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# CHRYSANTHEMUMS

## No. 12

Many artists claim that mums are harder to do than roses. This study is the exact way I teach my students. They have lots of fun with these lovely, airy flowers. Color, form and composition all help make dramatic designs. You will be pleased to find how really easy they are to paint. Enjoy them!

(A) – Using a No. 4 or 6 square quill brush, work the paint into the left corner by wiggling the brush back and forth, loading it with more paint on the one side.

1 – Start mums with an oval. About one third down will be where all petals will meet. Petals are easily made with a square shader. However, some prefer a pointed brush. Try both!

2 – Using the comma stroke as illustrated in (A), make a “C” forward or backward. Bring all strokes to starting point of oval. You will be pleased to see a mum form!

3 – Overlap petals completely around oval. Wipe out for highlights if needed. However, try pressing the brush down and then lifting quickly and lightly. A highlight will result. Stop when it looks good. Overworking makes for muddy colors and harshness.

4 – This shows how a mum unfolds. Buds are round and the flower protrudes from the top. As petals unfold they fall down to cover the green of the bud. Stems are green and have leaves the full length of them.

5 – Leaves - I drew an actual leaf so you can see the shape. First firings are kept light, using lighter shades of green.

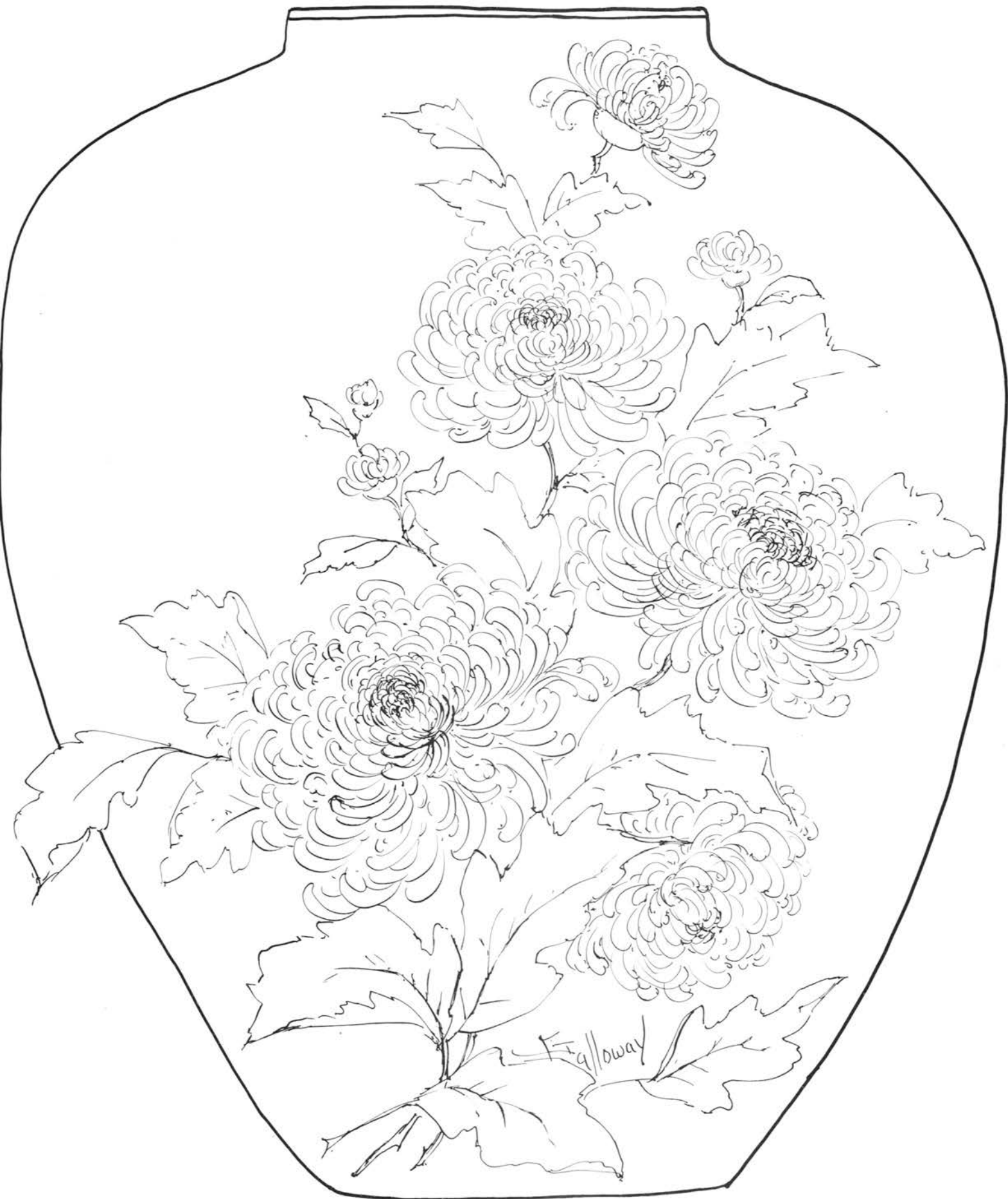
First Firing – Have design that is graceful with movement. Flowers are the focal point with leaves and stems as accessories. Colors may be any choice you desire. When you choose yellow, use a touch of yellow brown with it on this firing. Chestnut brown and sienna brown make lovely rust colors. Lavender and pink mums are beautiful. Soft pink and mauve were used on the design with the blue scroll. Leaves and stems are made with light shades of green. A fun way to practice the “C” strokes is to brush or pad background on and wipe out mums with a clean dry brush. Use turpentine to clean paint out of brush then dry carefully. You will be pleased with your “white” mums.

Second Firing – Shade flowers by bringing a deeper value of color used on first firing under petals and toward center. Bring dark colors next to the mum bringing out petals. Leaves are shaded with darker greens. Leave highlight on leaves. Background needs some yellow for sunshine. This adds warmth and airiness to your design. Use complimentary colors next to the flowers. For instance, try blue next to orange and lavender next to yellow. Greens are flattering to all colors. Use what you like! Have fun with it! By the way, did you know if you add a few drops of clorox to the water, cut mums will last longer and not have an odor? Scrolls are illustrated as a “C” and an “S”. This is really all they are! Wasn't that easy?

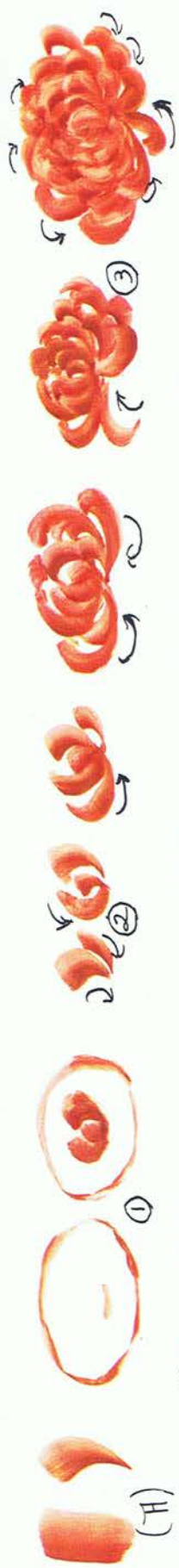
Third Firing – Deepen colors as desired.

HAPPY PAINTING!









Chrysanthemums

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Second  
Firing



First  
Firing

