# Selenze's

## Brushes: Inks and finishing media

Manual and Reference

# Contents


Table of Contents . . . . . 2

Tutorial . . . . . 3

Pens . . . . . 9

Inking . . . . . 12

Calligraphic . . . . . 16

Brush . . . . . 18

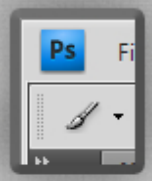
Specials . . . . . 21

Erasers . . . . . 24

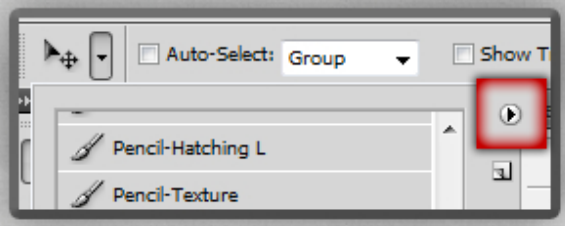
Smudgers . . . . . 29

# Brushes- A Tutorial

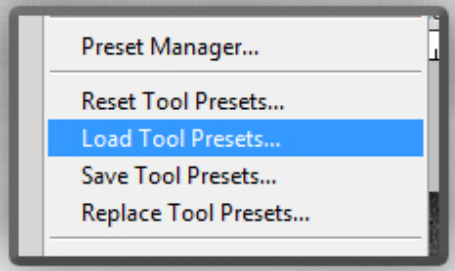
The brushes come as a tool preset--a .tpl file rather than a .abr as most brushes do.




Unless you have changed your layout, the options bar will be at the top left of your window. The icon will show whatever tool you have currently selected.



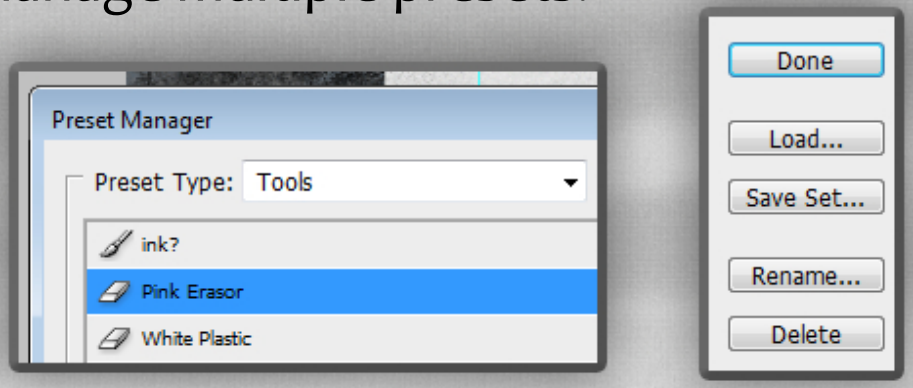

Click on it to bring up the tool presets dropdown. Click the triangle icon at the top right to bring up the menu with options.




Click 'Load Tool Preset' and browse to your .tpl file to load.

# Working with Presets

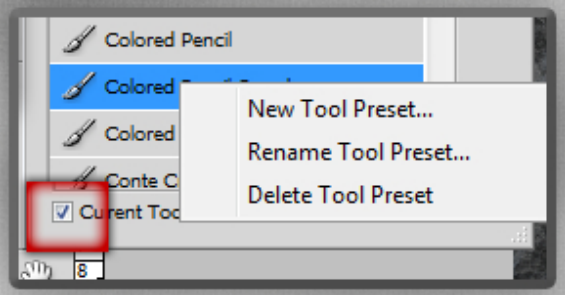
You can use the Preset Manager to load, delete, save, and manage multiple presets.




You can save or delete a subset of your current tool palette by shift- or control-clicking. Other types of presets such as brushes, swatches, etc may also be accessed by clicking on the white box that says 'Tools'.

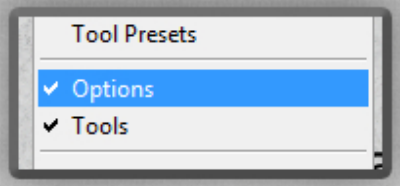
This button on the right of the tools palette lets you create a new tool preset from your current settings.

# Working with Presets




The tool presets palette lets you select your brushes for use. Right click to manage your tools or to create a copy of that preset.

You can check 'Current Tool Only' to help sort through lots of presets.




You can access tool presets through either the options bar or the tool presets palette. If neither is visible, go to Windows in the menu bar at the top, and make sure it is checked.

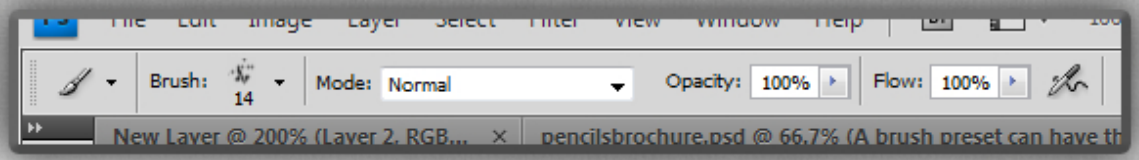
# Brush Palette vs Tool Presets Palette

You can also make a new brush in the brush palette from the current tool. This allows you to use it with other tools. Smudgers, erasers, brushes, cloners etc all use the brush engine, though not all functions can be used with all tools.

A brush tool may contain color and other information that will be lost with other tools. For example, a brush saved from an eraser is not the same as a brush saved from a brush, or a smudger. Whenever saving to the brush palette, save from the brush tool if possible.

# Brush Palette vs Tool Presets Palette

A brush preset can have the color included, very useful for things like sepia and sanguine, as well as specials such as grass and cloud brushes.

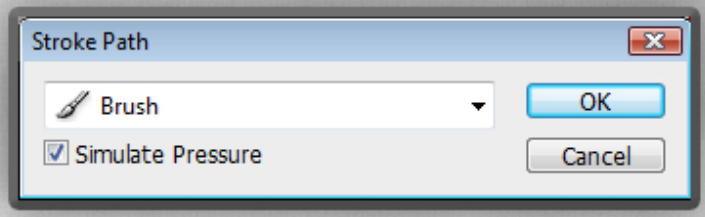



It can also contain blending information, flow and opacity, and smudge strength, which cannot be saved in the brush palette. These things are important to the way a brush works. If a brush from the brush palette is not working properly, check these things in the options bar first.

