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TO PAINT

IN ACRYLIC



PEEK-A-BOO

BY: THE ART SHERPA

NAME CREDIT TO PATRON: COLLINS GIRWOOD NIKKI

STEPS: 14 | DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE | 2 HOOTS

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PAINT AND TOOL GUIDE

Use this paint legend below to understand the symbols that I use to give you important painting information.

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Hansa Yellow Light = **HYL**
- Fluid White Paint = **FWP**

BRUSHES

- Large Synthetic Bright
- Small Synthetic "D" Brush
- Small Synthetic Angle
- X-Small Synthetic Round Liner
- 1" Oval Mop
- X-Small Synthetic "D" Brush

TOOLS

- Chalk Pencil or Watercolor Pencil
- 11x14 Canvas (If you notice that your canvas started to warp, as sometimes happens, just turn the canvas over and put it back side forward on your easel, then mist the back of the canvas. It usually resolves itself. Let it dry before you proceed.)
- Optional: Sta-Wet Palette

SYMBOL GUIDE

- > Less than previous amount
- < More than previous amount
- + Equal amount

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Techniques You Will Use In This Painting

- Color Theory
- Implying Foliage
- Expressive Painting Strokes
- Being Painterly and Loose
- Finding Value
- Dry Brushing
- Color Mixing
- Fur

Video Chapter Guide

Below are the timestamps we inserted in the tutorial video so that you can easily coordinate using the book and the tutorial video simultaneously.

Intro	00:00	
Step 1	3:13	Colored Ground
Step 2	6:19	Blended Background
Step 3	14:42	Softer Background
Step 4	21:14	Sketch In With Chalk
Step 5	24:52	Sketch In With Paint
Step 6	28:29	Block In Foliage
Step 7	35:23	Flower Forms
Step 8	39:54	Flower Shapes
Step 9	46:48	Leaves
Step 10	54:52	Begin The Budgie
Step 11	1:00:14	Budgie Details
Step 12	1:06:26	Bird Body
Step 13	1:13:06	Body Details
Step 14	1:26:47	Highlights And Markings
	1:32:36	Sign

