

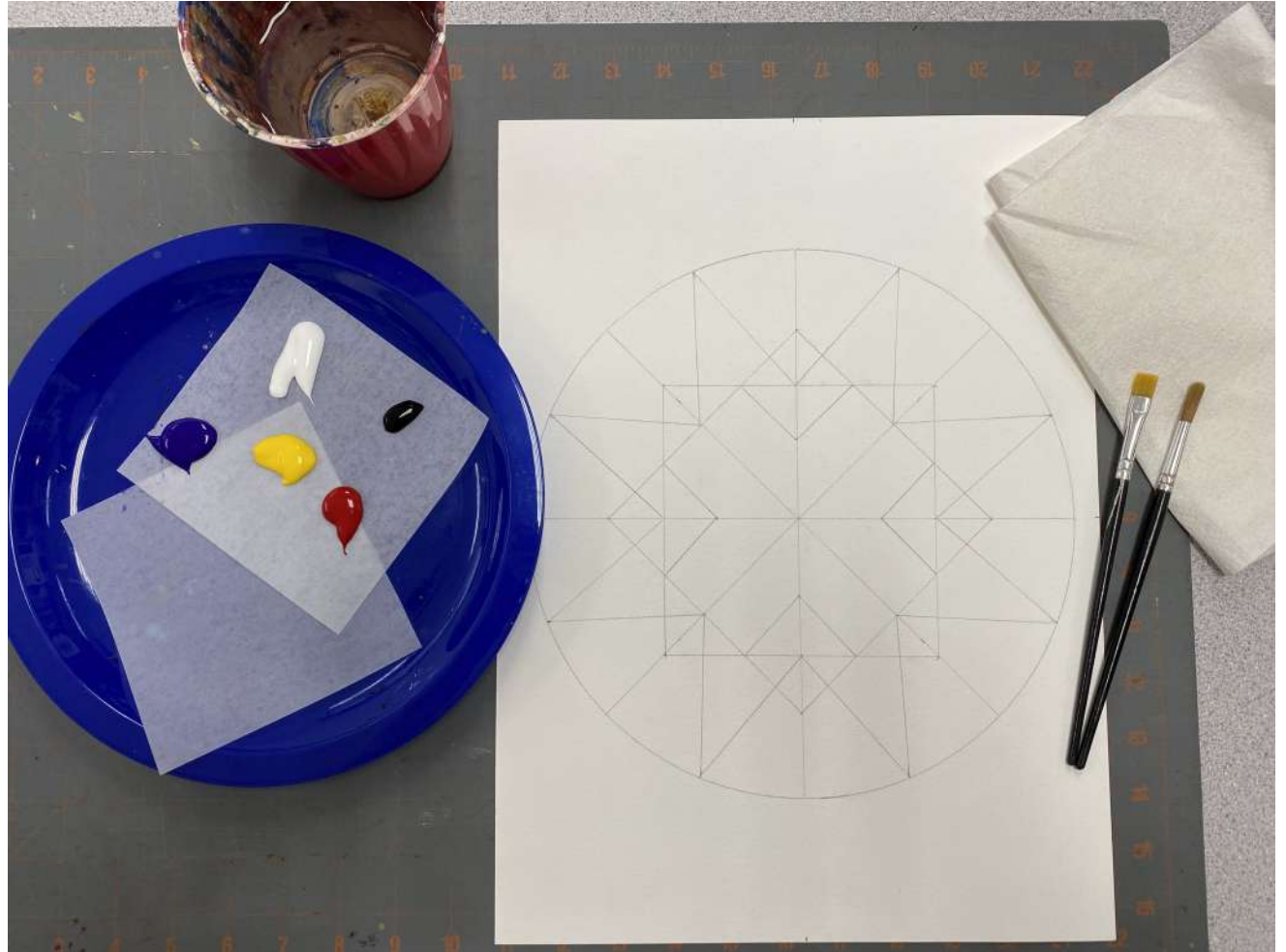
# Tips and Tricks to Painting Your Gem

The key to making your gem looking convincing is having **precise, crisp edges** on each of your facets. Gems have very clean cuts and if your edges are painted without that precision, the illusion falls away.

