

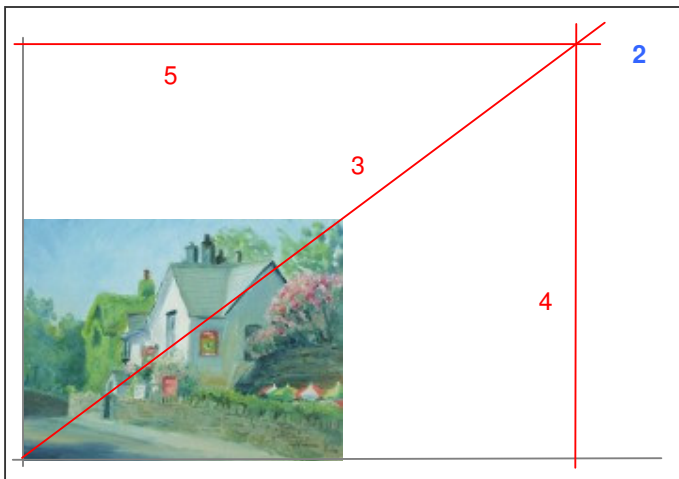


Squaring Up

Here's a way of scaling a drawing up from a smaller original so you can draw it accurately onto your watercolour paper.

Step 1.

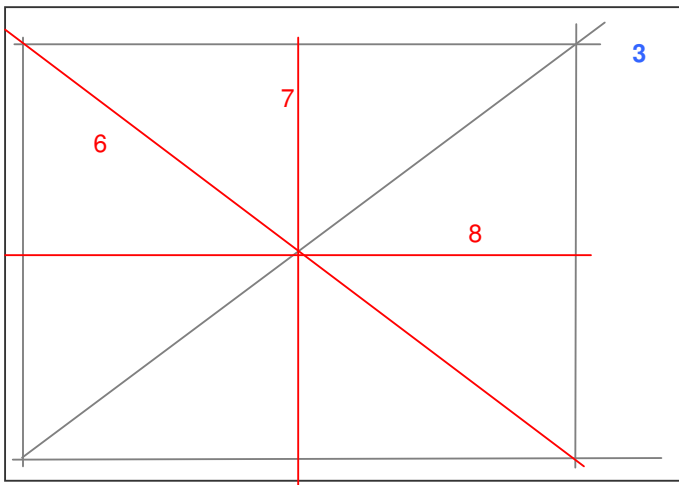
Place your original picture onto your paper and draw a horizontal line along its base (1) and a vertical line up the left hand side (2) as shown here in red.



Step 2.

Draw a diagonal line through the picture as shown (3) (place some tracing paper over your original if you don't want to draw directly onto it. Keep this line and all the lines that follow very faint, as you will eventually want to erase them all.

Then draw another vertical (4) and horizontal (5) line to make the top and right side of the picture. The resulting rectangle will have exactly the same proportions as your original picture.

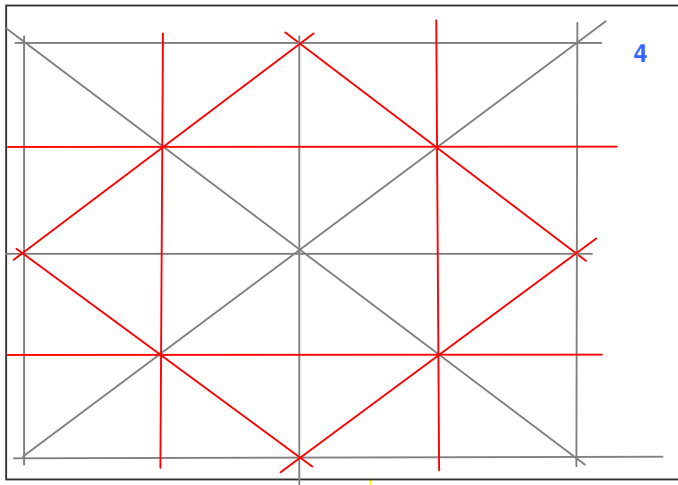


Step 3.

Remove the original from your drawing paper. Then draw in the other diagonal line across the corners on your drawing paper (6). You can then draw another vertical (7) and horizontal (8) through the centre where the lines cross to divide the paper into four quarters.

Repeat this procedure on the original picture.

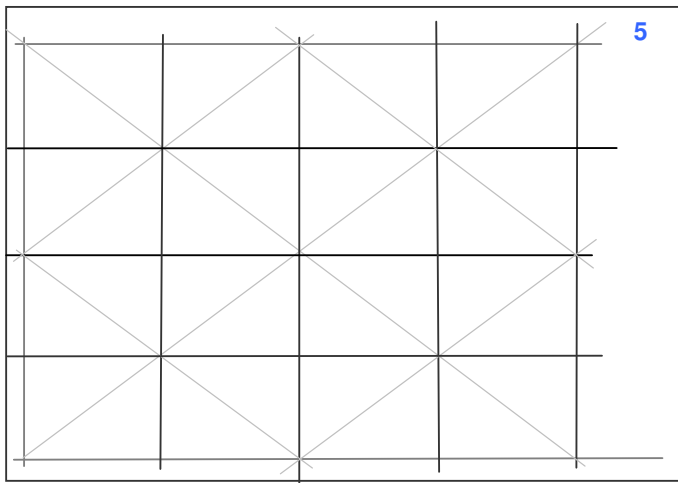
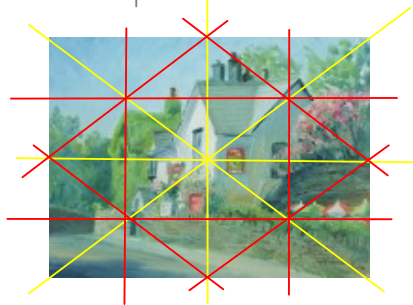




Step 4

Now you can continue adding diagonal lines through each of the quarters, and add more horizontal and vertical lines which will go through the centre of each X where each set of diagonals cross.

Repeat this on the original picture.



Step 5.

You can now copy your picture onto the paper using the triangles that you have constructed, or if you prefer, erase the diagonal lines to just leave the small rectangles.



All this may seem a bit cumbersome at first to the non-mathematically minded artist, but it actually doesn't take that long when you understand the process, and it does speed up the drawing process considerably. Many professional artists use this method in their paintings.

Choose a photo or sketch that you want to enlarge and have a go at repeating this process from memory.