# The Brush and the Pen Tool

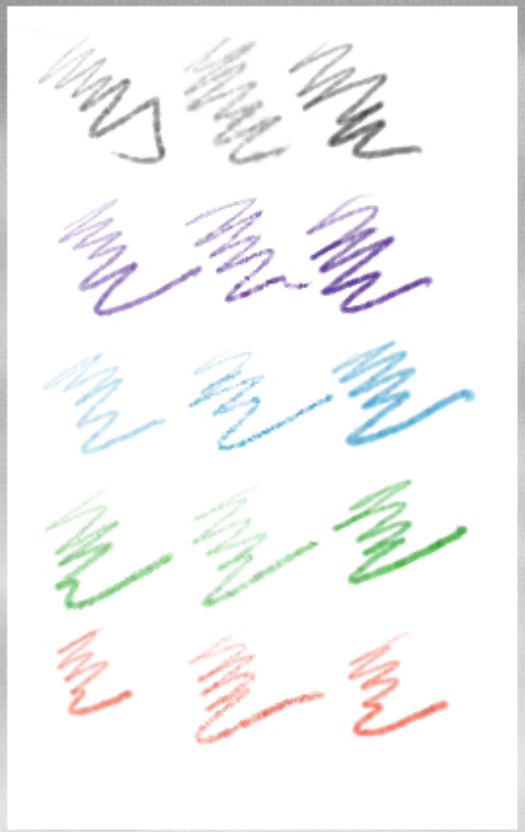
The pen tool can create smooth, controlled curves which can add a new layer of functionality to the brushes. There are three preliminary steps, which can be done in any order. Though surprisingly simple, the failure to do one of the three is the reason for most problems with this method.

1. Select a brush
2. Select a raster layer
3. Draw a path or select Layer>Type>Create Work Path




With a vector tool selected, right click and choose ‘Stroke Path’. Check ‘Simulate Pressure’ to mimick the effect of pen pressure, with the center of the path being full pressure and the ends being zero.

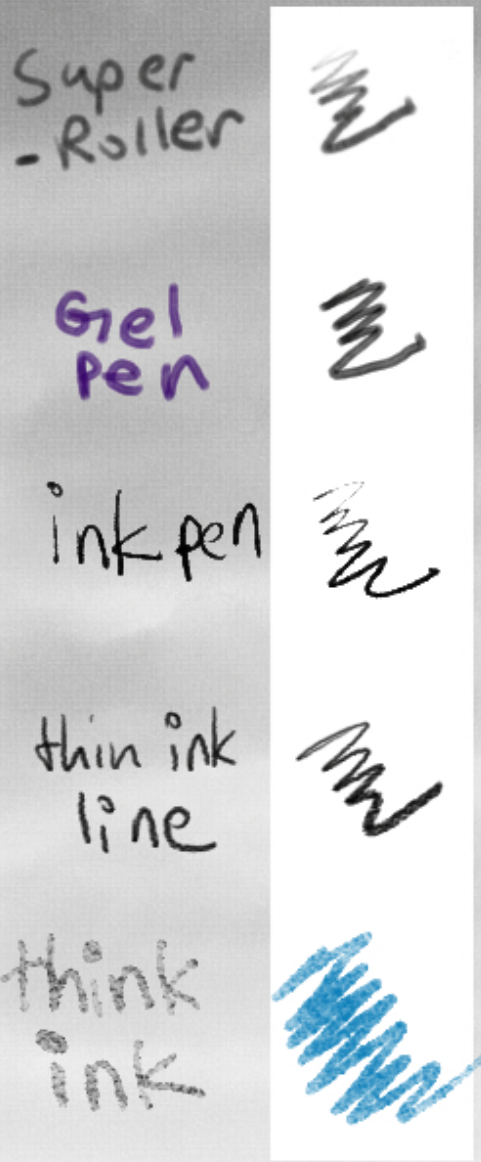
# Brush preset- Ballpoints



Ballpoints come in five common colors and three types: black, blue, cyan, green, and red, in normal, scratchy, and smooth. Each preset has been tweaked for its specific color and flow; these are not the same brush in five colors. It there one of these have a feel you like a lot, save it as a brush for use with any color.

These brushes work great with a mouse with no adjustment needed. They are mainly used for sketching or writing. Stick figures and funny comments on photos preferred.

# Brush preset- Pens




A super-smooth pen that is a joy to write with. While it has a wide range of widths, drawings made with this pen look very casual and amateurish.

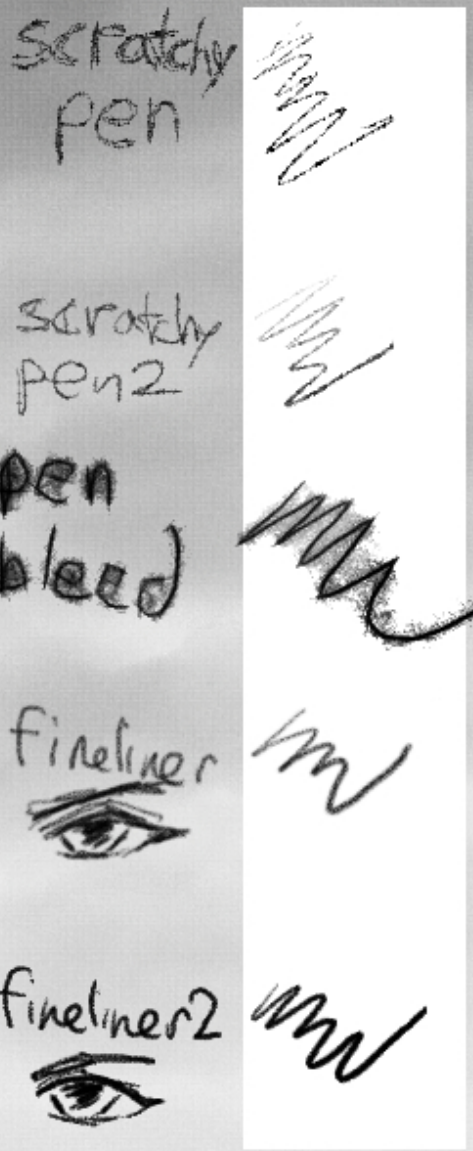
This pen has very little variation but looks great with every color-- including neons and pastels.

This ink pen is excellent for writing, simulating the look and feel of ink on semi-rough paper. A good all-purpose pen.

This pen is smooth at low pressure, and rough at high pressure. A good sketching pen, mouse users will want to turn down the scatter.

A fun textured pen, especially in bright colors. Good for scrubbing out textured details, bad for writing and sketching.

# Brush preset- Pens




Living up to its name, this pen can only make scratchy lines but is good at what it does.

