This short tutorial will show you how to get from a simple photo to a realistic watercolor, using only FotoSketcher.

The source image used is the following photo of a red apple:

After a few simple steps you will get the following watercolor:
Step 1: open your source image.

💡 You can open a new source image in many different ways:

- Click on « File » in the menu and then on « Open a picture »
- Or press « CTRL+O » on your keyboard
- Or click on the first icon in the icon bar (the blue folder icon)
- Or right-click on the left panel and choose « Open a picture » in the pop-up menu
- Or drag and drop an image on the left panel
- Or copy an image in another program and then press « CTRL+V » in FotoSketcher

Step 2: the « drawing parameters » window should appear automatically (if not, press the « F10 » key).

In the « drawing parameters window », choose the « Painting 9 (watercolor) » effect in the « Drawing style » drop-down menu, as shown below:

Move the sliders to the values shown in the screenshot above, and press the « Draw » button.

Step 3: swap the left and right images, so that the watercolor created in step 2 becomes the new source image (in the left panel).

💡 You can swap the left and right images by right-clicking on the right image and choosing « Swap left and right images » in the drop-down menu (as shown in the next screenshot) or simply by pressing the « F12 » key.
You should now have the painted apple in the left panel. This is now your new source image to apply another effect, as shown below:
Step 4: now choose the « Painting 1 (watercolor) » effect in the « Drawing style » drop-down menu, as shown below:

Move the sliders to the values shown in the screenshot above, and press the « Draw » button.

Optional: we are nearly done, so check the « Add a frame » and « Texture » tick boxes if you wish.

💡 to choose the frame and texture you wish to use, click on the buttons circled in green or red in the following screenshot:
You should now have a watercolor similar to the one shown below:

**Step 5**: in order to add transparent text to our final image, you first need to copy it to the Windows clipboard. To do so, either press « CTRL+C » or right-click on the right image and choose « Copy drawing to clipboard » in the pop-up menu, as shown in the following screenshot:
Step 6: now paste the image in the Windows clipboard to FotoSketcher, either by pressing « CTRL+V » or by right-clicking on the left image and choosing « Paste image from clipboard » in the pop-up menu, as shown in the following screenshot:

![FotoSketcher screenshot](image-url)

Step 7: you will now have your watercolor picture in both panels (as shown below). Now simply add text.

💡 to add text to your painting, you can either:

- Click on « Edit » in the menu and then on « Add text »
- Press « CTRL+T »
- Or click on the text icon in the icon bar

Once you are happy with the color, font and placement of your text, simply click on the « OK » button of the « Add text » window, as shown in the following screenshot:
**Final step**: in order to change the transparency of the text you just added, you can use the « Merge source and result images » effect in the « Drawing parameters » window.

💡 to open the « Drawing parameters » window, you can either:

- Click on « Edit » in the menu and then on « Drawing parameters... »
- Or press « F10 »
- Or click on the drawing icon in the icon bar
Move the first slider (« Blending intensity ») to your liking in order to get a more or less transparent text, then click on the « Draw » button.

You can now save your masterpiece 😊

💡 You can save your image in many different ways:

- Click on « File » in the menu and then on « Save the drawing as... »
- Or press « CTRL+S » on your keyboard
- Or click on the second icon in the icon bar (the floppy disk icon)
- Or right-click on the right panel and choose « Save the drawing as... » in the pop-up menu
- Or copy your picture to the Windows clipboard by pressing « CTRL+C » and paste it in another program

Have fun experimenting!