

# Stretching Watercolor Paper

By Joye Moon

## **Supplies needed:**

140 pound cold press watercolor paper.

Staples

The board should be 1 inch larger on all sides so if you are stretching a half sheet, 15"x22" your board should be 17"x 24".

Submerge the paper in clean water and let soak for 5 minutes.

Hold the paper up and let the excess water drip off. Place it onto the board and use your hands to squish away excess water and any air bubbles that are under the paper. Staple about 2 to 3 inches apart all the way around the paper. Staple about 1/8 to 1/4 inch from the edge of the paper.

Let this dry completely. Put masking tape over the staples and on to the board. This helps keep the paint from floating under the paper and it makes for a nice white edge.

Do not remove the paper from the board. You will paint right on this surface. When the painting is completed, remove the staples. The paper will remain flat.