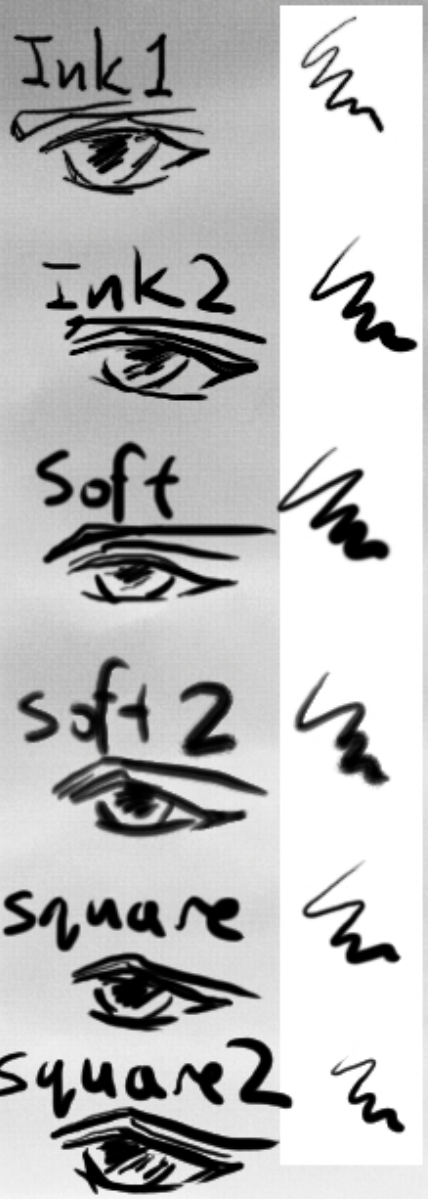
A slightly more versatile but less scratchy pen. It is useful for sketching and texturing.

The bleeding pen is of limited application, but its unique look lends flair to both writing and sketches.

This fineliner is excellent at sketching and soft details, though it looks very generic. A good all-rounder.

This pen is a lot darker, and gives a broken-line effect at low pressures. More of a finishing pen than a sketching pen.

# Brush preset- Digital Ink




Digitals Inks are finishing brushes for when texture and variation are not desired. This brush is mainly for inking pencil drawings.

This brush is more expressive, and can be used on its own for cartooning or for inking.

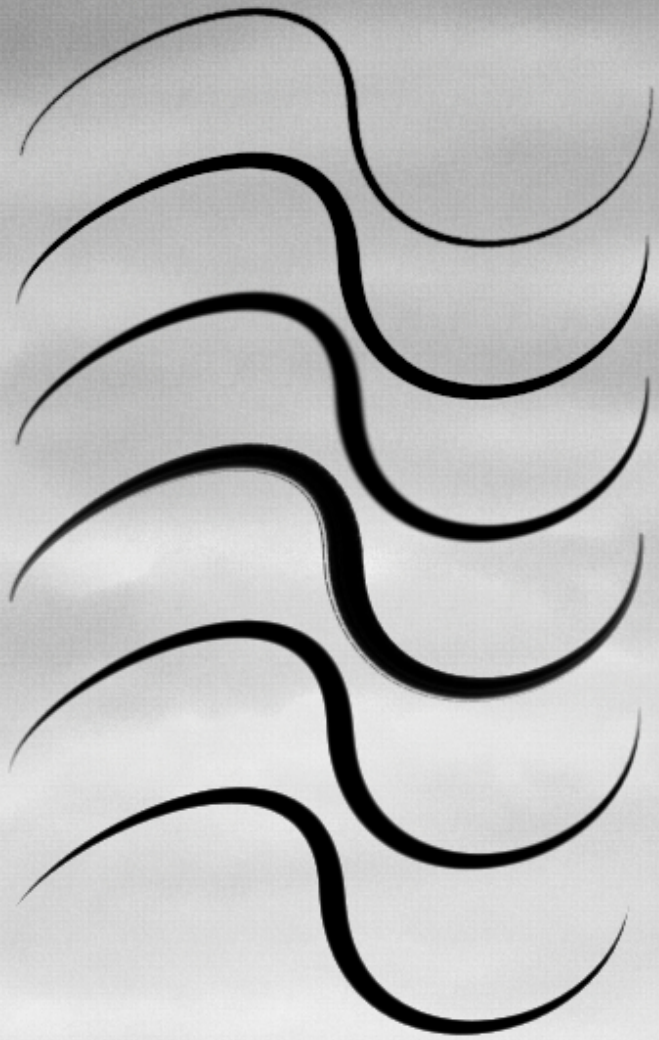
For when a softer look is desired, its uses are much the same as Digital Ink 2, though recommended more for backgrounds and out-of-focus things.

The most textured among the digitals, this soft brush is best at inking landscapes or drawing organics.

A simple variation of the digital ink. This brush is soft and expressive, best for inking.

A harder variation, this brush is not as expressive but more controllable.

# Inking for Mouse: The Pen Tool



Brush pens and digital inks are not very useful without size variation. For mouse users this may be frustrating. However, using the pen tool, inking may be done precisely, if not quickly. Even tablet users who have unsteady hands will find this method useful.

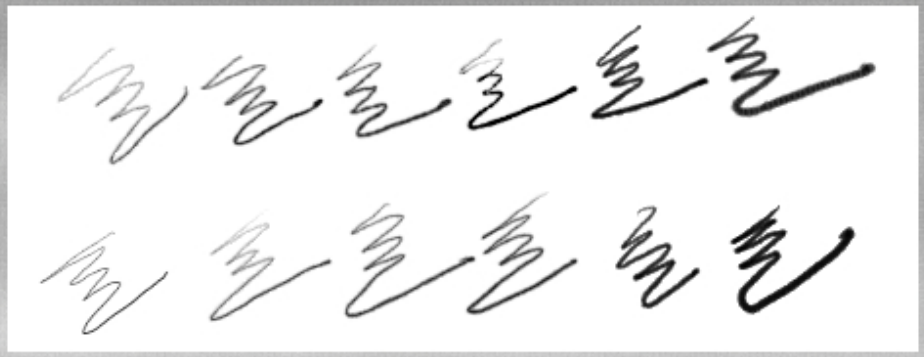
The same path has been stroked here with different brushes. In order: digital ink 1 and 2, digital ink soft 1 and 2, and digital ink square 1 and 2.

Choose the brush carefully to create different effects.

# Brush Preset: Fineliners

Micron

Technical Pen

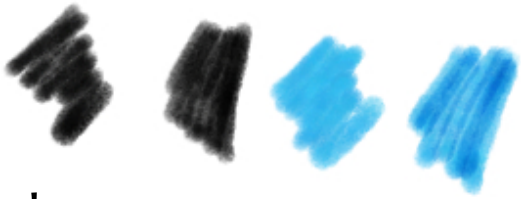


Fineliners come in a set of six sizes: 005, 01, 02, 03, 05, and 08, as they do in stores. Microns give more organic lines and have a bit of texture to them. Technical pens give smoother, more constant lines and have a harder look than microns.

