

Create a Night-Time Harbour scene in the Style of Signac



What You'll Need:

- A4 canvas or thick paper
- Acrylic or gouache paints (navy, cobalt, ultramarine, violet, orange, yellow, white)
- Fine round brush or cotton buds for dotting
- Pencil for sketching

Step 1: Light Pencil Sketch

Sketch the basic outlines:

- Crescent moon and scattered stars
- Calm water surface
- Three sailboats with sails raised
- Distant shoreline
- Lighthouse and small clustered houses on the right



Step 2: Paint the Night Sky

- Use *pointillism technique* (small, neat dots).
- Dot in deep blues and navy from top of sky downward.
- Add violet and indigo for depth.
- Dot small yellow stars and a pale yellow crescent moon.
- Keep dots evenly spaced but varied in hue.

Step 3: Dot the Sailboats

- Use darker blue or black for the boat hulls.
- Dot the sails with subtle warm tones: orange and yellow to reflect moonlight.
- Use a mix of purple and navy in shadows.

Step 4: Water Reflections

- Mirror the sailboat shapes and lighthouse glow using **horizontal dots** in orange, yellow, and light blue.
- Darker blue and navy fill the rest of the water surface.
- Dots can be slightly denser here to build texture.



Step 5: Dot the Coastal Town & Lighthouse

- For buildings, use violet, navy, and soft orange highlights.
- Lighthouse should have warm yellow glow reflecting into water.
- Use vertical orange dots under the lighthouse for light reflection.
- Add glowing windows using small yellow and orange dots.



Final Tips

- Keep all paint layers as dots—no brushstrokes.
- Layer different colours by dotting over dry areas to add depth.
- Use complementary colours (e.g. blue/orange) to add contrast and glow.