



BRUSH STROKE BASICS

FLAT BRUSH PRACTICE GUIDES



How to Use this FolkArt Brush Stroke Basics Guide

Print the desired practice guide from your home computer, then use one of these two techniques to learn Brush Stroke Basics:



Practice your brush strokes by painting directly over the printed ones on your computer printout.

NOTE: You may need to print more than one copy of each Brush Stroke Basics Practice Guide.



As a protective layer, position a sheet of artist's tracing paper, waxed paper or parchment paper over the Brush Stroke Basics Practice Guide printout. Next, practice your brush strokes directly onto the protective layer.

NOTE: When using this technique, only one computer printout will be necessary.

Learn to Paint These Basic Flat Brush Strokes

Straight Stroke, Chisel Edge Stroke, Comma Stroke, "S" Stroke, "U" Stroke and the Half Circle Stroke to create a folk art flower.



[Click Here to Watch the How-To Video](#)



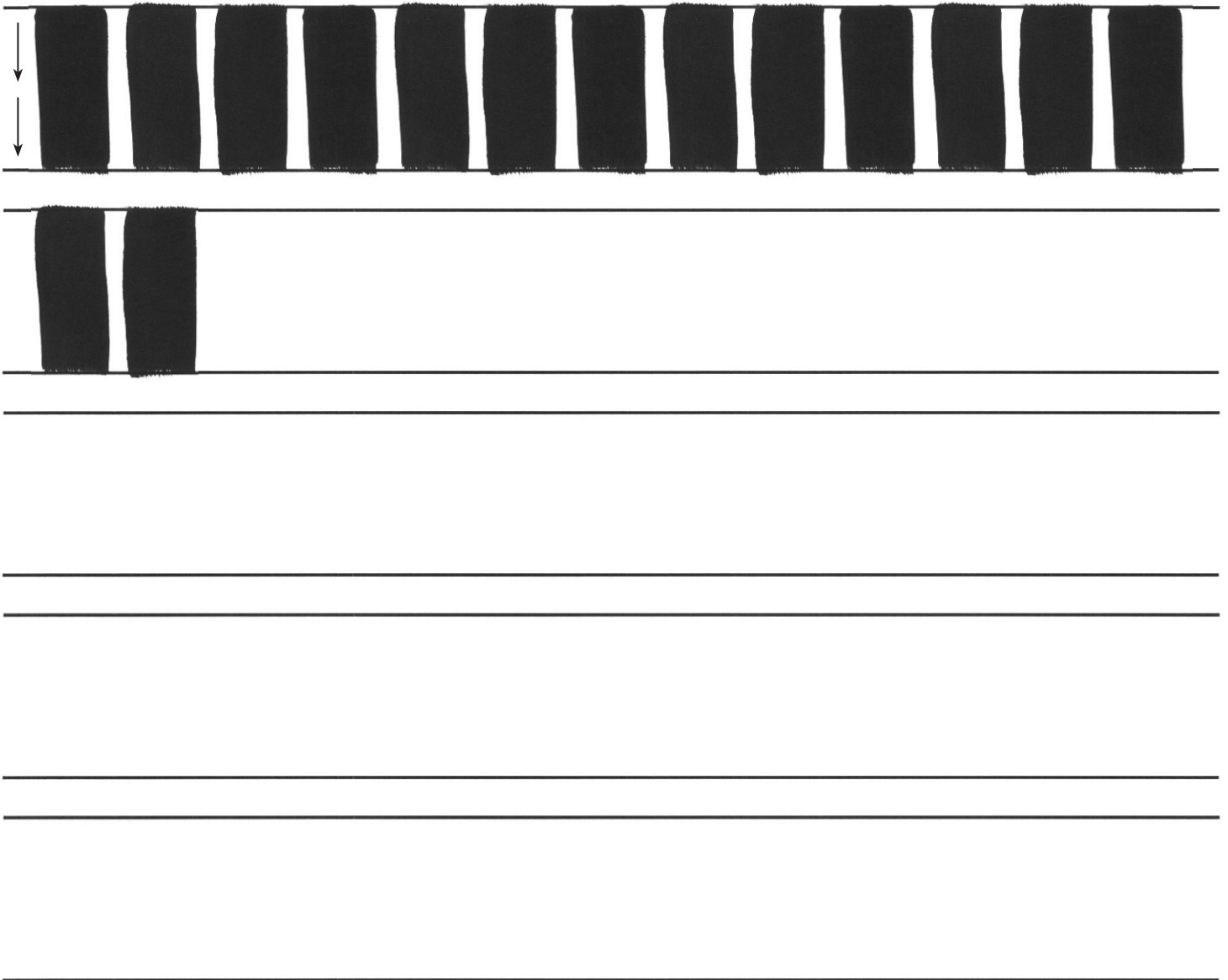
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Straight Stroke with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel or flat edge of the brush to the surface. Press down slightly. Pull the brush toward you while maintaining even pressure. Lift to end the stroke.