Of course this is a hard task to achieve on your own so I'm letting you you a little tool to make this absolutely do-able.

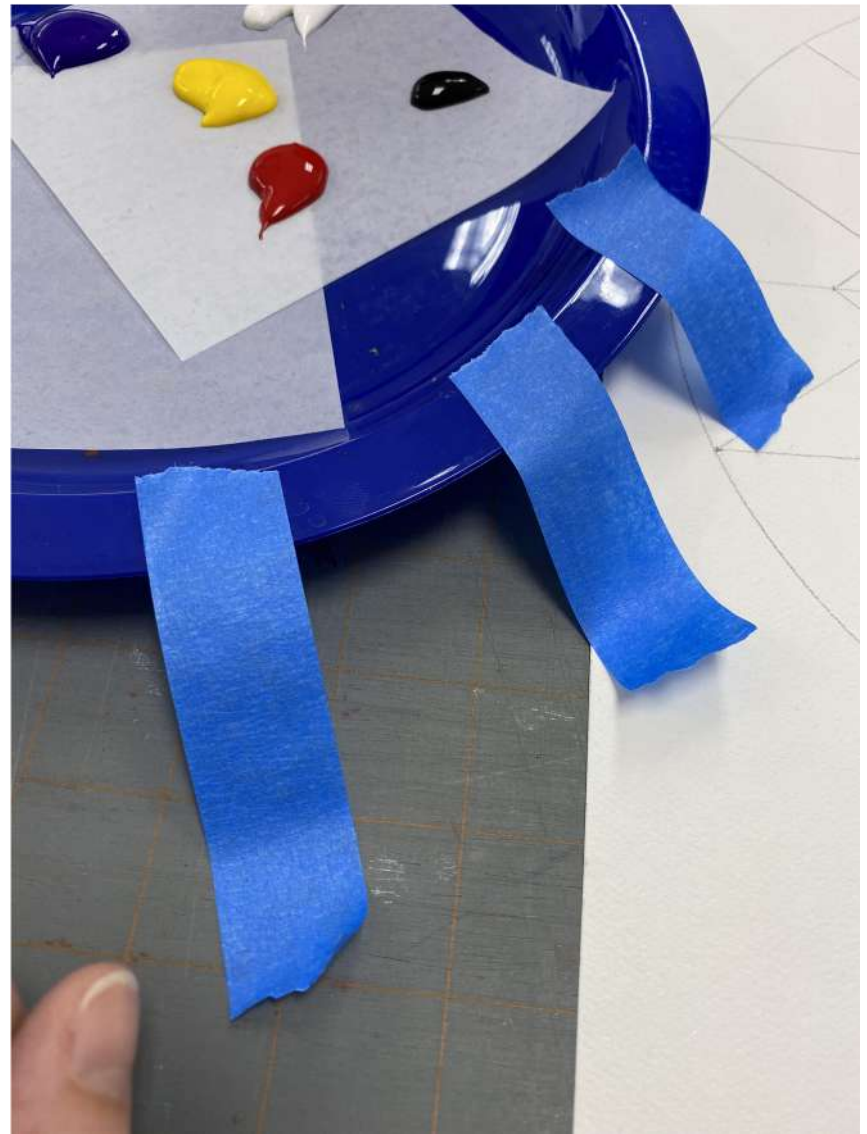
# First you need to collect your materials:

- A selection of the paint you're going to use for the day (start minimal and get more if you need it to help reduce waste).
- Brush(es)
- Water
- Paper towel



