

Painter Essentials 4 for Kids

But grown-up's can try it too!!!

By Roger Wambolt

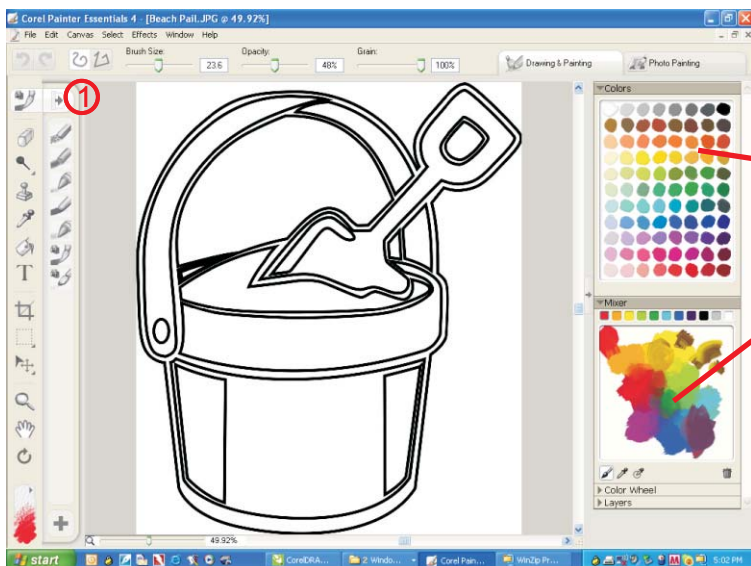
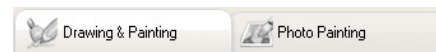
Hello boys & girls, my name is Roger and I am going to show you how you can take your favorite coloring book picture and make it look like a beautiful painting that you can then print out for your mom, dad or your favorite family member.

It is very easy to do and all you need is a great little program called Corel Painter Essentials 4 and a picture that you want to see painted.

The first thing that we need to do is to pick one of our favorite pictures that we can color. I have looked through my coloring books and have found one that I like. Once you have yours, we will need to scan the picture in. To scan the picture in, you may need the help from a parent or your big brother or big sister. If you are not able to scan a picture in, you can also do a search on the internet for a picture to color. An easy way to find one is to type in the words "coloring book pictures", into www.Google.com or www.Yahoo.com. I have scanned mine in so we can start and I will show you what you need to do.

We will start by launching Painter Essentials 4. From the **Welcome Screen**, we need to click on the button that reads **Open another file**. It is just below **Open Existing File**. This will allow us to browse to where we have saved the scanned picture that we want to color and open it up.

When the picture opens up, you will see two tabs on the top right side of the window. This will allow us to change from the **Photo Painting** side to the **Drawing & Painting** side. We are going to start on the **Drawing & Painting** side, so click on that tab.



Now before we start to color, let me explain to you what some of these things here are for.

On the right side at the top here, we have a whole bunch of colors that we can pick from. It is like a big box of paints that we can use.

Down here we have what is called the **Mixer**. This is where you can make almost any color that you want. All you have to do is mix them with the brush.

On the left side of the screen, you can click on this icon and it will open up a **brush drawer**. Here you will find all sorts of brushes, pencils, crayons, pencil crayons and even be able to paint with water colors.



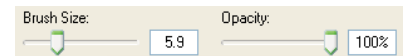
On the top of the screen we have what is called a **Property bar**. The Property bar will let us change the setting of our brushes and other tools. We can make the brush size smaller or bigger, change the amount of paint we put on and other things like that.

Now that we know where the main tools are, we can start to color our image. The first thing we will do is pick the brush that we want to use. I am going to color my bucket with chalk, but you can use what ever brush you like. To use the **Square Chalk**, open the **Brush Drawer** and under the selection for Dry media I will select **Square Chalk**.



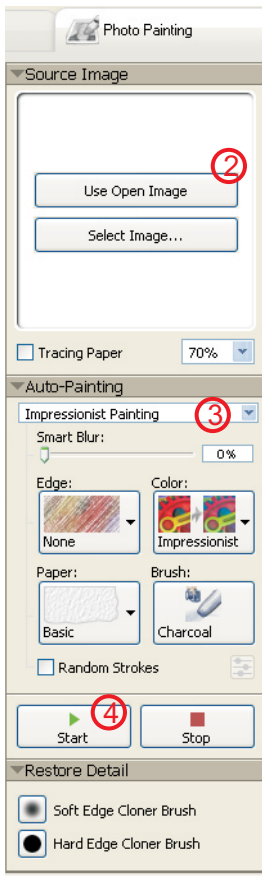
After I have my **Square Chalk** selected, I will click on the color that I am going to use first. I will do this in the **color palette** on the right. I'm going to use yellow for my bucket. Later I will color the shovel red.

On the **Property bar**, I will change the size of my chalk to something small so that I can get into the tight areas. I can make it bigger when I need to color bigger areas.



Now I will start to color. Sometimes when I color, I go outside the line, but that's alright, I can use the eraser on the left side in the **tool box**. All I have to do is click on it, erase the mistakes and then click on my brush again.

This is fun! Now that I have finished my coloring, this is where the magic comes in. I can now click on that other tab that I told you about, at the top on the right and it will put my picture into the **Photo Painting** side. Here I can make my picture look like a really cool painting that you might see in an art gallery or a museum.



If you have ever had your mom or dad take you to an art gallery you might have seen a style of painting that they call impressionism. This style uses little dabs of paint all over the canvas to create the subject that is being painted. One of the most famous painters that used this style was Claude Monet from France. This is the style that I am going to use, but you can pick which ever one you want. You need to experiment and have fun.

Click on the button that says **Use Open Image** (2). This will put a piece of tracing paper on top of your picture and we will be painting on that. Next, under **Auto-Painting**, click the drop-down list and select **Impressionist Painting** (3) and then click the **Start** (4) button. It is fun to watch as Painter Essentials automatically creates a masterpiece from your drawing right before your eyes.

When the program has finished creating your painting you can click on the **Drawing & Painting** tab and sign your name to it. Open the **Brush Drawer** and in the **Pencils & Pens** category, select the **Scratchboard Tool**. This will give you a nice brush that you can use to write your name on your painting.

That's all there is too it. Now that you can see how much fun it can be, and how easy it is, go find a picture and see what masterpiece you can create.

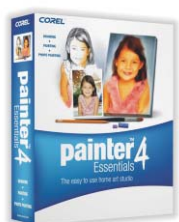


Photo-painting, drawing and painting software
Easily sketch, paint and turn your photos into paintings with this creative home digital art studio. A wide selection of brushes, paints, pens and paper textures lets you add unique touches to photos, create cards and scrapbooks, and complete other fun projects.