Step 1 - Colored Ground

Timestamp 3:13

“Blue All Over The Canvas“

PAINT

- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Large Synthetic Bright

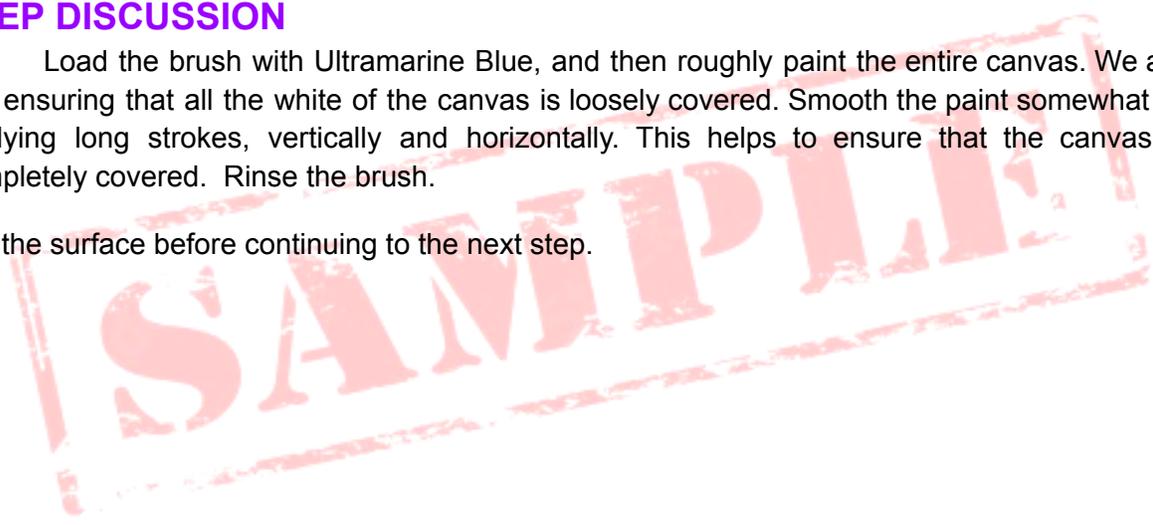
COLOR MIXES

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with Ultramarine Blue, and then roughly paint the entire canvas. We are just ensuring that all the white of the canvas is loosely covered. Smooth the paint somewhat by applying long strokes, vertically and horizontally. This helps to ensure that the canvas is completely covered. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

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STEP 1 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 2 - Blended Background

Timestamp 6:19

“A Diffused Moody Background”

PAINT

- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- 1” Oval Mop

COLOR MIXES

- Grey Blue = **PG + DP**

STEP DISCUSSION

In the middle of the canvas, brush in the **Grey Blue mix** to fill out the center. Add Titanium White to the mix as you go along, creating somewhat of a moody background. Blend it very well, in a couple different ways; perhaps with more Quinacridone Magenta, or more Phthalo Green.

After sufficiently blending the center, add Ultramarine Blue to the brush and add it to the bottom left of the canvas. Blend it gently into the blue already on the canvas. After that, add a bit of Dioxazine Purple to the still-dirty brush and blend it into the top right of the canvas. Continue going around the canvas, developing and blending the mixes together. It is OK to have dark spots or light spots.

Add Quinacridone Magenta and Burnt Sienna to the very same mix and add it to the top left more than anywhere else.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 2 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 3 - Softer Background

Timestamp 14:42

“Transitions With The Mother Color“

PAINT

- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- 1" Oval Mop

COLOR MIXES

- White Pink = **BS + QM + TW**
- Grey Blue = **PG + DP**
- Grape = **UB + DP**

STEP DISCUSSION

Dampen the brush slightly, and with the **White Pink mix**, blend it into the background near the top left. Continue blending it down into the canvas, and include it with the **Grey Blue mix**. In the bottom left corner, add the **Grape mix** and blend it upwards towards the middle-left of the canvas.

Then, take a smidge of Titanium White and mix where the two left-side corners meet, creating a nice, even blend. You can utilize the previous mixes in order to adjust the color. Use the **Grape mix** with Titanium White to deepen the other corners around the canvas, and continue shaping the blend around the canvas. Take your time and make the background as dramatic as you like.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 3 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 4 - Sketch In With Chalk

Timestamp 21:14

“Place Bird On A Branch“

PAINT

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Chalk Pencil or Watercolor Pencil

COLOR MIXES

STEP DISCUSSION

I chose to freehand this image but I have also provided a traceable if you prefer to use that method. There is no right or wrong way to get your image on the canvas. You can grid, transfer, or freehand, whatever makes you the most comfortable. If you are free handing, you have numerous references to assist you. There is the picture that follows this step, and the traceable. I drew in only the major objects. You should use a Chalk Pencil or Watercolor Pencil.

Begin with your Chalk pencil and create a branch coming from the left of the canvas, going across and then down to the bottom. Somewhere near halfway to the top of the canvas, in the middle but a little right, start creating your bird. Make a circle for a head, and give the bird a somewhat chubby figure that comes down to the branch. Refer to the traceable and reference image to get a general idea of what the budgie looks like.

Create more branches and shrubbery around the canvas and at each corner, giving a pleasant scene for our budgie to live.

Sherpa Tip: If you have a hard time visualizing a budgie, search for online information and reference images to help you along. References are invaluable when it comes to creating anything, especially art.

STEP 4 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 5 - Sketch In With Paint

Timestamp 24:52

“Firming Up The Sketch In Paint”

PAINT

- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush
- Small Synthetic Angle

COLOR MIXES

- Dark Brown = **MB + BS**

STEP DISCUSSION

Take your Angle brush with Titanium White, and finalize your sketch. The beak, eyes, head, body, everything you believe should stay as it is.