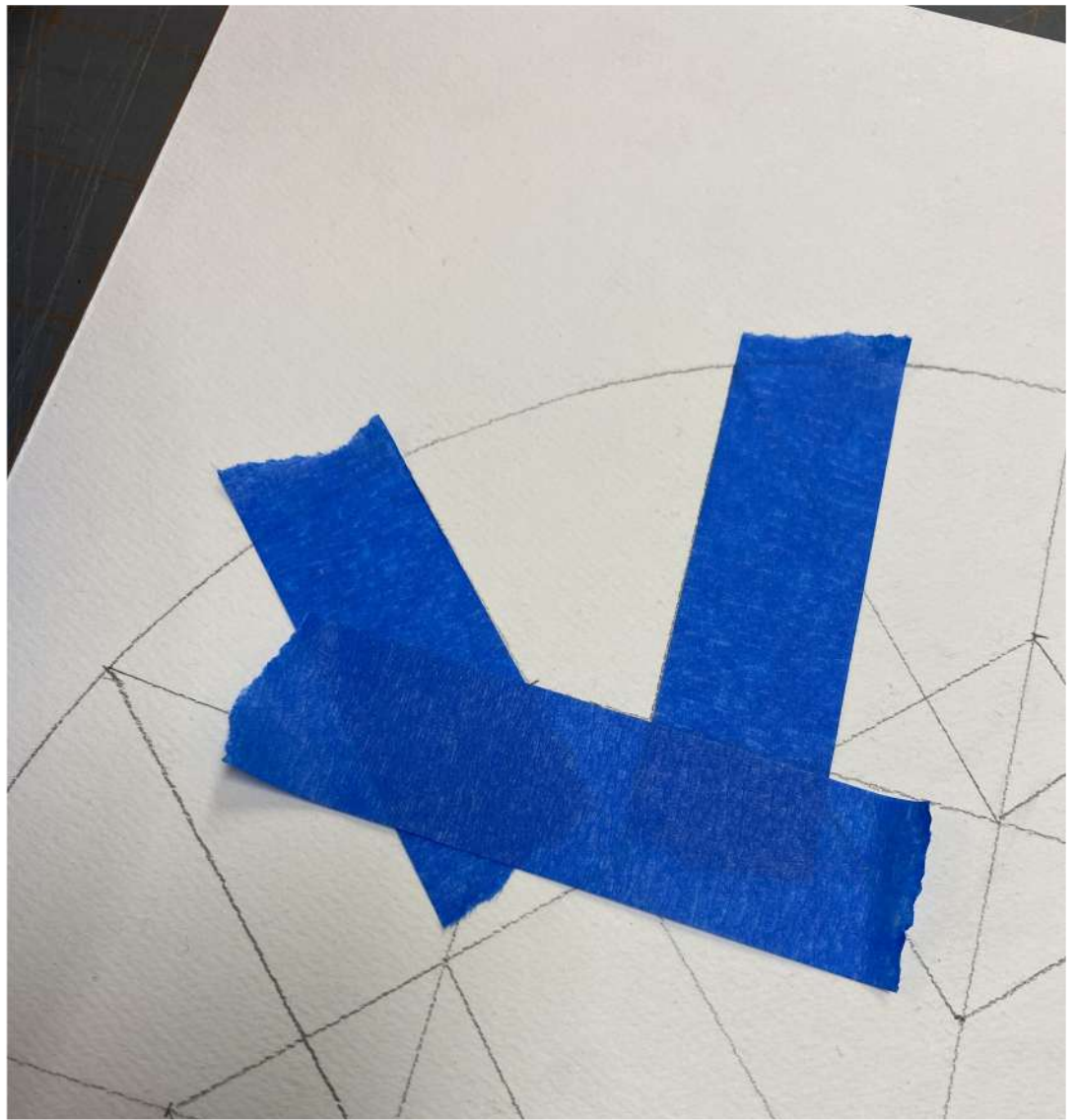
# AND... Blue painter's tape!