Straight strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created with a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





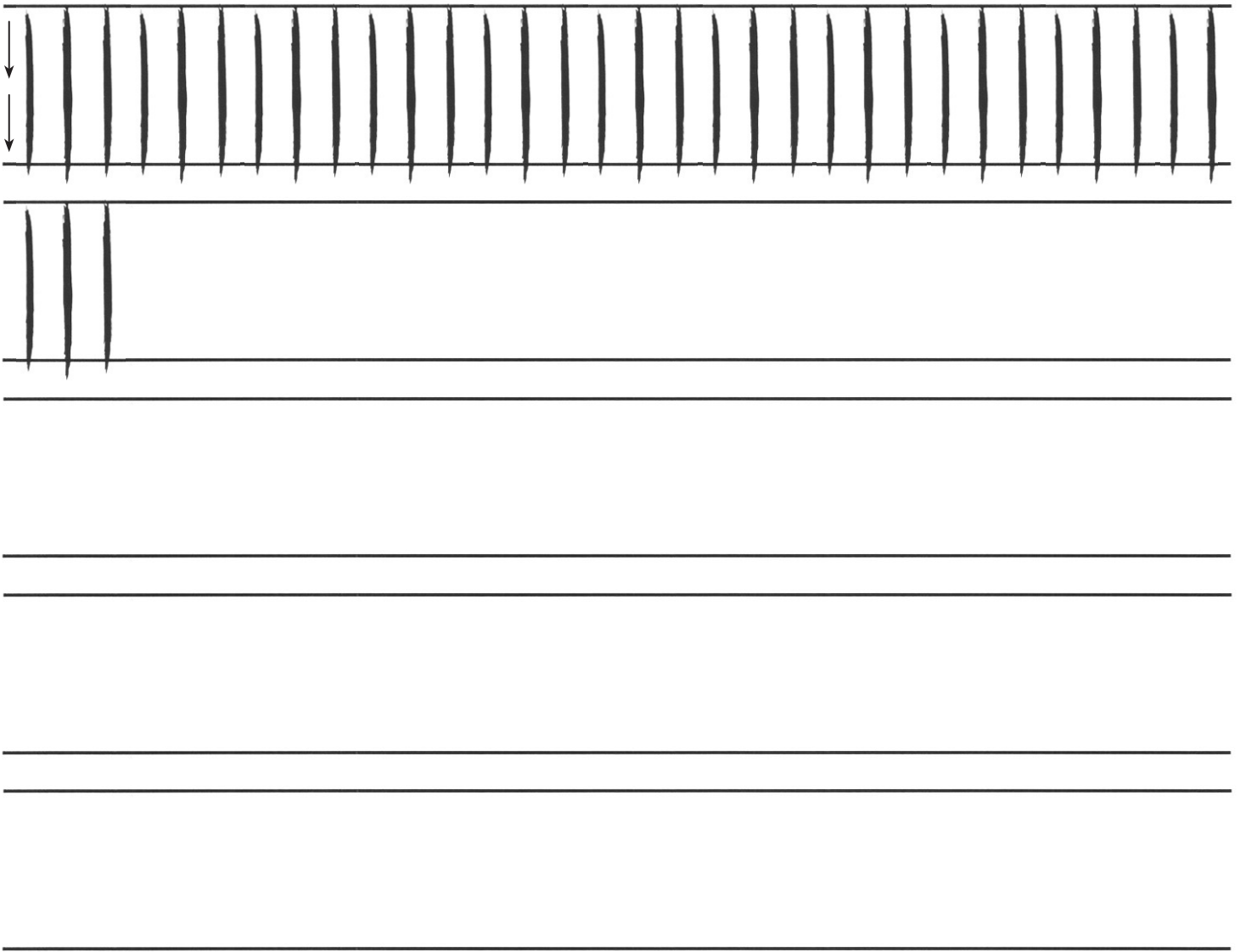
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Chisel Stroke with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Stand the brush on its chisel edge with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Touch the surface and pull the brush toward you. Do NOT apply pressure as this will thicken and distort the thin line created by the chisel edge.

Chisel edge strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created with a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