Both microns and technical pens are ideal for mouse, since they have very little line variability in real life. Though they are ideal inking pens, they can be used to write and sketch as well.

# Brush preset- Markers

Felt tip



This classic marker is great for writing and provides great texture.

Marker

This marker requires build-up to create texture. Good for sketching and area coloring.

Marker 2

A denser marker, it is best for architectural lines. Poor at cover and sketching.

Marker Round

A good coloring marker that is extremely sensitive to pressure. Excellent at subtle shading. Poor at everything else.

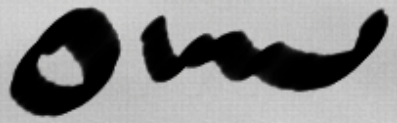
Calligraphic Marker

A simple marker reminiscent of school days. Fun to use but not useful.

# Brush preset- Calligraphic

Calligraphic Marker-a very casual look

Calligraphic Brush-comes in 3 angles. A hard, dense brush.

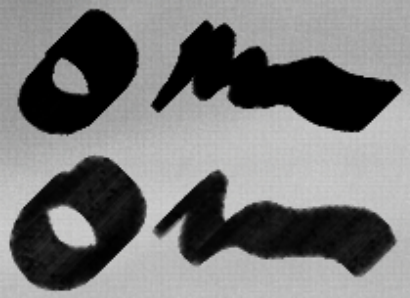


Calligraphic Brush Alt-a softer version

Calligraphic Pen-has more of an ink-on-paper effect; comes in 3 angles

Only the calligraphic brush and pen come in 3 angles to prevent unneeded size bloat. The angle can be adjusted to anything you want in the Brush Tip Shape tab of the brushes palette. The default has been set at 45deg for maximum versatility.

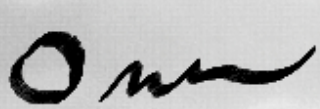
# Brush preset- Calligraphic



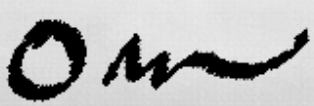
Calligraphic Square 1 and 2-rectangular versions of the calligraphic brush and pen, respectively

Fountain Pen-has a very soft look. The PS7 version is larger and slightly harder

Fountain Pen 2-a harder and more expressive pen, more suitable for writing



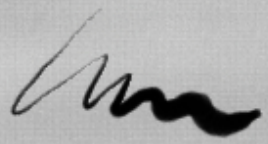
Reed-a very textural pen. Can be scratchy at certain angles, but works well on any surface



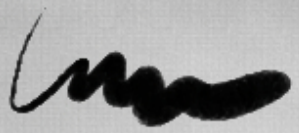
Scratchy Quill-a very scratchy pen that looks best on a high contrast background

Bleeding Quill-a very textural quill that gets all over the place but has a unique look

# Brush preset- Brushes



Brush Pen-a very generic, easily controllable brush. It is very versatile and good for cartooning or inking.



Brush Pen 2-a slightly textured, much slower brush. It is better at thin lines than Brush Pen 1, and is denser.

Brush Pen-SuperSmooth- an extremely expressive, but difficult to control brush. Has very smooth ink flow and a unique feel.

Mouse users will want to turn down the size and use the pen stroke method for these brushes.

# Brush preset- Brushes

Swipe Esoterica- a versatile brush that has a charcoal look. It has good texture, making it suitable both for drawing and cover.

The Dark-a moody brush that leaks more often than not. Use it for bold lettering and areas where texture is needed.

The Dark 2-a more versatile brush, it is very expressive and good for all kinds of drawing

# Brush preset- Brushes

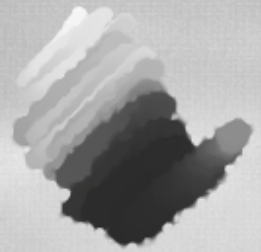
Ink Brush-an expressive brush that varies between smooth and rough. Good for sumi-e and all types of drawing

Wet Brush-a brush with a bit of bleed and a variety of line widths. Good for lettering and inking.

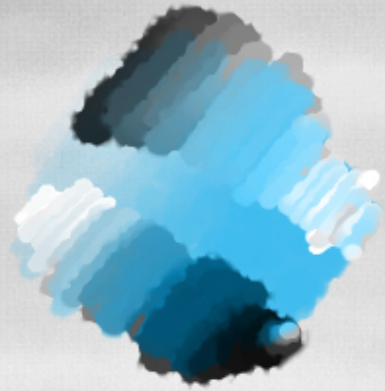
Large Ink Brush- textured around the edges but fairly dense overall, this is another generic lettering and drawing brush.

# Brush preset- Specials

Roughs-a brush used almost exclusively for quick shading. Its rough pebbly texture is suitable for blocking in areas and speed painting. Works well in color.



White and Black-another brush for speed painting and quick shading, though not for blocking in areas. It is set on luminosity so when used on colored areas, it keeps the color and saturation, changing only the brightness.



Neither brush is suitable for mouse use since the brightness depends on pen pressure, though W&B can be used on lowered flow with mouse.

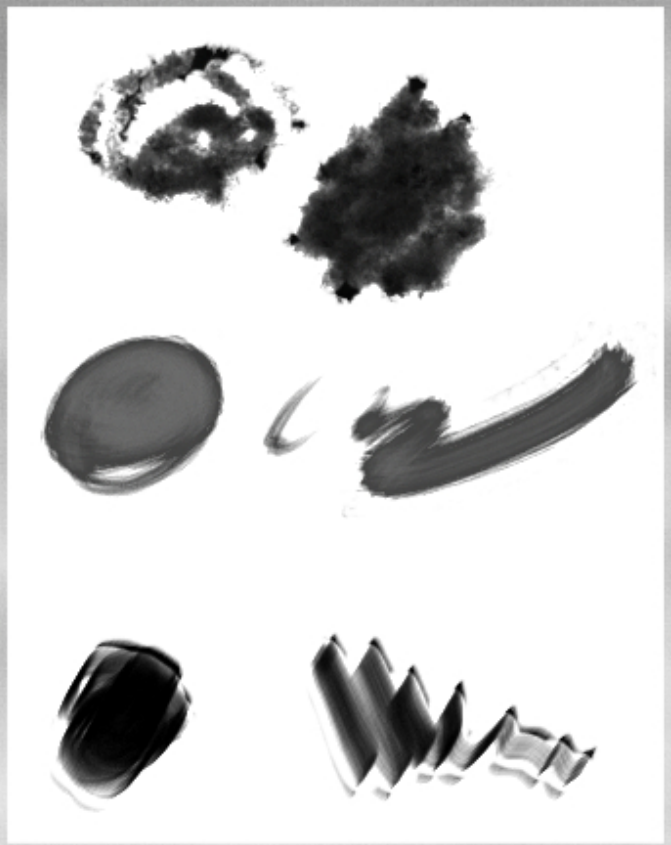
# Brush preset- Specials

Ink Splats- a small smattering of ink splats.