This will allow you to mask off your edges and allow you to JUST paint in space you want to and then you can gently peel it away when that space is dry, leaving you a crisp clean shape.



When you are getting tape, you **ONLY need 3 or four pieces and you can likely use them the whole day.** You can reuse the pieces again and again so long as you're letting the paint dry on them between uses (which doesn't take very much time at all).

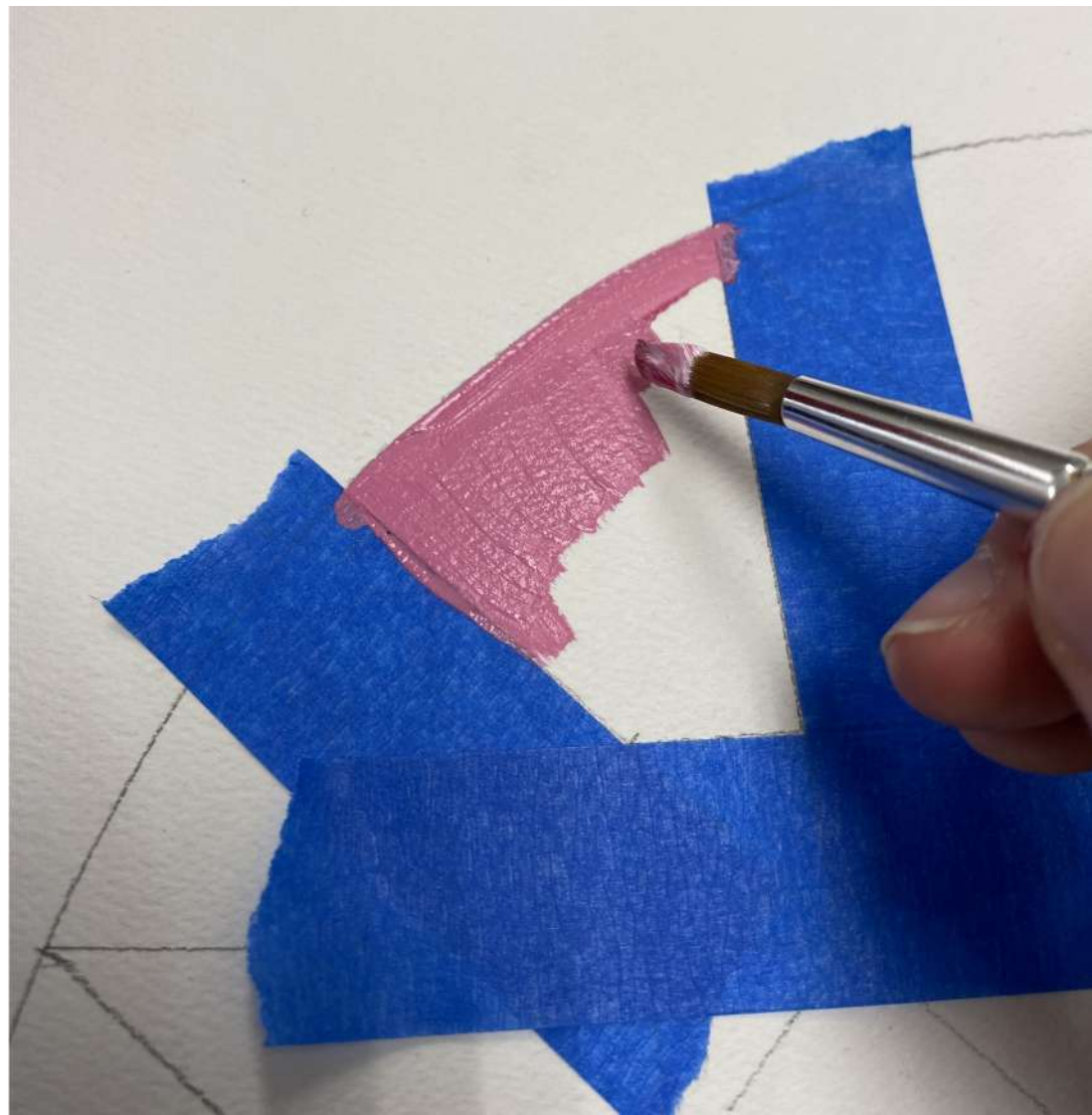
Begin by selecting the section you want to paint. Tape off the straight edges (you'll just have to freehand the curved edges on the outer border).