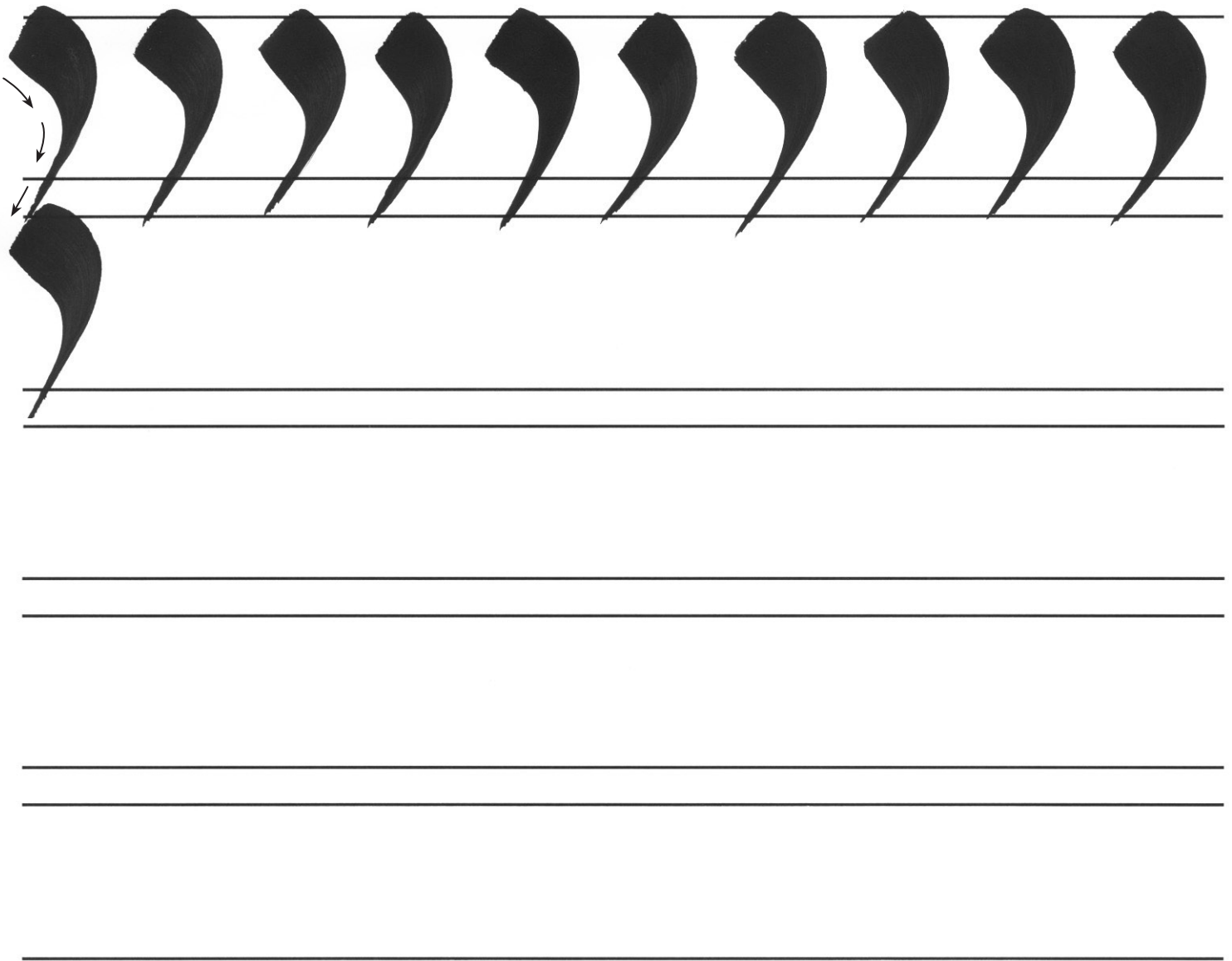
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Comma Stroke Angled Left with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the flat edge of the brush to the surface. Apply pressure and pull the brush toward you while slightly curving the stroke to the left. Continue pulling the stroke while releasing pressure; end the stroke on the chisel edge of the brush. Do NOT turn or twist the brush. Changing the pressure as you drag the brush creates the stroke.

Comma strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





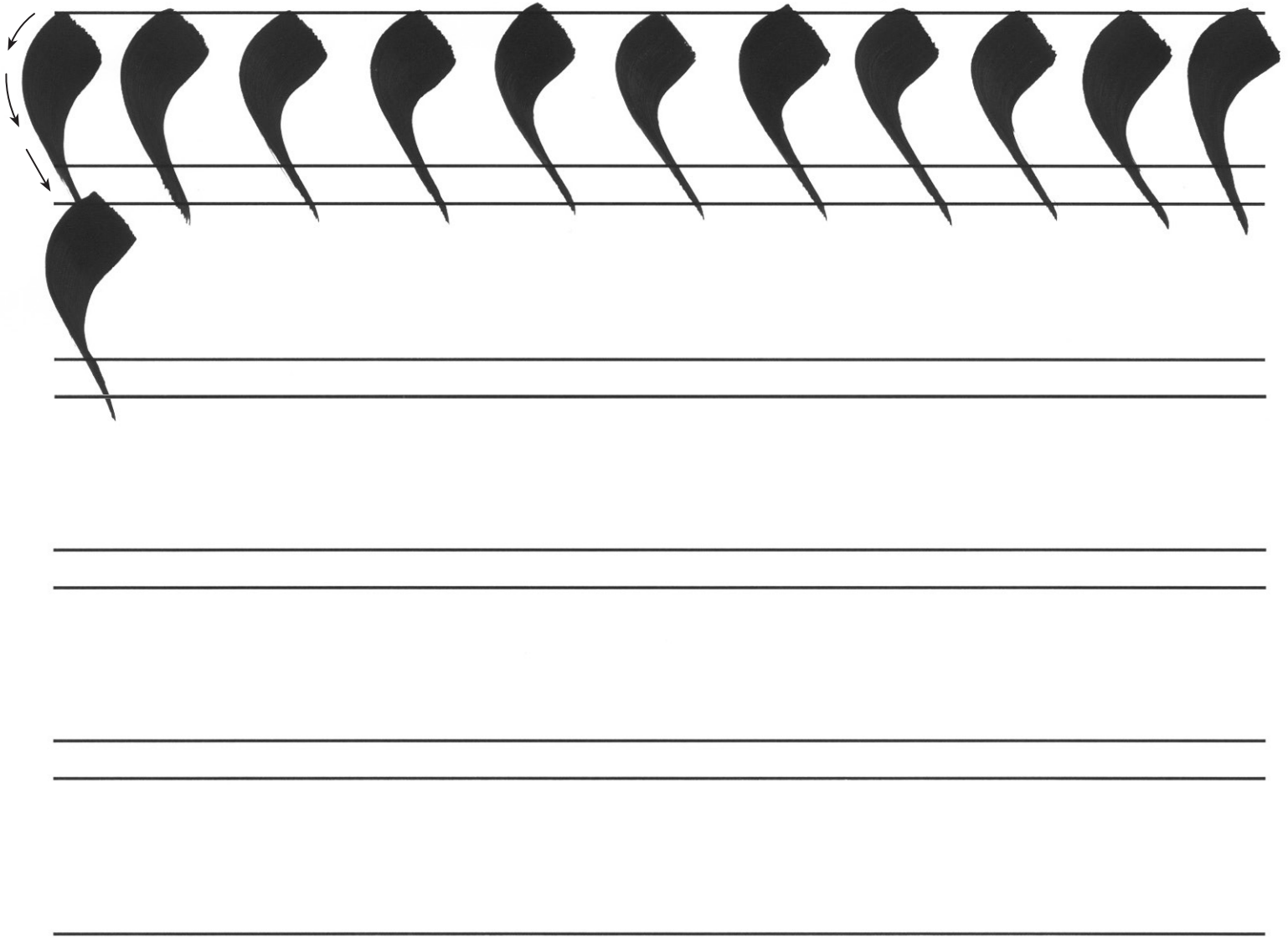
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Comma Stroke Angled Right with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the flat edge of the brush to the surface. Apply pressure and pull the brush toward you while slightly curving the stroke to the right. Continue pulling the stroke while releasing pressure; end the stroke on the chisel edge of the brush. Do NOT turn or twist the brush. Changing the pressure as you drag the brush creates the stroke.