Ink Splats 2-a harder edged splat. Click and hold to get more splats.

Ink Wash-a rough textural brush suitable for backgrounds and large areas. To turn off the blocky edge effects, uncheck ‘Dual Brush’ in the brushes palette.

# Brush preset- Specials



Hydrophobic-an animated brush that somehow disappears as it is stroked. Good for large textural areas.

Paint-a simple painted look with dried out edges. Good for lettering and expressive lines

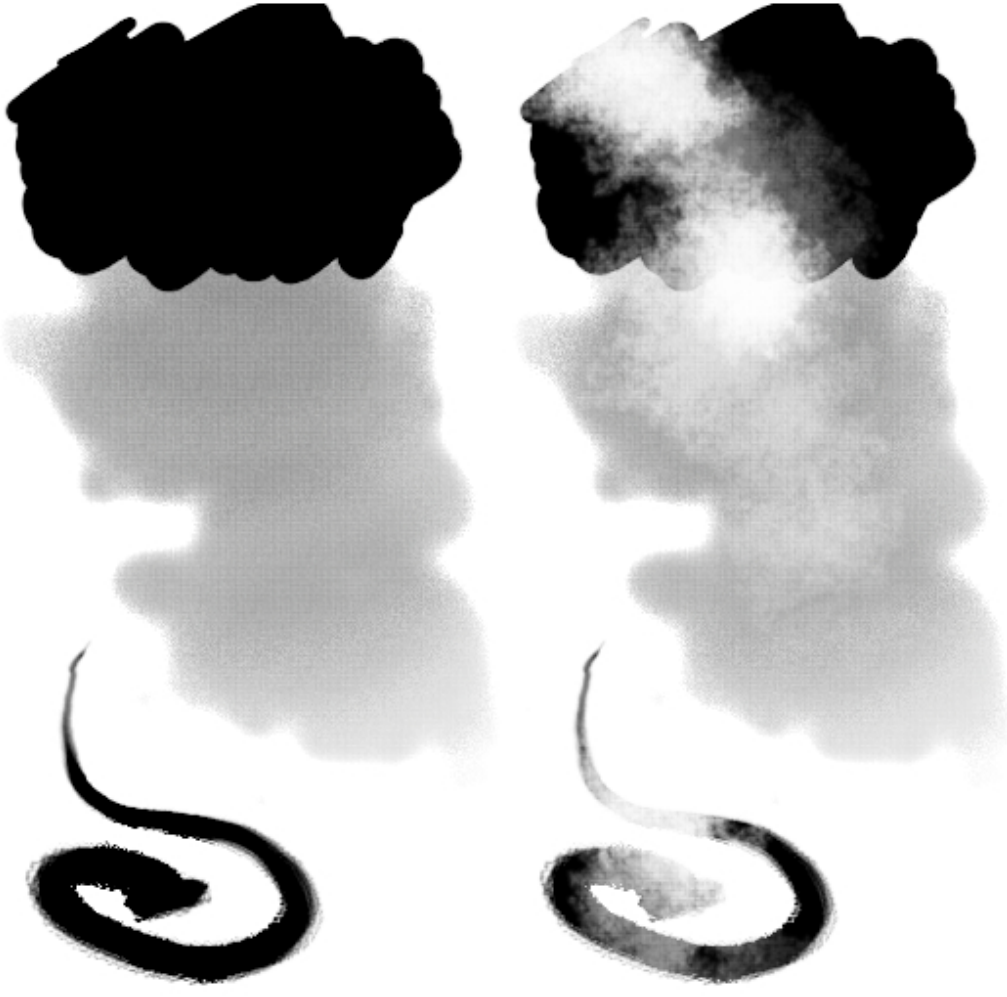
Thin Paint-good for lettering and nothing else.

# Eraser preset- Inks

Ink Eraser- a textured eraser that has trouble erasing, but good for adding texture and highlights

Ink Eraser 2-slightly better at erasing, but still takes a few strokes. Has more subtlety and a sparser texture

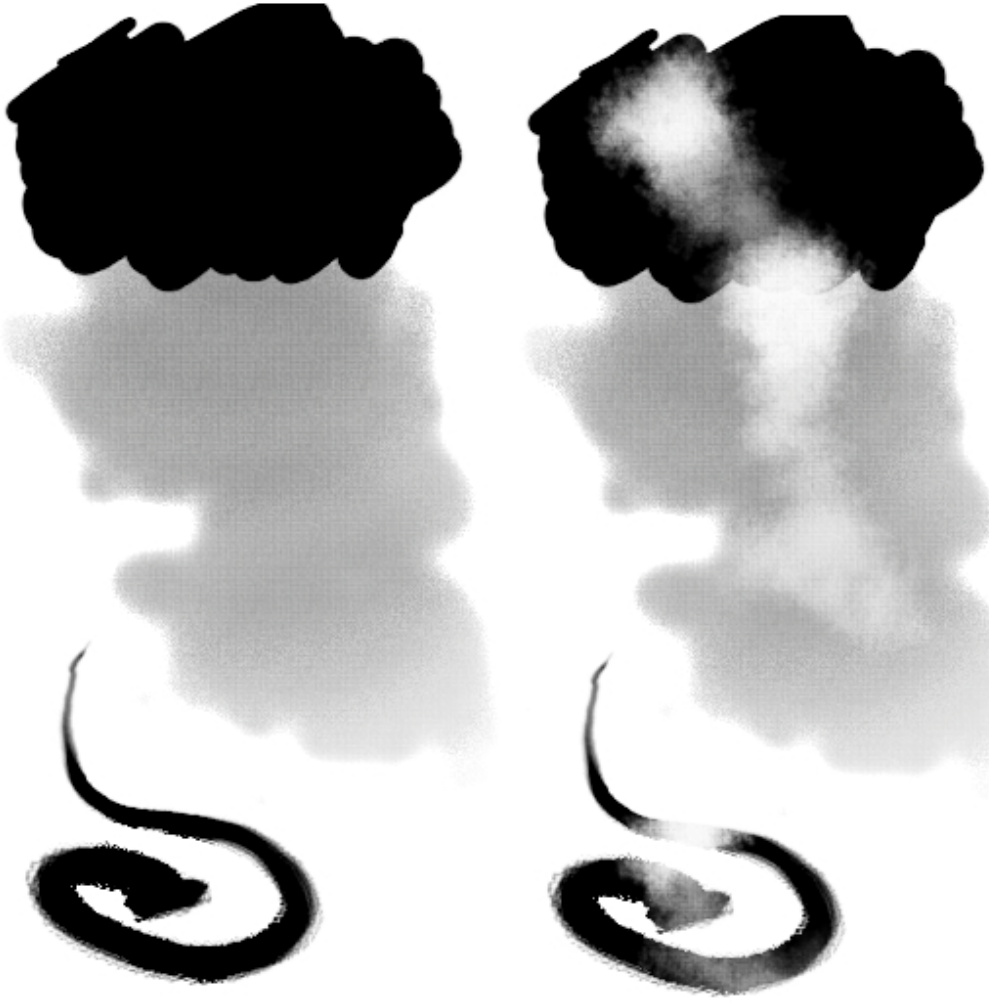
# Eraser preset- Rag



A large textural eraser.