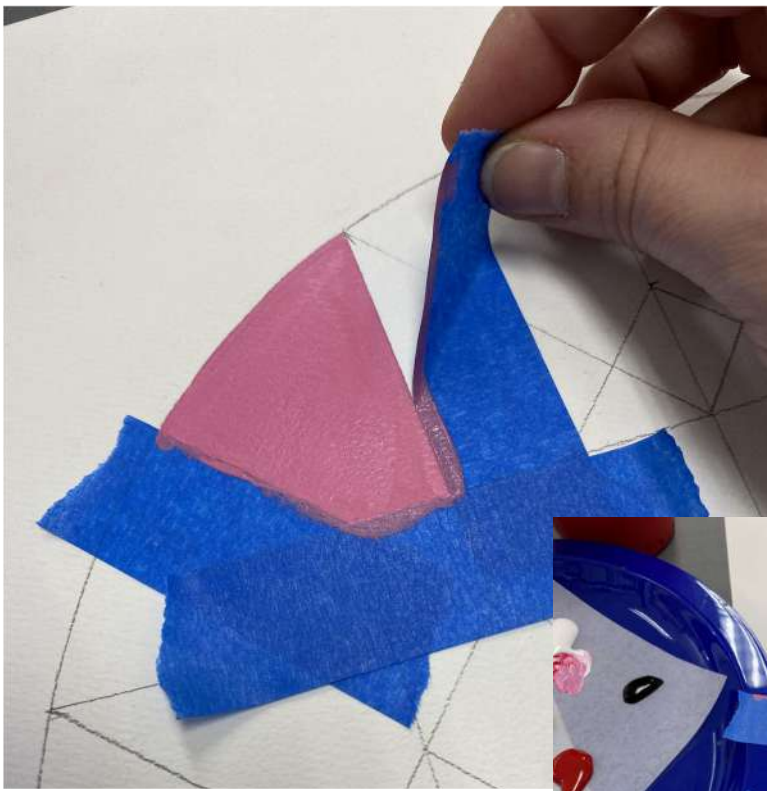




Carefully paint in  
the section you've  
masked off.

Try not to go over  
the areas with the  
tape **TOO MUCH**  
as you don't want  
any paint sneaking  
under the tape if  
you can help it.





Once your paint has started to dry (which will be very quickly) carefully peel the tape off at an angle and stick it onto your plate for safe keeping.