Then, take your “D” brush and the **Dark Brown mix** to paint the wood of the branches. As you come more to the right, begin adding some Dioxazine Purple. Even if you are thinking of putting a lot of leaves here, it does not hurt to paint in this base now, for future you.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

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STEP 5 PHOTO



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If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 6 - Block In Foliage

Timestamp 28:29

“Deep, Dark Leaves And Blooms“

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Bush Green = **BS + PG > DP**
- Bloom Purple = **UB + QM > TW**
- Orange = **CRM + CYM > BS**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Bush Green mix** and block in foliage around your branch that the budgie sits on. Begin in the bottom right corner the right, then move on to the left side, simply placing down where your leaves will live. Rinse the brush.

Next, load the brush with **Orange mix** and begin highlighting the branches. Give details and highlights to catch the eye, but not too much. You want the budgie to be the main focus. Add a little Titanium White here and there to give further details. Rinse the brush.

After that, we will begin working on the blooming flowers. Load **Bloom Purple mix** onto the brush, and begin tucking blooming flowers on the branches. Be loose about adding the flowers. They will go both where the leaves were before and around the existing branches. Put flowers at the top left, around the branch at the bottom, as well as the top-right branch. You can add more Titanium White every so often for variance. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 6 PHOTO



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If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 7 - Flower Forms

Timestamp 35:23

“Tiny Teardrop Strokes“

PAINT

- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Grape = **QM + UB**

STEP DISCUSSION

Begin with your brush loaded with **Grape Mix**, and add a little Titanium White. Make small teardrop marks from the top left branch, pulling them downwards. On the branches below, paint blooms around the foliage from previous steps. Imagine you are creating a grapevine structure with the flowers. Continue this same process for the branch at the top right. Rinse the brush.

There is no need to dry the canvas before proceeding to the next step.

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STEP 7 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 8 - Flower Shapes

Timestamp 39:54

“Value And The Shape Of The Brush Do The Work“

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Light Lavender = **TW > UB + QM**
- Reddish Orange = **CRM + CYM**

STEP DISCUSSION

Begin highlighting and shaping the flowers with the **Light Lavender mix**. Add more Titanium White to highlight the blooms in the bottom left. Then, add more Ultramarine Blue for the darker values, in the top left corner. Continue with these petal strokes and find your way through your flowers, giving them depth and a breath of life. Rinse the brush.

Take your **Reddish Orange mix** and touch in circular shapes around the flowers. Give them a story with pops of color. Rinse the brush.

There is no need to dry the canvas before proceeding to the next step.

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STEP 8 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 9 - Leaves

Timestamp 46:48

“Layering In Leaves Amongst The Blooms“

PAINT

- Quinacridone Magenta = **QM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Leaf Green = **BS + PG > CYM**
- Green Gold = **CYM + BS + PG > TW**
- Light Green = **BS + PG + CYM**
- Light Lavender = **TW > UB + QM**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load the brush with **Leaf Green mix** and begin brushing in leaves around the branches and flowers. They are a bit of a long-spear shape. Add leaves on the bottom, top left, and top right branches; they hang, swoop, and point. Add Dioxazine Purple to the mix and deepen any areas that might be in shadow. Rinse the brush.

Begin highlighting the leaves to give them a sense of depth by using the **Light Green mix**. Fill the leaves in as you see fit. Rinse the brush.

Load the brush with the **Green Gold mix** and continue the highlighting process, giving higher highs and deeper darks. You can even go back with the **Light Lavender mix** to add in more flowers surrounding the leaves. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 9 PHOTO



Adobe

If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 10 - Begin The Budgie

Timestamp 54:52

“Blocking In The Bird Structures“

PAINT

- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush
- X-Small Synthetic Round Liner

COLOR MIXES

- Deep Yellow = **CYM > DP**
- Grey Blue = **PG + DP**

STEP DISCUSSION

Begin with your Liner brush mixed with a little bit of water and Mars Black, and line in the feet of the budgie. After that, give them a beak and fill it in. You can also fill in the eye at this stage, and add shadow between the eye and beak that extends past the eye slightly.