Mouse users will want to turn down flow in the tool options bar, as well as turn up flow and opacity jitter in the ‘Other Dynamics’ tab in the brush palette.

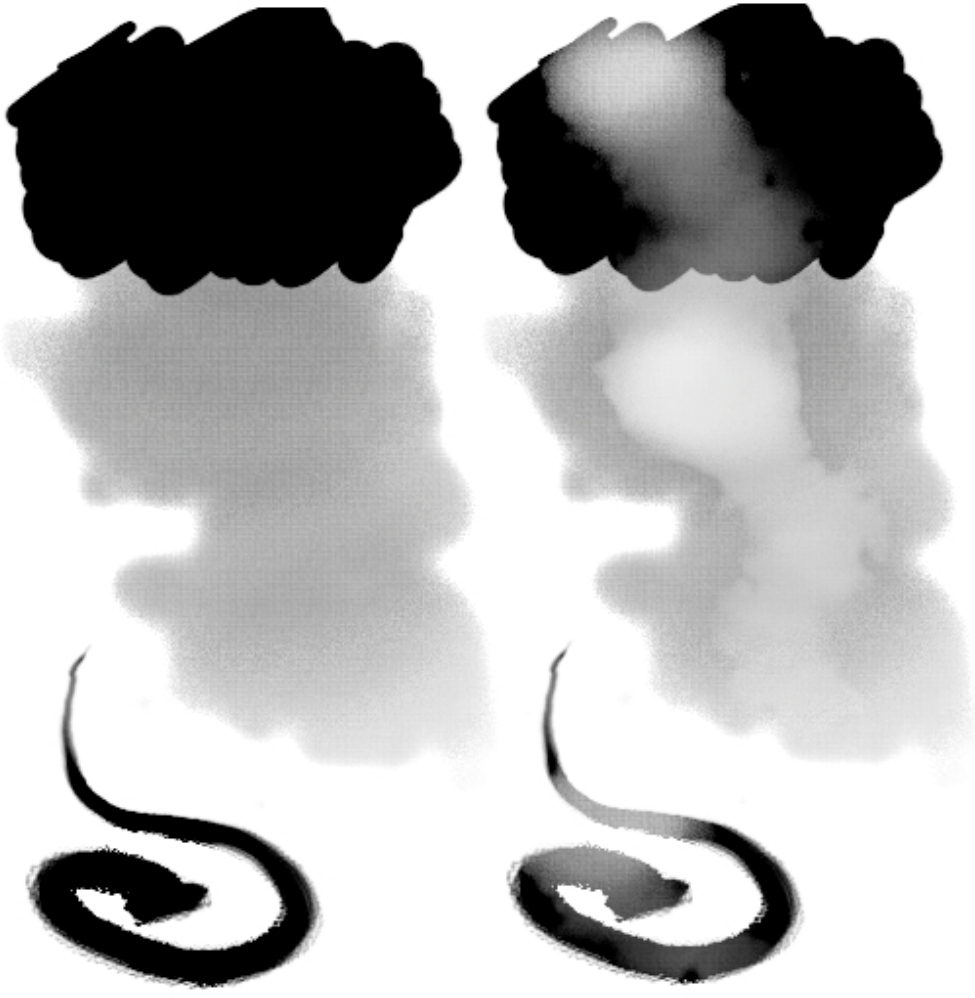
# Eraser preset- Rag 2



A smaller eraser with a more papery texture. Good for moody highlights.

No adjustments are needed for mouse.

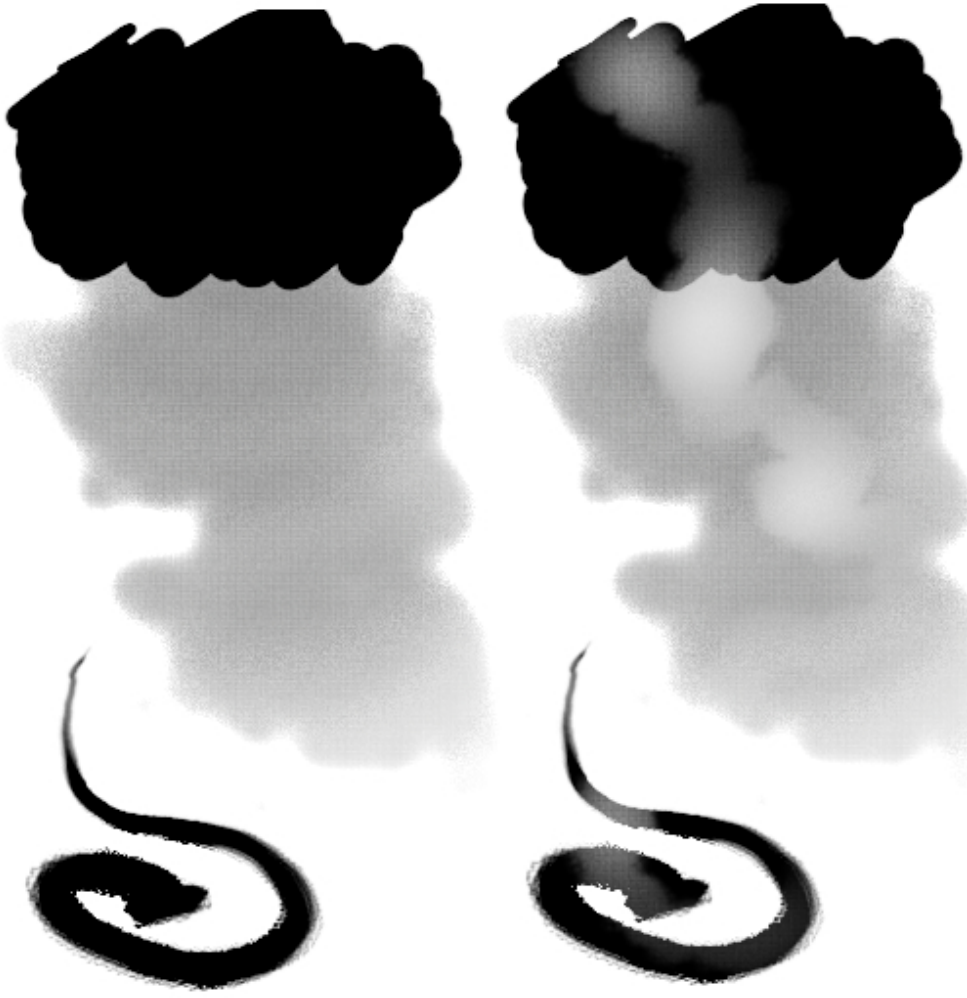
# Eraser preset- Watered Ink



A textured eraser that simulates adding water to dry ink, but without the bleeding.