Comma strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





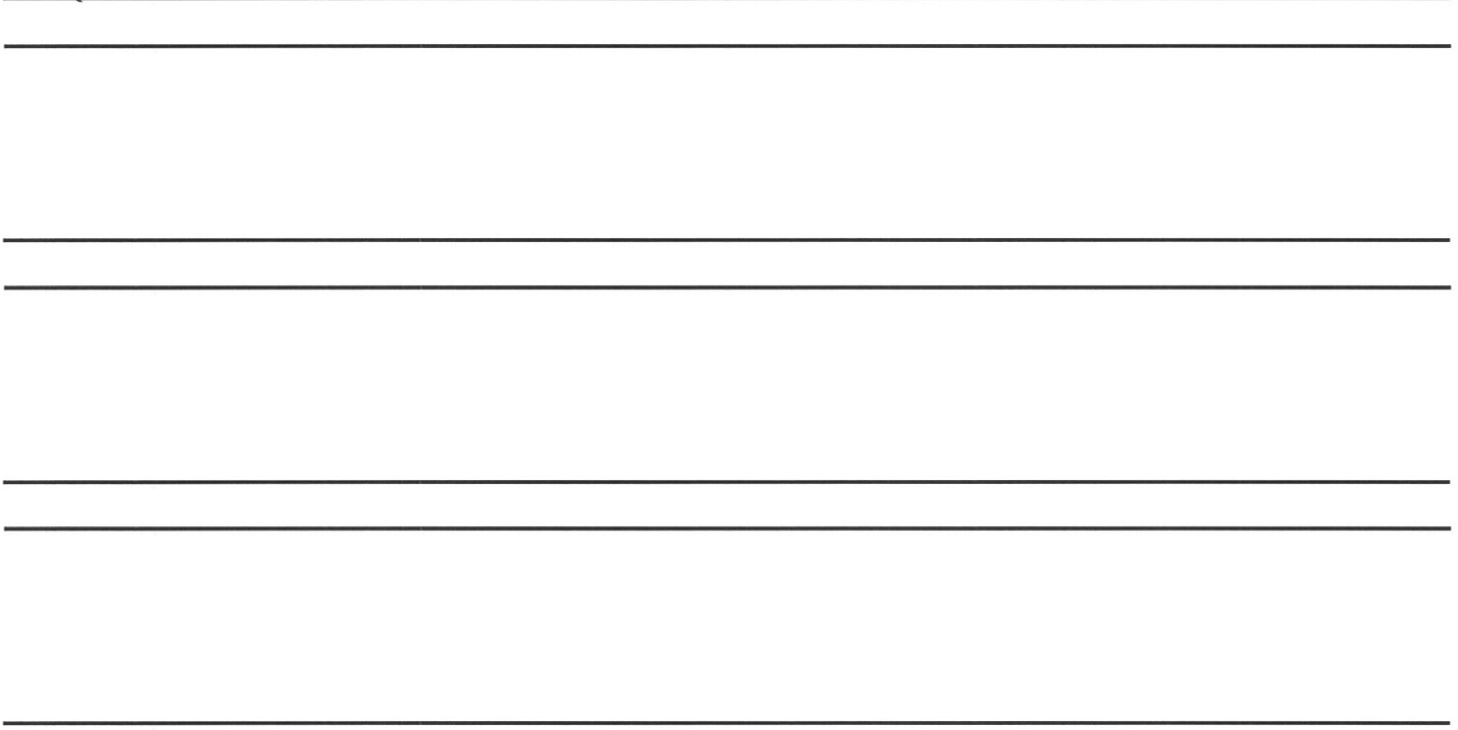
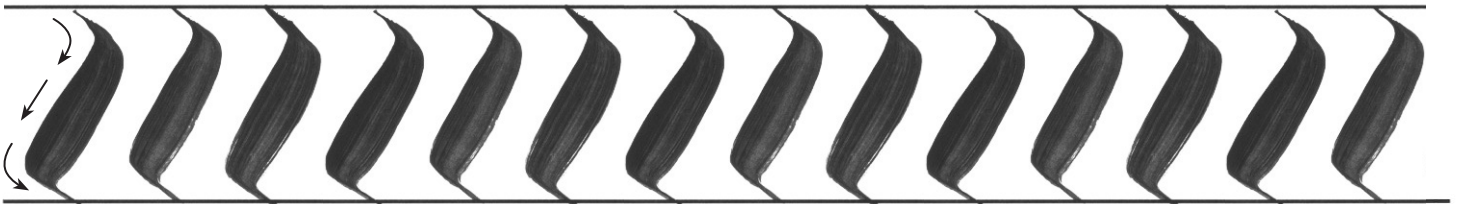
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

