



Baohong

the fine art of making paper



The Masters Choice
Die Wahl der Meister
Le Choix des Maîtres
La elección de los Maestros



Baohong Masters' Watercolor Paper: History

Baohong Masters' Choice watercolor paper has rapidly gained a reputation among artists worldwide, challenging the dominance of long-established brands. Its journey is a testament to a combination of traditional craftsmanship, innovative techniques, and a collaborative spirit.

Meeting of Minds

The story unfolds with a pivotal meeting between renowned Australian watercolor artists Ross Patterson and David Taylor and the owner of a small, family-run paper mill in Northeast China. This mill, steeped in a long tradition of papermaking, had a vision: to craft a world-class watercolor paper. To bring this vision to life, Patterson and Taylor, alongside Luke Senior, an Australian distributor for Daniel Smith Watercolors, embarked on an intensive three-year journey of trial, error, and refinement. As the project progressed, the expertise of Joseph Zbukvic was sought to further perfect the paper's quality, particularly the delicate balance of gelatine used in its production.

Crafting a Masterpiece

The artists provided invaluable input, guiding the mill in developing a paper that met the exacting demands of professional watercolorists. Key considerations included:

- * **Raw Materials:** 100% cotton was chosen for its strength, absorbency, and longevity.
- * **Manufacturing Process:** Traditional methods were combined with modern technology to ensure consistent quality and evenness.
- * **Sizing:** A meticulous sizing process, both internal and external, using traditional gelatin, was crucial for controlling watercolor flow and preventing buckling.
- * **Surface Texture:** A range of textures was developed to cater to different painting styles, from the smooth, hot-pressed surface ideal for fine detail to the more textured cold-pressed and rough surfaces suitable for expressive washes.

Paper That Performs

The culmination of this collaborative effort was the birth of Baohong Masters' Choice watercolor paper. Its key characteristics include:

- * **Exceptional Watercolor Performance:** The paper readily accepts multiple washes without buckling or pilling, allowing for seamless blending and lifting techniques.
- * **Longevity:** Acid-free and pH neutral, the paper is designed to withstand the test of time, preserving artwork for generations.
- * **Versatility:** Suitable for a wide range of watercolor techniques, from delicate washes to bold impasto.
- * **Affordability:** Offered at a competitive price point, the paper makes high-quality watercolor painting accessible to a broader audience.

Working Characteristics

Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper has exceptional wet strength, allowing artists to work with multiple layers of wet media without paper deterioration. This strength comes from the careful fiber selection and processing, resulting in a paper that can withstand demanding techniques like scrubbing and lifting.





Paper Making Process

The creation of Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper involves several meticulous steps that contribute to its unique properties. The process begins with the careful selection of raw materials, utilizing highest-quality cotton fibers to create a pulp that balances strength with absorbency.

What sets Baohong Masters' apart is the unique sizing process. The paper receives multiple layers of internal and surface sizing, creating a surface that allows watercolor pigments to settle beautifully while preventing excessive bleeding. This careful balance makes Baohong Masters Watercolour Paper suitable for even the most demanding and delicate watercolor techniques.

Perhaps most notably, Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper is its unique absorbency characteristic. Baohong Masters' has a unique slow absorption rate, allowing artists more time to manipulate colour and pigment. This property aligns with traditional Chinese painting techniques that require precise control over color flow. The paper's controlled absorbency allows for the most subtle gradations essential in delicate watercolour painting techniques.

Future

Baohong continues to innovate, expanding its range of watercolor papers to meet the evolving needs of artists. The brand's commitment to quality, collaboration, and affordability ensures that Baohong Masters' Choice will remain a significant player in the watercolor paper market for years to come.

The story of Baohong Masters' Choice watercolor paper is a testament to the power of collaboration between artists and manufacturers. By combining traditional craftsmanship with modern technology, the brand has created a high-quality, affordable paper that is inspiring a new generation of watercolorists. As the popularity of watercolor continues to grow, Baohong Masters' Choice is poised to play an increasingly important role in shaping the future of this timeless art form.



Block 31 x 41 cm



Block 18 x 26 cm



Block 12,5 x 18 cm

Joseph Zbukvic

Joseph Zbukvic

I discovered Baohong paper while searching for something new and different after using the usual brands for some 45 years. I immediately fell in love with its variety of surfaces, versatility, price and it's toughness. For me personally, it also has the added advantage of being receptive to the use of gouache for corrections, without it looking obvious. I highly recommend it for its suitability for any level of painting, from students to professional artists.





Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

HOT PRESSED • SATINIERT • GRAIN SATINÉ • GRANO SATINADO



Block 46 x 61 cm



Block 36 x 51 cm



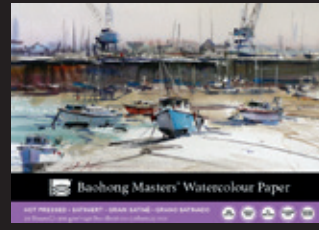
Block 31 x 41 cm



Block 26 x 36 cm



Block 23 x 31 cm



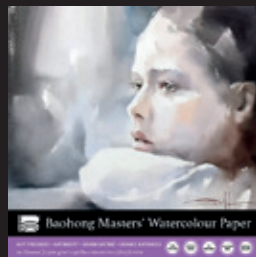
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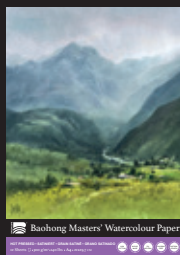
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Block 40 x 40 cm



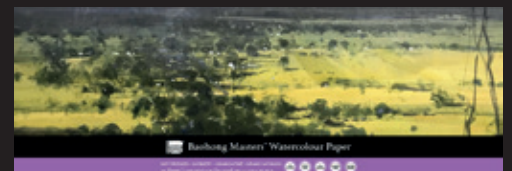
A3 Pad



A4 Pad



A5 Pad



Block 13 x 38 cm



Sheet 56 x 76 cm



Sheet 38 x 56 cm



Sheet 28 x 38 cm



Roll 1,3 x 10 meter



Jean Haines

I have had an incredible time discovering Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

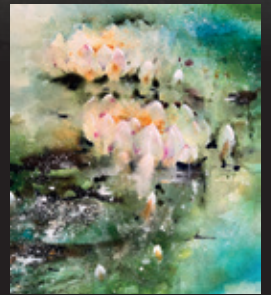
I adore the rough surface paper. Colour glides easily over the surface. It lends itself perfectly to the medium. Colours stay rich and vibrant. Pigments readily interact and it is sheer joy to paint on. I couldn't resist trying a rose watercolour on the cold pressed paper. The surface texture is finer and again I loved the feel of working on it.

I'm absolutely in love with this paper !



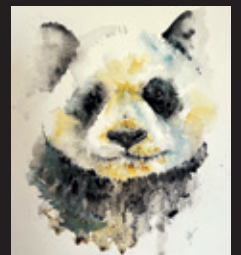
Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

Block A3 Portrait



Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

Block A4 Portrait



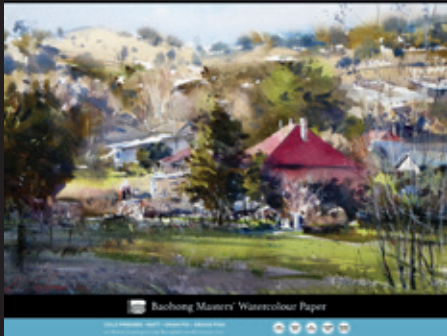
Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

Block A5 Portrait



Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

COLD PRESSED • MATT • GRAIN FIN • GRANO FINO



Block 46 x 61 cm



Block 36 x 51 cm



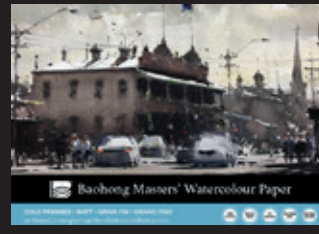
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Block 23 x 31 cm



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Block 15 x 23 cm



Block 12,5 x 18 cm



Block 20 x 20 cm



Block 30 x 30 cm



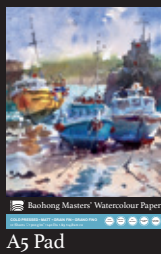
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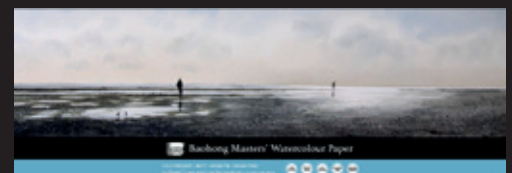
A3 Pad



A4 Pad



A5 Pad



Block 13 x 38 cm



Sheet 56 x 76 cm



Sheet 38 x 56 cm



Sheet 28 x 38 cm



Roll 1,3 x 10 meter



Block 23 x 31 cm



Block 15 x 23 cm



Block 15 x 23 cm



Thomas W Schaller

Because so few materials are needed to complete a watercolour, the quality of those materials is crucial. Nothing can better express the intent of the watercolour artist than the choice of painting surface. When I first discovered Baohong Masters' Choice, it was a revelation. It seems illuminated from within. The texture, the brightness, the durability, and the colour-holding capacities are a joy - like going from walking to flying.