No adjustments are needed for mouse, but turning down flow will give different effects.

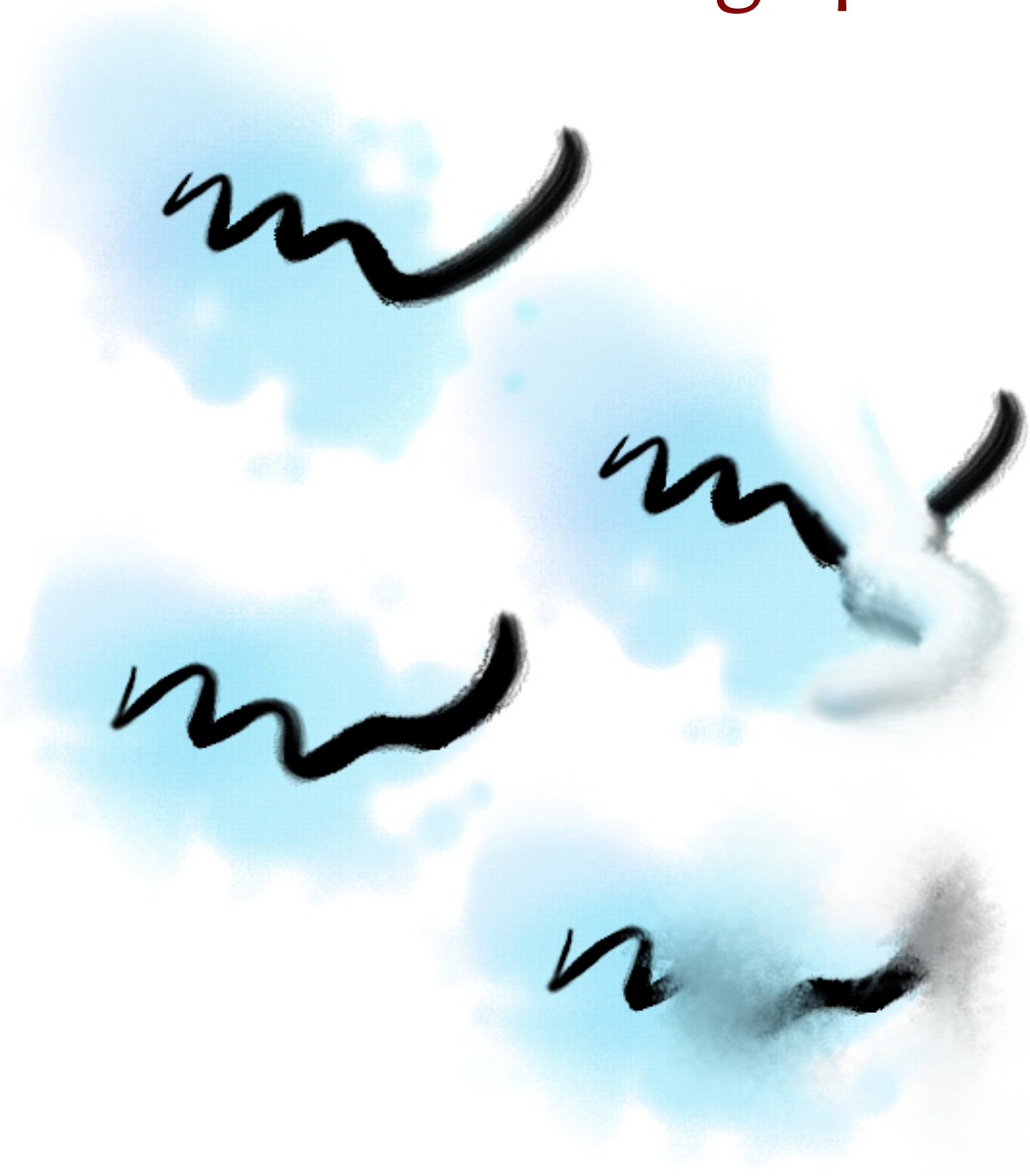
# Eraser preset- Watered Ink 2



A smaller, runnier version of water on ink for more precision.

No adjustments are needed for mouse. Slower strokes give a stronge effect.