“S” Stroke Angled Left with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Slightly pull downwards; apply pressure and pull the brush toward you while slightly curving the stroke to the left. Begin to release pressure and end the stroke back on the chisel edge of the brush. Do NOT turn or twist the brush. Changing the pressure as you drag the brush creates the stroke.

“S” strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 6 FolkArt Flat Brush.





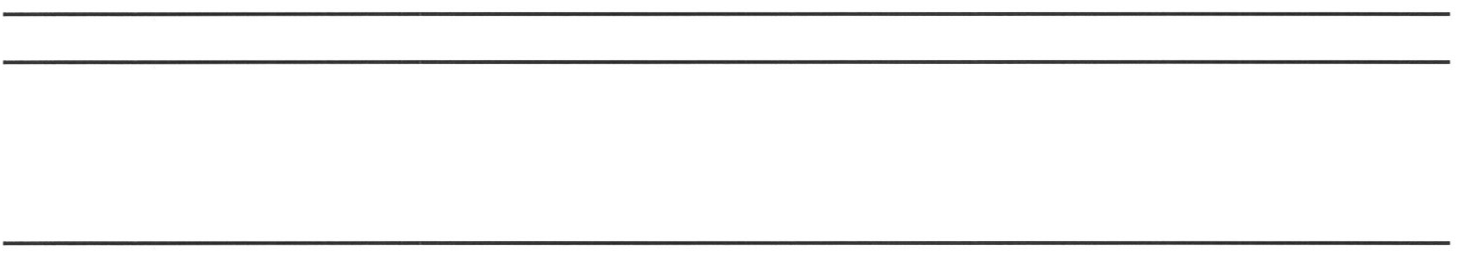
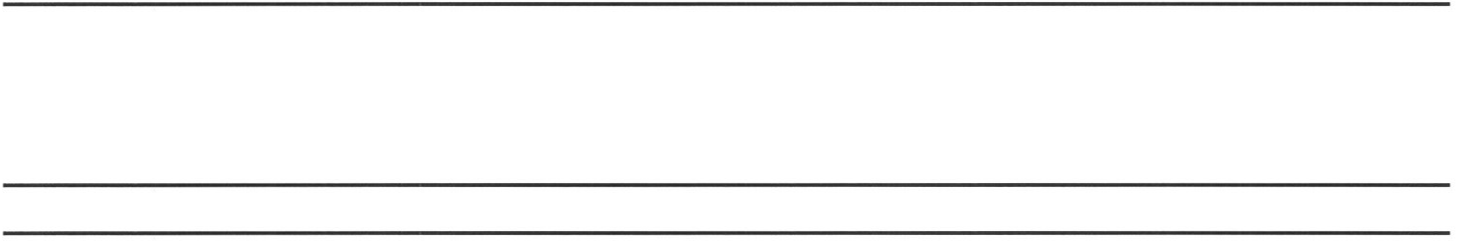
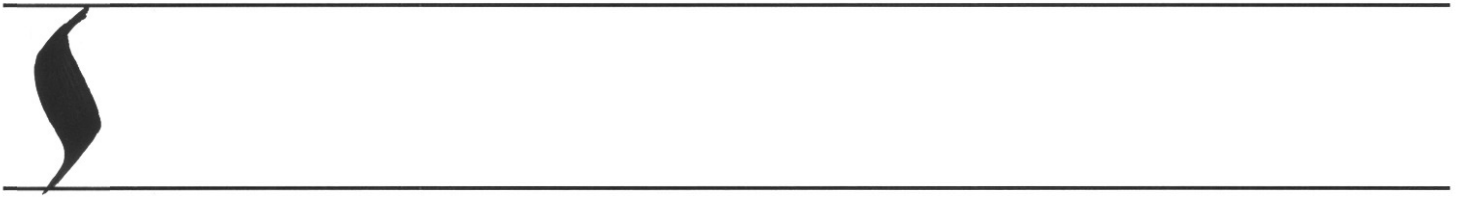
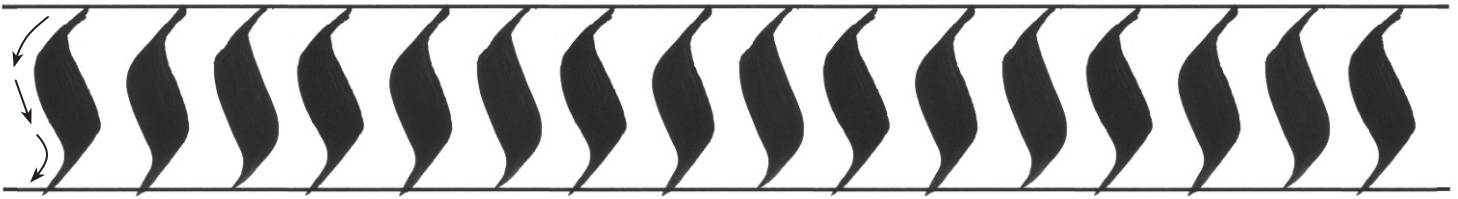
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

