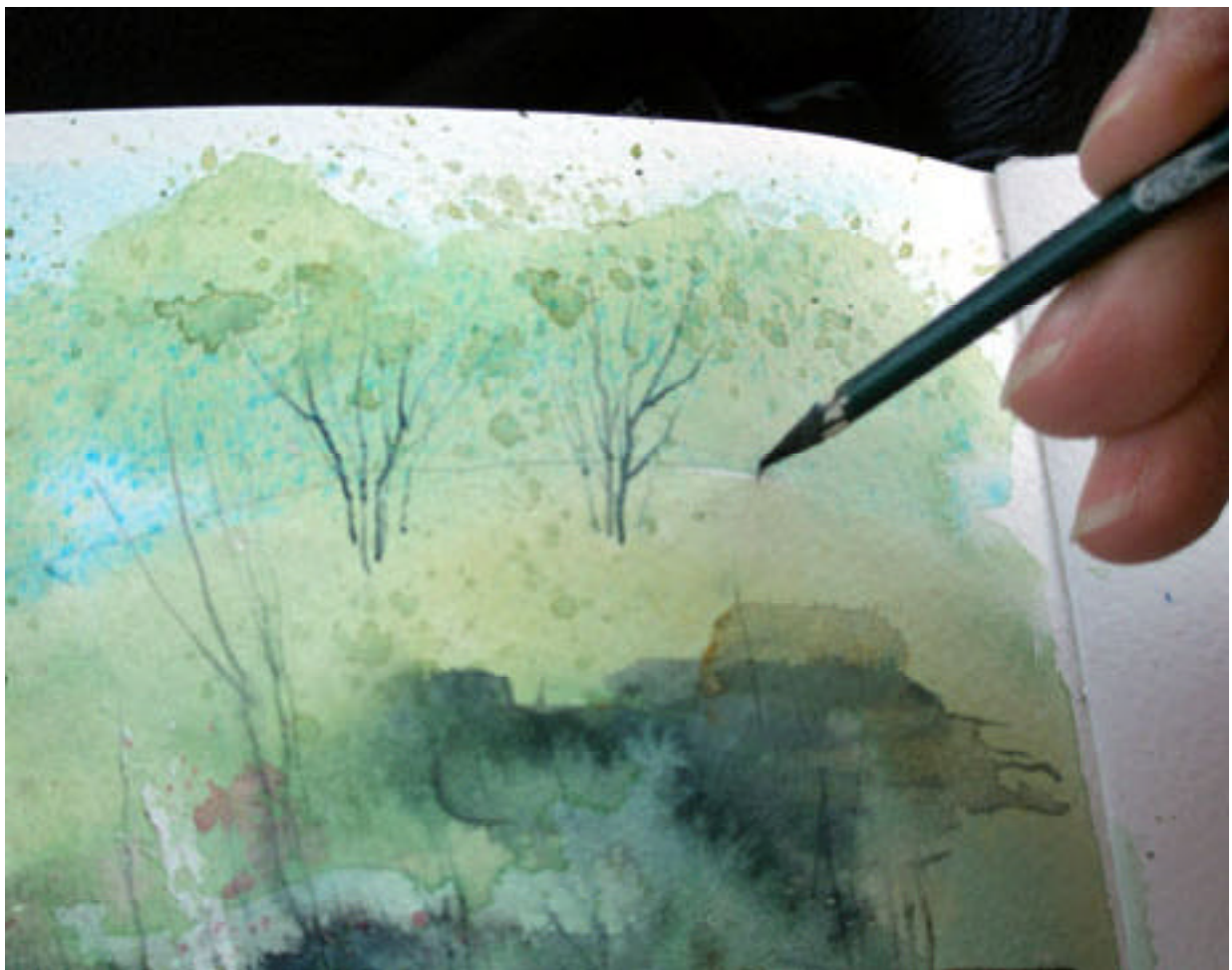


Art 85-2

If you find yourself with a sudden need and NO bamboo pen, you can break off the end of a wooden brush (or put it in your pencil sharpener) and have a handy, double-ended tool to do both these jobs, too, as well as painting. Just be careful not to poke yourself with the sharp end, if you're painting with the brush! Actually this is one of my favorite painting tools - a bristle brush on one end and a sharpened "painting stick" on the other.



### 85-3, Sharp Brush



Art 85-3

That's what I used to paint these twiggy lines, and to do the spatter, as you can see in more detail in my YouTube video, here: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfAO6OCqrUo&feature=channel\\_page](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfAO6OCqrUo&feature=channel_page) Or just pick up a stick or dowel rod, as mentioned here before ... these are free-to-cheap and work wonderfully well as art materials! One of my newer faves of this sort is a bamboo skewer from the grocery store. There are two sizes, one shish-kabob size and a smaller one -- they come 100 to a package, for VERY little money, and work beautifully, especially if I soak the tip in water for a bit. That seems to make it able to hold more liquid. (If you don't know what I'm talking about, here are all kinds of bamboo skewers! [http://www.amazon.com/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.com%2Fs%3Fie%3DUTF8%26x%3D0%26ref%255F%3Dnb%255Fss%255Fhg%26y%3D0%26field-keywords%3Dbamboo%2520skewers%26url%3Dsearch-alias%253Dgarden&tag=httpcathyjohi-20&linkCode=ur2&camp=1789&creative=390957](http://www.amazon.com/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.com%2Fs%3Fie%3DUTF8%26x%3D0%26ref%255F%3Dnb%255Fss%255Fhg%26y%3D0%26field-keywords%3Dbamboo%2520skewers%26url%3Dsearch-alias%253Dgarden&>tag=httpcathyjohi-20&linkCode=ur2&camp=1789&creative=390957))

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