# Smudge presets

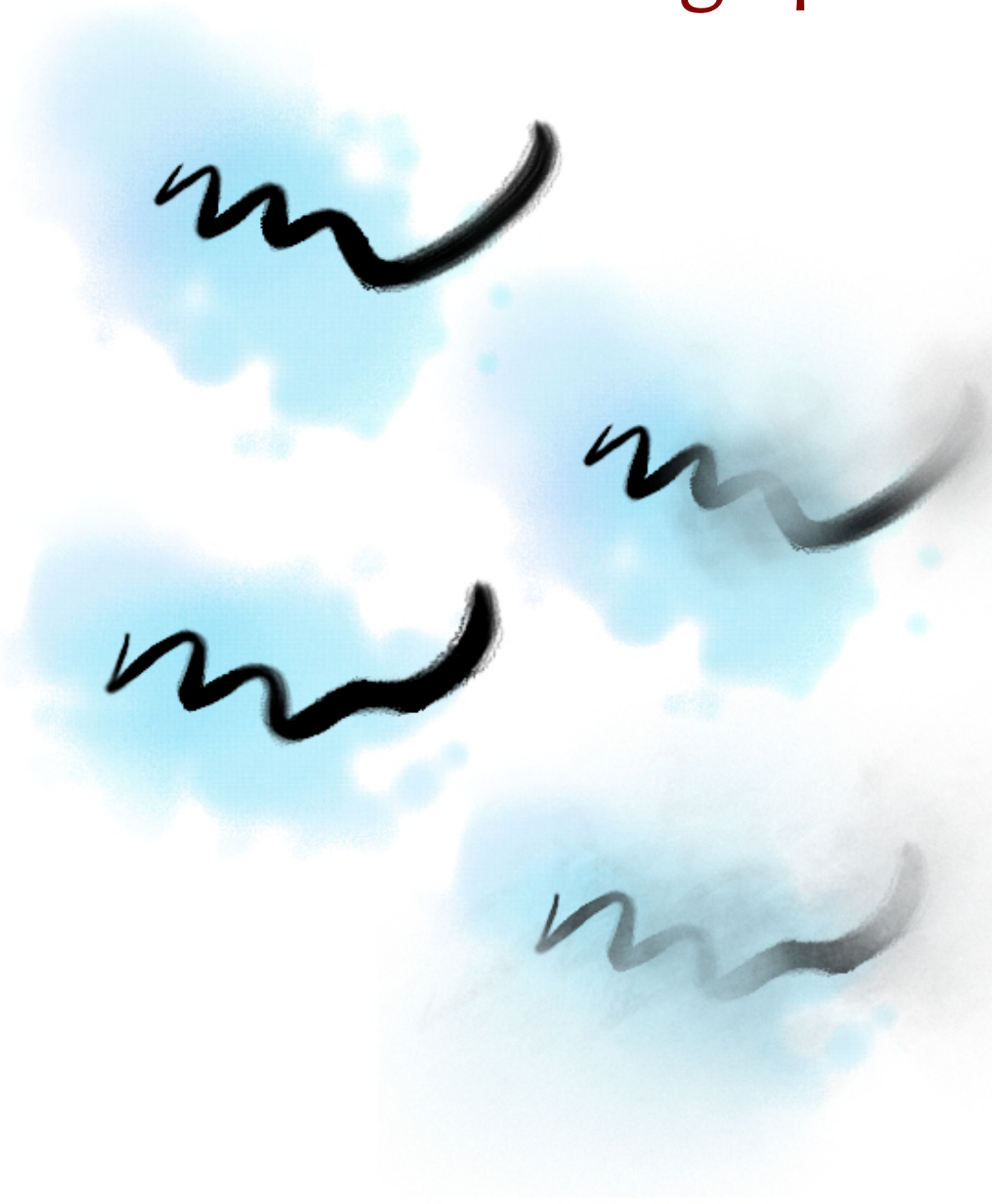


Wet Mix- the effect of a sopping wet brush on ink. Destroys anything in its path.

Watered Texture-use to phase out hard edges and create a textured mix.

Mouse users may need to turn down the strength.

# Smudge presets

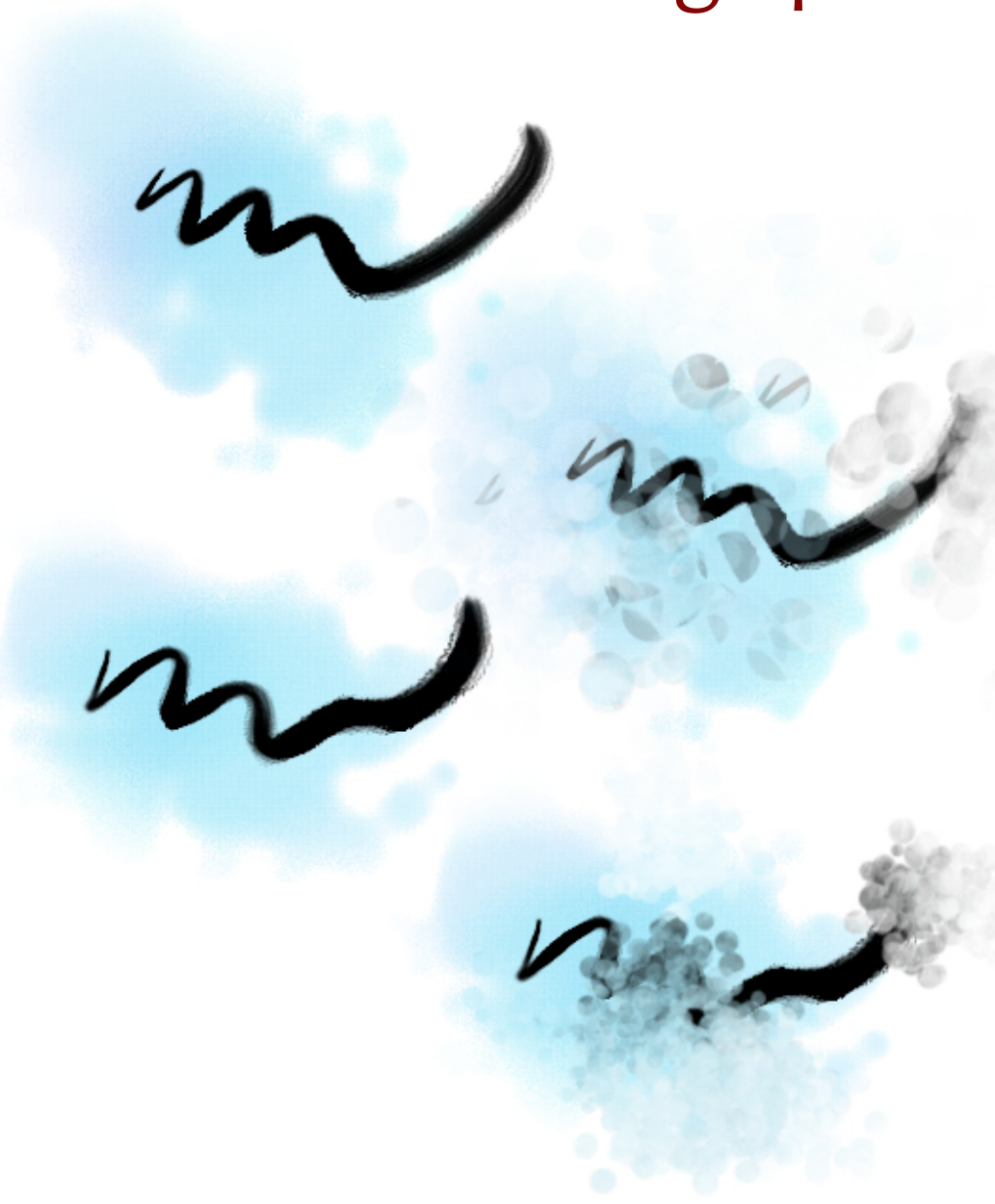


Ink Wash-another brush for softening edges and gently fading. Has a very subtle texture.

Soften Edge-very similar, but has a more subtle touch. Good for mist and fantasy looks.

Mouse users should turn down size and strength for both.

# Smudge presets



Fun Splats- a fun, bubbly smudger. Great for finishing touches and scrapbooking, as well as fantasy world.

Champagne- a smaller, denser version suitable for creating texture and blending, as well as fun effects.