“S” Stroke Angled Right with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Slightly pull downwards; apply pressure and pull the brush toward you while slightly curving the stroke to the right. Begin to release pressure and end the stroke back on the chisel edge of the brush. Do NOT turn or twist the brush. Changing the pressure as you drag the brush creates the stroke.

“S” strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 6 FolkArt Flat Brush.





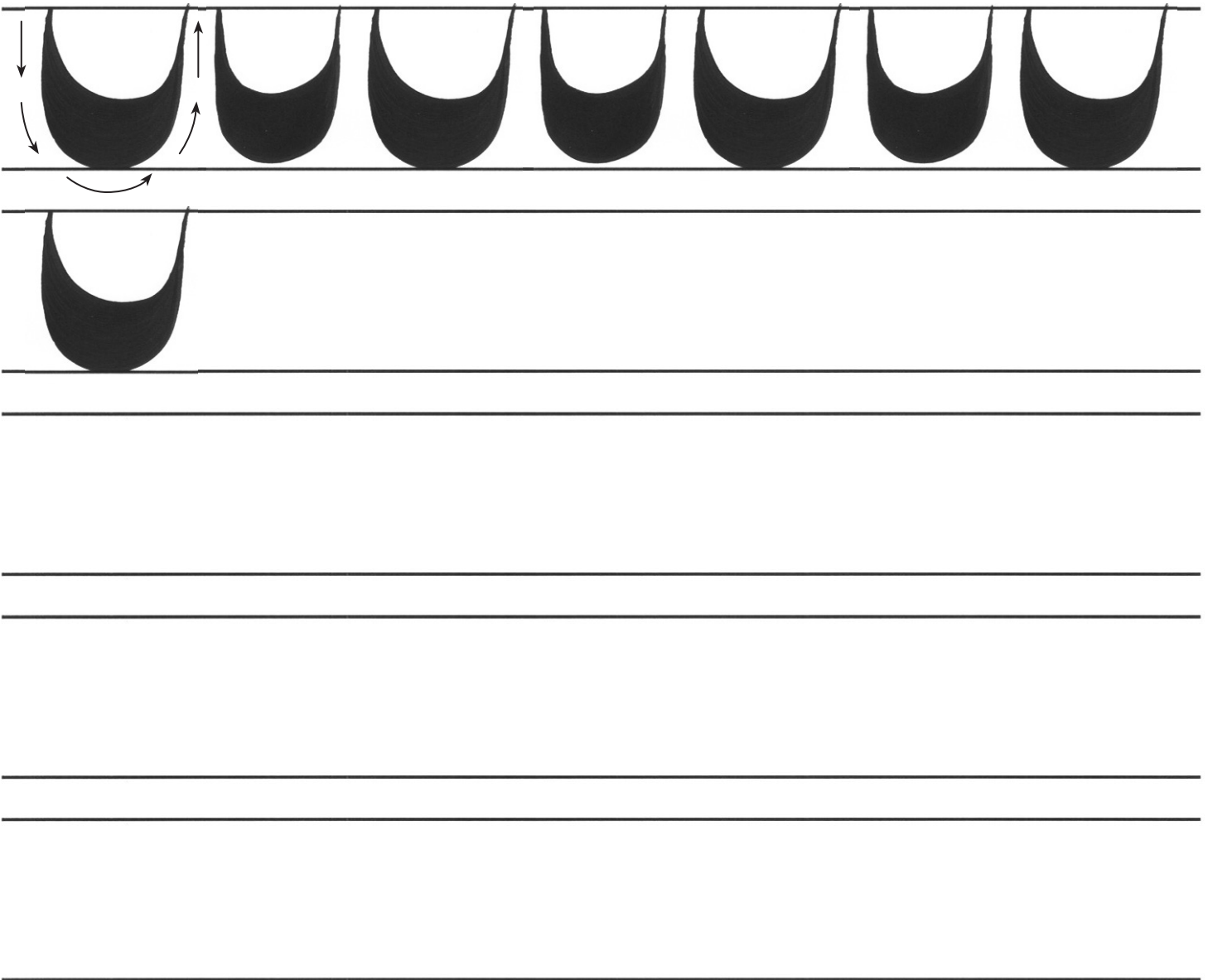
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

“U” Stroke with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Pull the brush toward you and begin to apply pressure. Push the brush slightly in the shape of a “U.” Release pressure and end the stroke on the chisel edge of the brush.