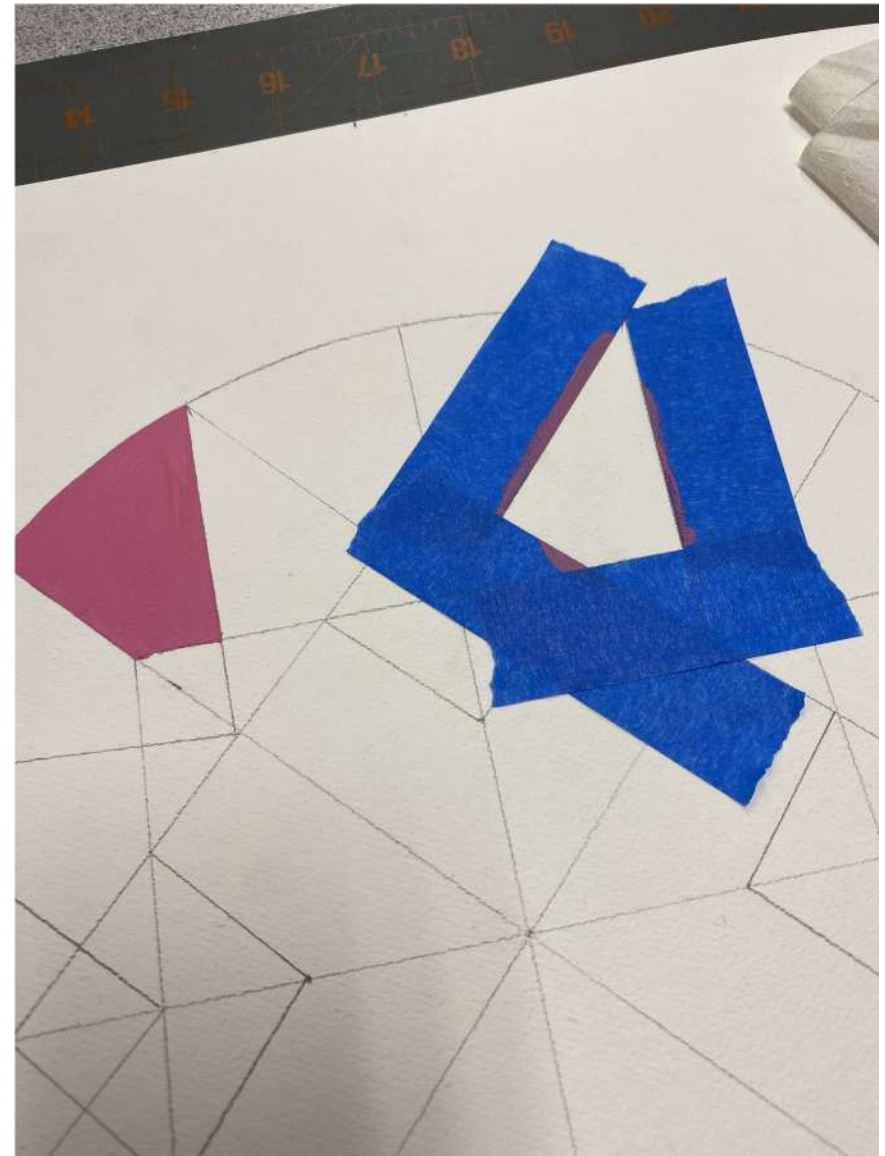


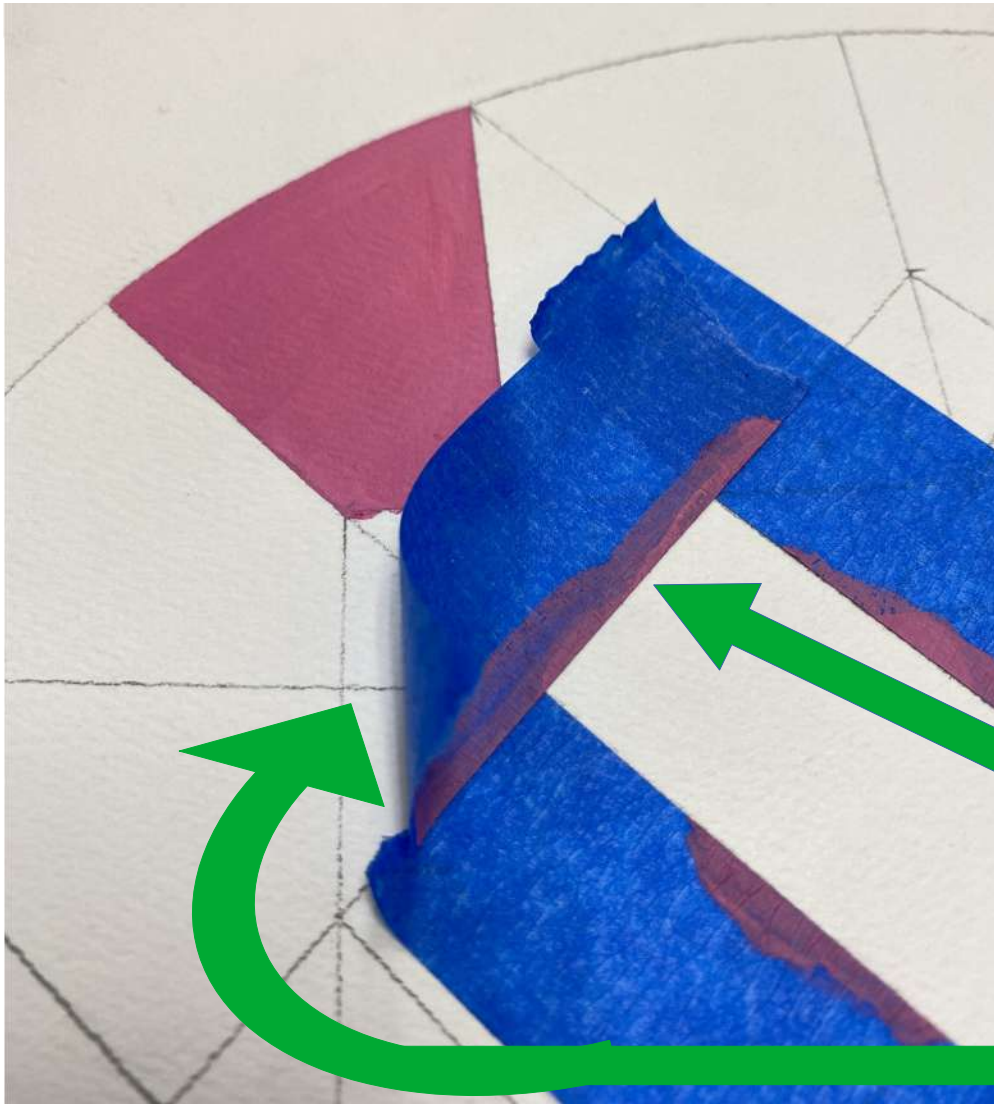
Once you know the paint is dried on the tape and it's "safe" to handle again, **find a new shape to mask off and start the process again.**



When choosing your next section, try to select one that is far enough away from your previously painted section so that you aren't applying tape on **\*potentially\*** wet paint/damp paper.

If you apply tape to wet paint or damp paper you run the risk of messing up your paint job or tearing your paper.





# Extra Tips

If you *do* have to lay tape down over an area that you have previously painted, only try to tack down the side of the tape you need, leaving the opposite side lifted up from the paper.



# Extra Tips

At some point you will probably have this happen...the paint sneaks under the tape because we have textured paper.

To help prevent this, try to paint towards your paper from the tape not from your paper towards the tape (this just pushes paint under the edges of the tape).

