

## Painting Like Vincent van Gogh

### Who is Vincent van Gogh?

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch artist who painted with **strong emotions**, **bright colours**, and **thick, swirling brushstrokes**. He painted everyday things — like **sunflowers**, **stars**, and **his bedroom** — but made them feel **alive and full of energy**.

**To create a picture like this, you will need:**

- Acrylic or water based oil paints
- A selection of brushes and palette knives
- Paper

Van Gogh didn't paint what things looked like exactly — he painted how they **felt** to him inside.

### Painting sunflowers



#### Step 1: Sketch the Basic Shape of the Vase and Flowers

- Begin by drawing a simple vase in the middle of your paper. The vase can be an oval or a more classic shape, like a bottle.

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- Next, sketch the outlines of the flowers, focusing on the main stems. You don't need to be perfect—Van Gogh's flowers were often quite wild and irregular!

### Step 2: Add Details to the Flowers

- Add more petals to your flowers. Sunflower petals are long and pointed, so draw them around the centre of each flower.
- Some flowers will have a few leaves on their stems—add these as well. The petals should look dynamic, not too uniform.

### Step 3: Draw the Flower Centres

- Van Gogh's sunflowers often had large, round centres with a textured look. Use little curved lines inside each flower to create the appearance of seeds.



### Step 4: Start Painting the Vase

- Paint the vase with a muted or neutral colour to let the flowers pop. Van Gogh often used earthy tones for the vase, like browns and yellows.

### Step 5: Add the Sunflower Petals

- For the flowers, use a bright yellow to fill in the petals. Let the colours blend together to give a sense of movement.
- You can also use a little orange or red to add depth and highlight certain areas of the petals.

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### Step 6: Paint the Centres of the Sunflowers

- Use a dark brown or gold colour to paint the centre of the flowers. Add darker shades around the edges to give them depth and texture.

### Step 7: Add Texture to the Background

- Van Gogh's paintings often had thick, expressive brush strokes in the background. You can mimic this style by using short, curved strokes with green, brown, or yellow to give texture and energy to the surrounding area.

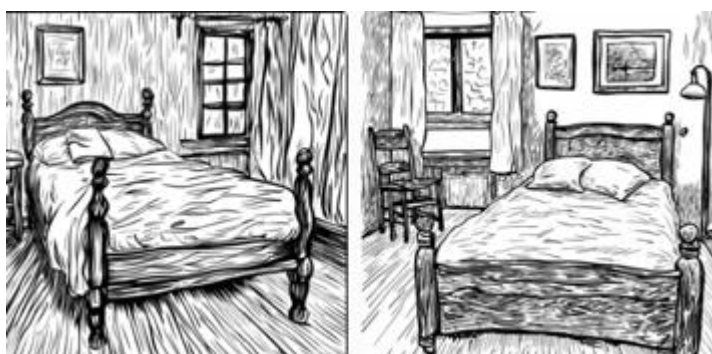
### Step 8: Final Touches

- Add leaves with darker green, and don't forget to give them texture by painting in the direction of the leaf veins.
- Finally, add any extra details or highlights to the petals or vase to give your artwork a unique, lively feel.

## More Van Gogh Art ideas!

1. Can you sketch your own bedroom in the style of "Bedroom at Arles"?

Here are some examples:



How would you colour your picture?

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2. Try creating a **bold self-portrait** — using **thick lines** and **vivid colours** just like Van Gogh!