“U” strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





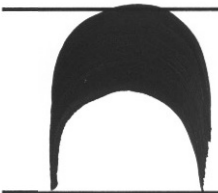
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

“U” Stroke Reversed with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Push the brush away from you and begin to apply pressure. Push the brush slightly in the shape of a reversed “U.” Release pressure and end the stroke on the chisel edge of the brush.

Reversed “U” strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.



Blank practice lines for drawing the reversed “U” stroke.





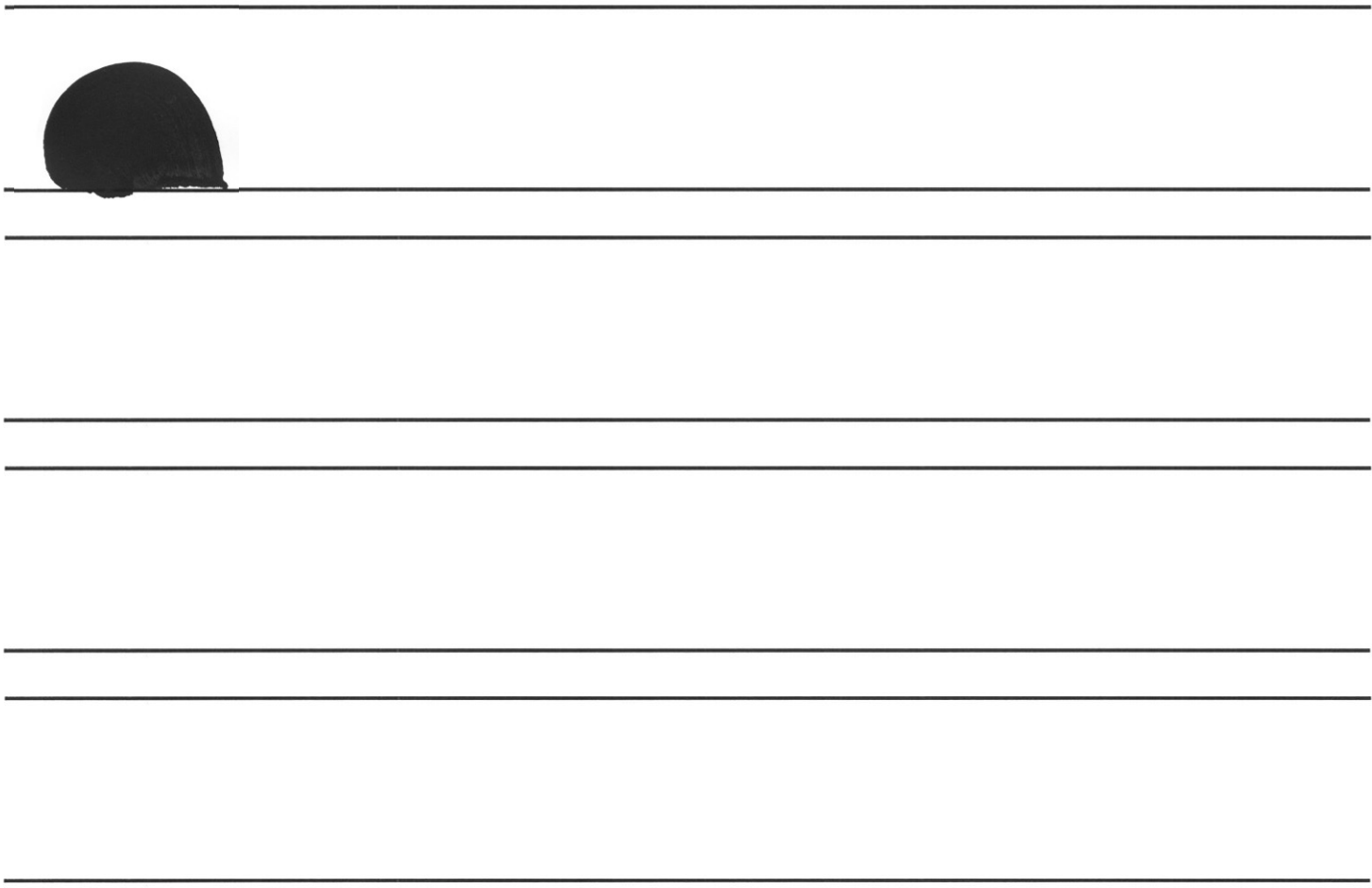
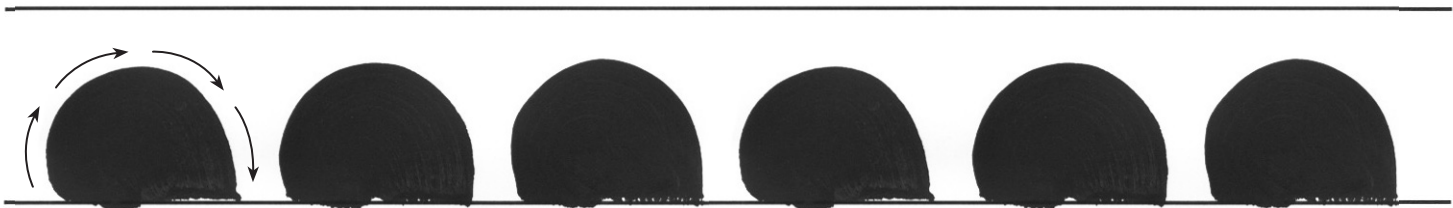
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Half Circle Stroke with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Apply pressure to the brush and begin to push the brush by pivoting until a half circle is completed. Release pressure and lift the brush from the surface.