Following that, take the “D” Brush loaded with **Deep Yellow mix** to fill in the base feather layer of the budgie. Fill in the front of its belly up, then move up to its head and paint everything, including its wing and tail.

Use the background color of **Grey Blue mix**, with a bit of Titanium White to trim the bird and cover and chalk marks. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 10 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 11 - Budgie Details

Timestamp 1:00:14
“The Beak And Eye“

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Ultramarine Blue = **UB**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Fluid White Paint = **FWP**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush
- X-Small Synthetic Round Liner

COLOR MIXES

- Background Blue = **UB > DP**
- Orange = **CYM + CRM**
- Blue Grey = **UB > BS**
- Light Yellow = **CYM + FWP**

STEP DISCUSSION

I chose to smooth out the lines around the budgie, specifically at the top left of the bird, using the **Background Blue mix** and “D” Brush. You may not have to, but if you ever feel you need to readjust the bird of background, do not be afraid to. Rinse the brush.

With the Liner, begin detailing the beak and feet using the **Blue Grey mix**. After that, use Titanium White to give highlights to these features of the bird. Add a little bit more **Blue Grey mix** and begin filling out the beak, making it look more and more three-dimensional. You can lighten the mix and make it thinner by using the Fluid White Paint, as needed. The top of the beak is somewhat deeper than the tip. Line the beak with Mars Black. Take a moment and think about the details of the budgie as you do this, and test yourself to detail and develop it as we go along. Rinse the brush.

Use the **Orange mix** to give color to the eye of the budgie. It is something of a half circle or half ring at the bottom of the eye. Rinse the brush. Add Mars Black to the center and around the eye, and on the beak, giving it further detail and outline. Rinse the brush.

Highlight it with Titanium White mixed with a smidge of **Blue Grey mix** to further detail the features of the budgie. Rinse the brush.

Then, with more Titanium White, highlight the eye. Rinse the brush. Touch a spot of Light Yellow mix into the eye as well. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 11 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 12 - Bird Body

Timestamp 1:06:26

“They Call Me Mellow Yellow“

PAINT

- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Burnt Sienna = **BS**
- Dioxazine Purple = **DP**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Hansa Yellow Light = **HYL**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Light Grey = **TW > DP**
- Mustard Yellow = **CYM + MB**
- Deep Yellow = **CYM > DP**
- Dark Brown = **MB + BS**
- Green Gold = **CYM + BS + PG > TW**
- Vibrant Yellow = **HYL + CYM**

STEP DISCUSSION

If needed, with the **Light Grey mix**, even out the background surrounding the budgie yet again. We are just trying to ensure the background is flush with our budgie. Rinse the brush.

With the **Deep Yellow mix**, fill out the head and give it detail. After adequately evening out the feathers, move onto the **Mustard Yellow mix** and give a shadow to the wing. The tail and wing would go behind the branch, so rinse the brush, and use the **Dark Brown mix** to bring the branch across the budgie. Add a few more leaves with the previous green mixes to fill it out.

After that, take your **Green Gold mix** and continue giving undercolor to your budgie, under the wing and tail, as well as on the belly somewhat. The shading becomes more even as you go up the budgie, becoming more yellow at the top. Give the wing a bit of a ruffled texture. Rinse the brush.

