

Items to get you started

Starter Kit	
Humbrol Enamel Paints (14ml or 50ml) Red – No. 19 Black – No. 21 Green – No. 2 White – No. 22 Yellow – No. 69 Orange – No.18	Brush Cleaner (Turps or White Sprit) Round Brushers No. 2 and No.4 Rag for Brush cleaning Table sheet to work on Suitable clothing

Brush Types

BRUSH TYPES

Brushes are manufactured in a variety of materials, shapes and sizes. The most expensive being Sable, but there are also Sable-substitute, Hogs-hair, Squirrel, Sable/Nylon mixture, Nylon, etc. For most *Canal Art* work nylon is suitable because it resists chemical reaction and has a fair spring to the brush hairs. A disadvantage is that round brushes can get a 'hooked' end after frequent use. This hinders achieving a clean point to the end of brush strokes.

Shapes include Round, Flat or Square-edged, Rigger or Liner and Signwriters' brushes. Of these the round brush is most useful for painting on a smaller scale with the flat brush being better for large scale decoration such as on an actual narrow boat.

Flat brushes are sold by their width which at present is still an imperial size. Other brushes are sold by number, with No.000 being the smallest. For much of our *Canal Art* work round brushes, numbers 1 to 6, are most useful although it is not necessary to start with all six. Other shapes and sizes can be added as the art is developed. A general rule is to use the largest brush possible for a particular situation. For example a bigger brush would be required for painting the decoration on a water can as compared with a spoon.

Brushes are made up of three parts, Hairs, Ferrule and Handle. They are the main tool for the job so cheap ones will not do. Good brushes need looking after. Clean them frequently and do not let the paint get more than half way down the hairs. Do not use them to mix paint, an old one will do. After use put oil, vaseline or washing up liquid on the tip to help keep it's shape.

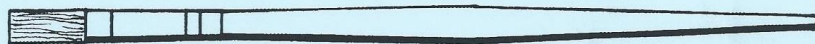
ROUND BRUSH

This name is a little misleading as the brush is pointed. It is a general purpose brush that can be used for all aspects of canal art.



FLAT OR SQUARE EDGED BRUSH

Useful for base coating and getting into square corners of panels. Can be used as an alternative to the round brush for crescent shapes such as petals or scrolls.



RIGGER OR LINER

The hairs on this brush are much longer than on the round brush. They are used on longer strokes including straight lines where it is easier to achieve a straighter line with the longer hairs.

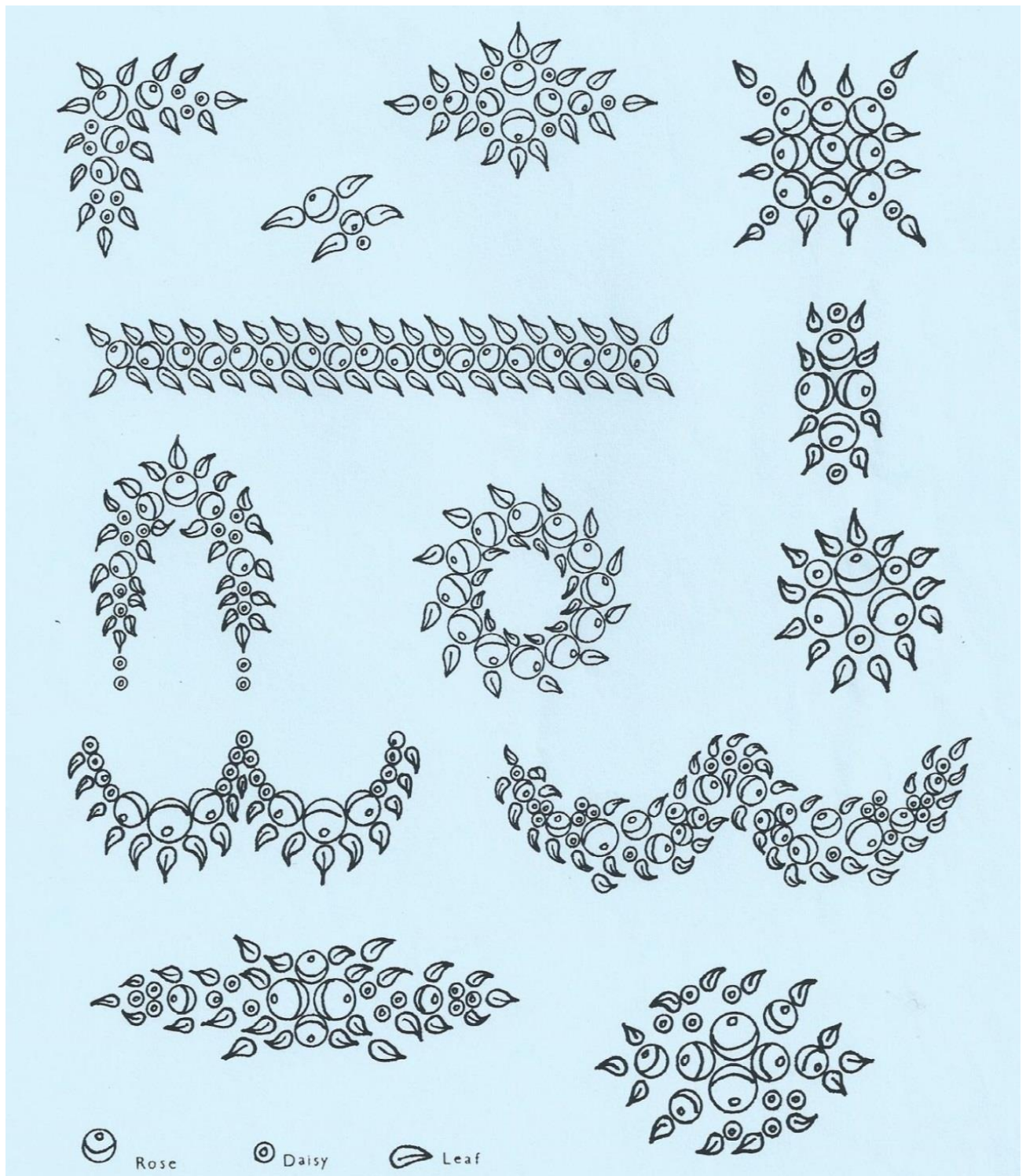


SIGNWRITER'S BRUSHES

Used for lettering. The curved shape means that when the brush is pressed down on the work the sides straighten out and become parallel so lines of even widths can be painted.



Selection of Swags



Construction of a Rose



Construction of a Bookmark

