

## Paint musical instruments in the Braque style

### What is the Braque style?

- He used **flat planes of muted colour** to define overlapping surfaces
- His forms were **subtly modelled**, sometimes with gentle gradients or impasto — **not hard-lined or overly graphic**
- He integrated **texture** through brushwork and paper collage, **not patterns**
- His Cubism is about **depth, fragmentation, harmony**, and **structure**, not gimmick

### Step 1: Choose Your Instruments and Prepare Your Workspace

Georges Braque was famous for painting musical instruments in a Cubist style, where he broke up objects into shapes and showed them from different angles at the same time.

Let's begin by choosing your musical instruments and setting up your workspace:

### You Will Need:

- A pencil and eraser
- A ruler
- A sheet of thick paper or canvas
- Acrylic or water-based oil paints
- Paintbrushes in different sizes
- A mixing palette and a pot of water
- A photo or drawing of one or two musical instruments (e.g., violin, guitar, trumpet, mandolin, or saxophone)

### What To Do:

1. Look at pictures of instruments Braque liked to paint—like guitars and violins.
2. Choose 1 or 2 musical instruments that you like the look of.
3. Place them in front of you or print a picture of them.
4. Clear your workspace so you have space to draw and paint.

5. Lightly sketch a rectangle or square frame on your paper — this will help guide your composition.



### 🎵 Artist Tip:

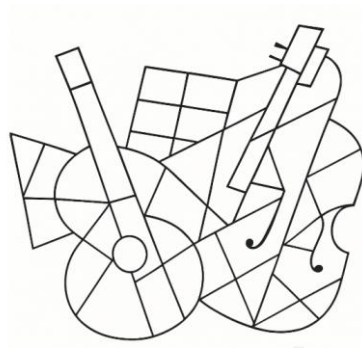
Braque didn't create the whole instrument in one go. He often showed parts of it — a curve of the guitar, the strings, the sound hole — from different angles.

### 🎨 Step 2: Break the Instruments into Shapes

Now that you've sketched your instruments, it's time to turn them into a Cubist-style image like Georges Braque did. Braque liked to *deconstruct* objects — that means breaking them into simple shapes like rectangles, triangles, circles, and curves. He would show parts of the object from different viewpoints at once.

### 📄 What To Do:

1. Look at your instrument outlines and lightly draw straight lines *across* the instruments using your ruler. These lines should divide the instruments into geometric chunks.
2. Think about where curves meet corners — add shapes like ovals and triangles to show different views of the parts.
3. Try drawing one part (like the strings, sound hole, or pegs) more than once in different places.
4. Don't worry about making it perfect — Cubism is about *breaking the rules of perspective!*



### 🎵 Artist Tip:

Braque often overlapped and repeated shapes. Let your lines *cross over* the instruments and go behind them too — this adds energy and movement.

### 🎨 Step 3: Paint Your Cubist Composition

Now it's time to bring your musical Cubist artwork to life with **muted colours** and **earthy tones**, just like Georges Braque used in his paintings. He often painted in soft browns, ochres, greys, creams, and muted greens — keeping the colours natural, not too bright.

### 📄 What To Do:

1. Choose a limited colour palette — around 4 to 6 natural colours (like brown, beige, grey, olive green, soft blue, or warm cream).
2. Use one colour per section or pattern. Try to balance them across the artwork so the colours repeat and feel connected.
3. Paint neatly inside the shapes, using smaller brushes for details.
4. Let some white areas show through — Braque often left parts unpainted to keep the piece light and balanced.



**🎵 Artist Tip:**

Keep your brushstrokes soft and even. If you're using acrylics, you can mix in a little white to make the colours more muted.