Add the brighter feathers using the **Vibrant Yellow mix**. Blending them in where needed with the **Green Gold mix**. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

STEP 12 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Step 13 - Body Details

Timestamp 1:13:06

“Winging It“

PAINT

- Cadmium Red Medium = **CRM**
- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Phthalo Green = **PG**
- Mars Black = **MB**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Hansa Yellow Light = **HYL**
- Fluid White Paint = **FWP**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- Small Synthetic “D” Brush
- X-Small Synthetic “D” Brush
- X-Small Synthetic Round Liner

COLOR MIXES

- Black Blue = **PB + MB**
- Feather Yellow = **TW > CYM**
- Lime = **PG + CYM**
- Sun Yellow = **CYM > CRM**
- Vibrant Yellow = **HYL + CYM**
- Feather Blue = **PB + MB + TW**

STEP DISCUSSION

Load your Small “D” Brush with **Blue Black mix** and begin laying it over the tail and outer wing of the budgie. Be mindful not to confuse the back of the budgie with its wing. Rinse the brush.

Next, paint the parts around the wing of the budgie with **Sun Yellow mix**. Then add a touch of the previous mix to give it a bit to give a ruffled texture. Dance between these two mixes as you go around the budgie, the tail has a bit of yellow, and the belly has a bit of the **Black Blue mix**. Rinse the brush.

Then, use the Liner brush and Fluid White Paint to give the eye and beak another final highlight. After that, you can switch to the X-Small “D” Brush and shade out the top of the head and cheek area, with the **Sun Yellow mix**. Switch back to your liner and add a bit of yellow beside the beak at the bottom to show the other side of the head. Rinse the brush.

Return with your X-Small “D” Brush and finish shading the head of the budgie, using a touch of the **Blue Black mix** with Cadmium Yellow Medium. The area beside the eye is a bit darker, to show the indentation of where the head is. Rinse the brush.

Brighten the yellows on the budgie using the **Vibrant Yellow mix**.

Load the brush with **Feather Yellow mix** and add feathers to the wing, in almost stripe-like patterns. The marks do not connect, but come close and form closely together. Rinse the brush,

and go over the feathers again with the **Feather Blue mix**. These marks can go closer to the shoulder. Rinse the brush.

Following this, take the **Lime Green mix** and give further detailing to the feathers. Add this color to the belly and the wing, work it in with more Add Hansa Yellow Light as you go. Near the head, take a bit of Titanium White to this mix, and lighten it up. This is done around the cheek as well. Add Cadmium Yellow Medium if needed to shade the bird further, to make sure he pops. Rinse the brush.

Dry the surface before continuing to the next step.

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SAMPLE

STEP 13 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Adobe Stock

Step 14 - Highlights And Markings

Timestamp 1:26:47

“Bright Individuality“

PAINT

- Cadmium Yellow Medium = **CYM**
- Phthalo Blue = **PB**
- Fluid White Paint = **FWP**
- Titanium White = **TW**
- Hansa Yellow Light = **HYL**
- Mars Black = **MB**

BRUSHES & TOOLS

- X-Small Synthetic Round Liner
- X-Small Synthetic “D” Brush

COLOR MIXES

- Light Blue = **TW + PB**

STEP DISCUSSION

With your “D” Brush, load Cadmium Yellow Medium and finalize the highlights on the feather. Rinse your brush. With Hansa Yellow Light, finalize the highlights at the top of the budgie. Then, take Fluid White Paint to make stripe-like markings that come down the back of the budgie. These also appear on the top of the head, and connect on the neck as well. Rinse the brush.

Next, take the **Light Blue mix** and smudge it on the eye at the top and bottom, giving the budgie a bit of a personality. Add a little Hansa Yellow Light to the mix and give this area a second value. Rinse the brush.

Switch to the Liner brush and Mars Black, then make markings on the budgie that go down from the eye. Also add Hansa Yellow Light and Fluid White to the cheek to give a bit of puff to it. You can use this same color to give any final touches and saturation you feel is needed. Rinse the brush.

Sherpa Tip: Your budgie does not need to look exactly as mine by any means. This is your painting, your bird, your world. Do what feels right to you, I am merely a medium through which to convey how to create your space.

Sign.

STEP 14 PHOTO



If you did not understand any part of this step you can ask in the comment section of this video and I will do my best to answer.

Traceable



Adobe St