Circle strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





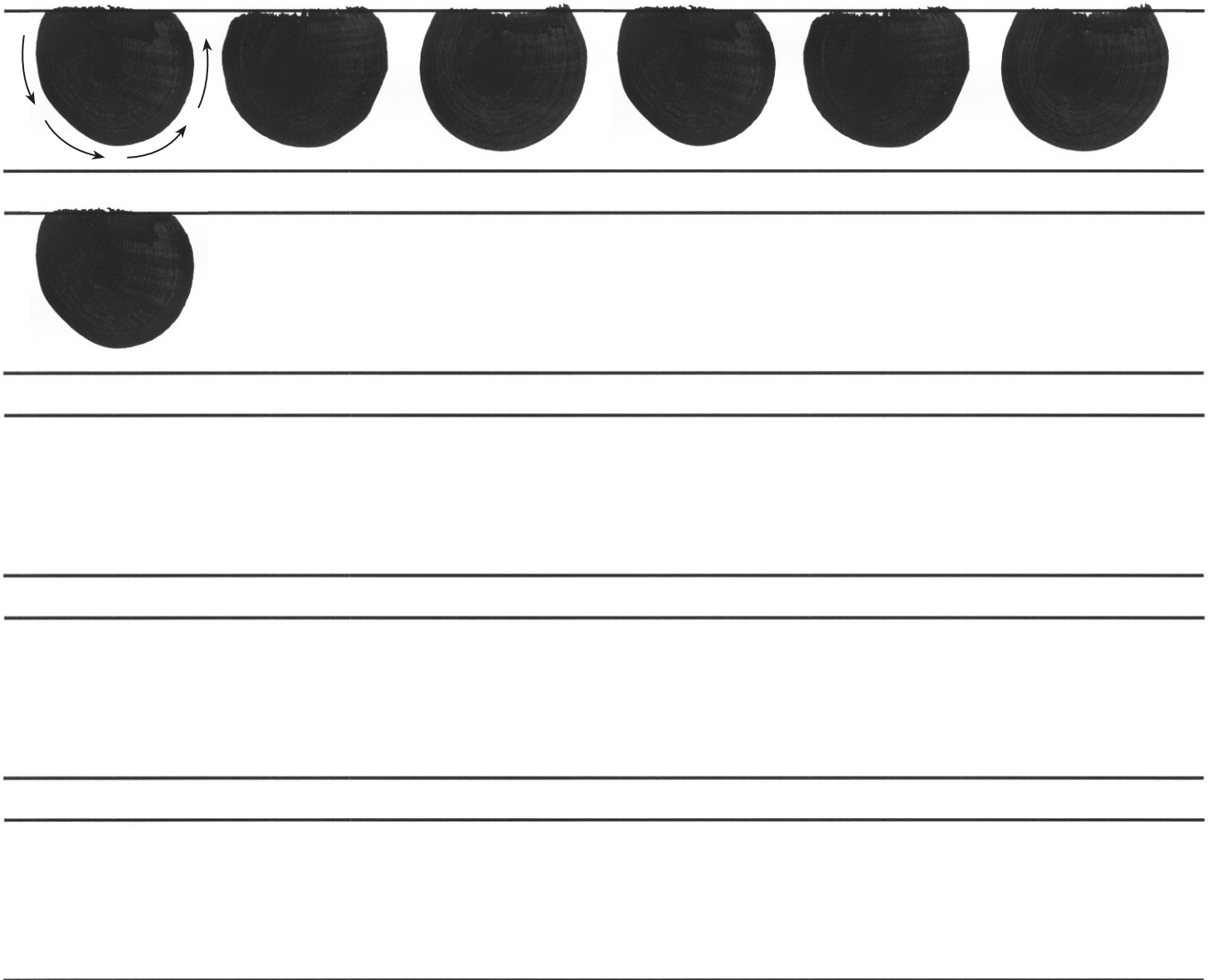
BRUSH STROKE BASICS

Half Circle Stroke Reversed with a Flat Brush

Thin the paint with a little water to a flowing consistency for brush stroke work. Load the flat brush with paint by stroking the brush into the paint puddle rather than dipping into it. Flip the brush over and repeat stroking into the paint to equally load both sides of the flat brush.

Touch the chisel edge of the brush to the surface with the handle pointing straight up toward the ceiling. Apply pressure to the brush and begin to pull the brush by pivoting until a reversed half circle is completed. Release pressure and lift the brush from the surface.

Reversed circle strokes can be accomplished with any size flat brush. This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.





BRUSH STROKE BASICS

All Flat Brush Strokes

After learning and practicing all the basic flat brush strokes: Straight Stroke, Chisel Edge Stroke, Comma Stroke, "S" Stroke, "U" Stroke and the Half Circle Stroke, learn what you can do when combining strokes.

Try combining a few brush strokes to create a folk art flower, a brush stroke border, a ribbon bow, a scallop edge and a vertical ribbon border. The key is understanding the basic flat brush strokes, practicing and then having fun and being creative!

This practice guide was created using a No. 10 FolkArt Flat Brush.

