

Am I overworking this painting?

Overworking often starts when you can no longer name the purpose of the next mark. Repeatedly correcting a passage can flatten value variety, remove lively edges, and weaken marks that were already doing their job.

FOUR STUDIO MARKERS

1

Stop touching it

Set the brush down. Look at the painting from across the room, not only from arm's length.

2

Find what still works

Name two passages you would keep untouched. These are anchors, not areas to 'improve.'

3

Identify the impulse

Are you changing something because it needs a specific correction, or because you feel uncomfortable stopping?

4

Protect the painting

Take a photograph. If you must adjust a passage, decide the location and purpose before picking up the brush.

TRY THIS NOW

Circle one area on a photo—not on the painting—that truly needs work. If you cannot justify it, leave the original alone today.

CONTINUE THIS TRAIL

Find the next step, related resources, or an optional studio companion.

</go/overworking/>

You are an artist, even here.

QR CODE

reserved for launch