**Don't Push the Paint UNDER the Tape**



**Pull the Paint OVER, onto the Paper**





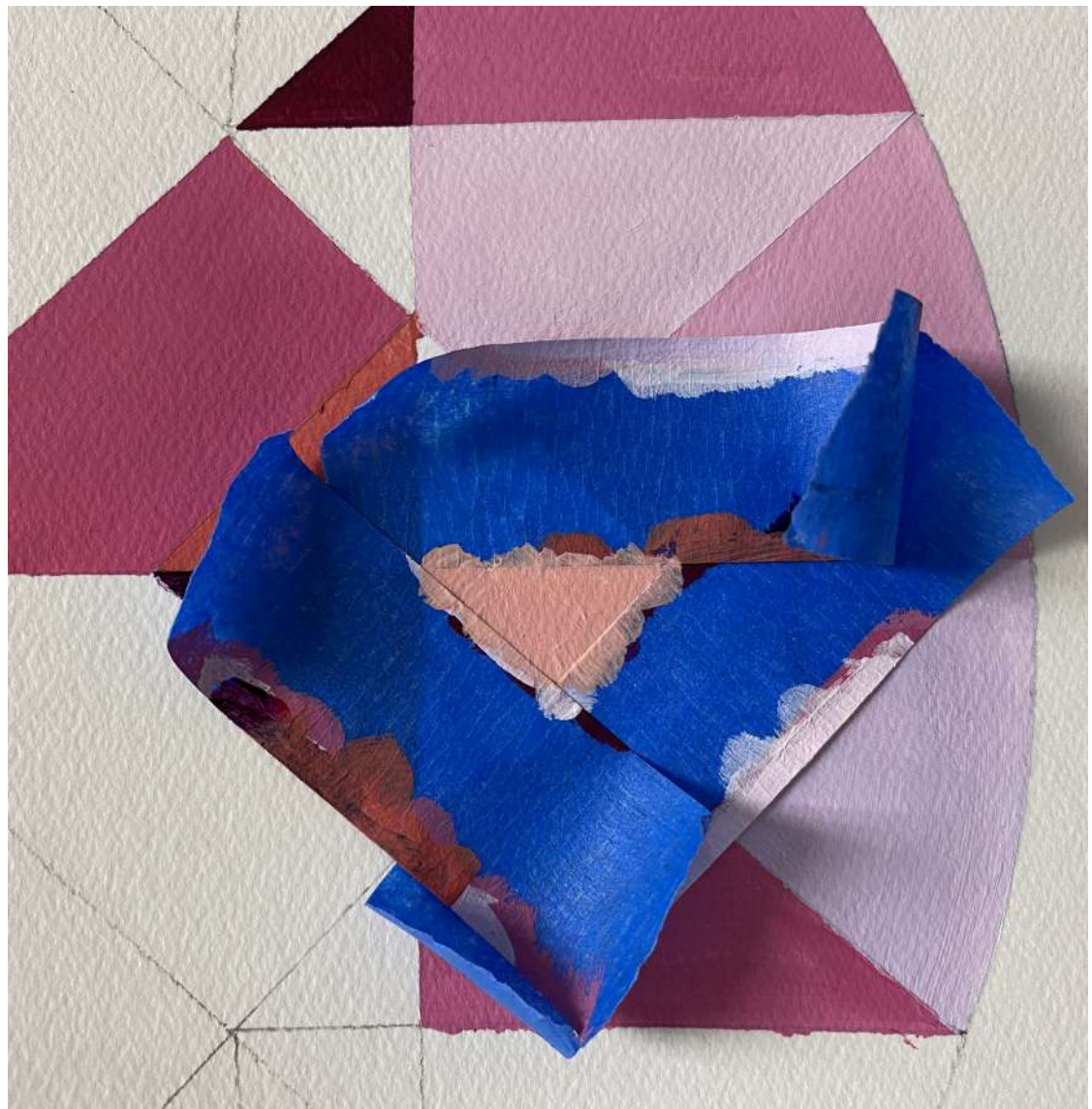


Ultimately, if you have this issue occur you can always just cover up the “mistake” with another layer of paint...

you might just have to free hand this process though so you'll need to practice having a steady hand.

Make sure the “mistake” is dry before you try to cover it up so you don't smear it and make a bigger mess than before.

Remember, you can use the same pieces of tape over and over again...I used these three for about a quarter of my design. However, at some point they will lose their stickiness and get too warped with paint so feel free to get more pieces when you need them.





# This is going to take time and patience but in the end they're going to look great!

Make sure you put a little thought into where you're to placing your values (there's no right or wrong way, but a little forethought is good) and make sure that you include some of the “outer analogous” colors too (the two that are on either side of your main color).

Also make sure to include a range of tints and shades (as well as tones) to show highlights and shadows in your faceted gem.