Thomas W Schaller



Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper

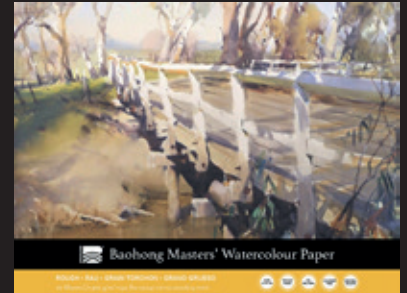
ROUGH • RAU • GRAIN TORCHON • GRANO GRUESO



Block 46 x 61 cm



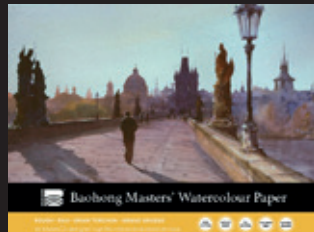
Block 36 x 51 cm



Block 31 x 41 cm



Block 26 x 36 cm



Block 23 x 31 cm



Block 18 x 26 cm



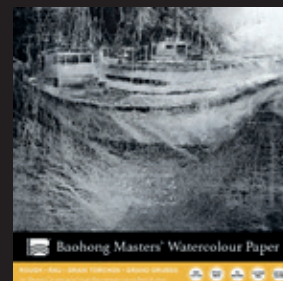
Block 15 x 23 cm



Block 12,5 x 18 cm



Block 20 x 20 cm



Block 30 x 30 cm



Block 40 x 40 cm



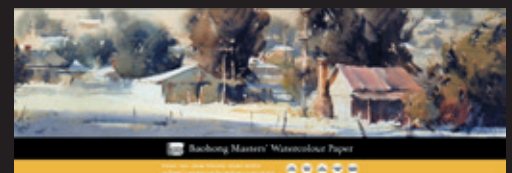
A3 Pad



A4 Pad



A5 Pad



Block 13 x 38 cm



Sheet 56 x 76 cm



Sheet 38 x 56 cm

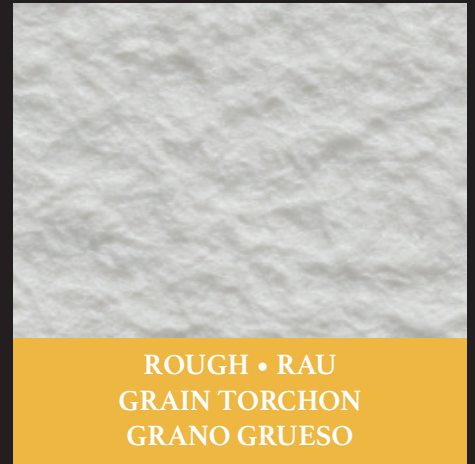
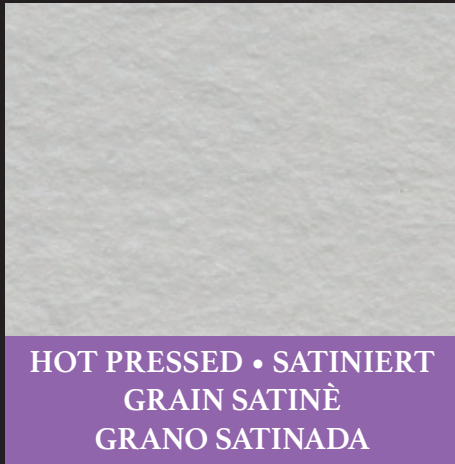


Sheet 28 x 38 cm



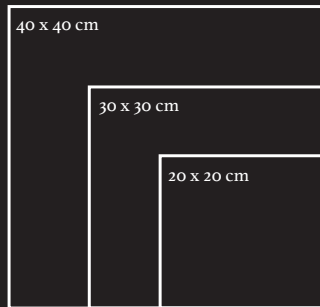
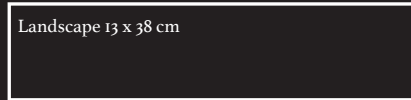
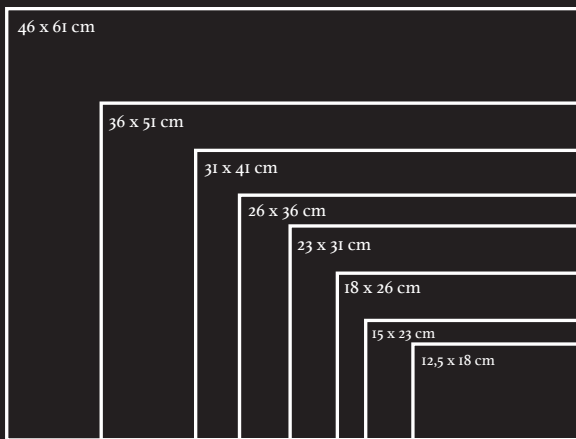
Roll 1,3 x 10 meter

BAOHONG MASTERS' PAPER SURFACES

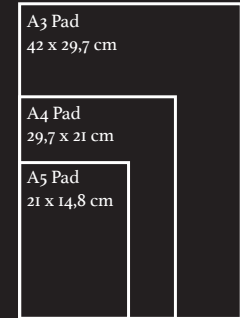


BLOCK & PAD SIZES, SHEETS & ROLLS

Block 20 sheets glued on 4 sides

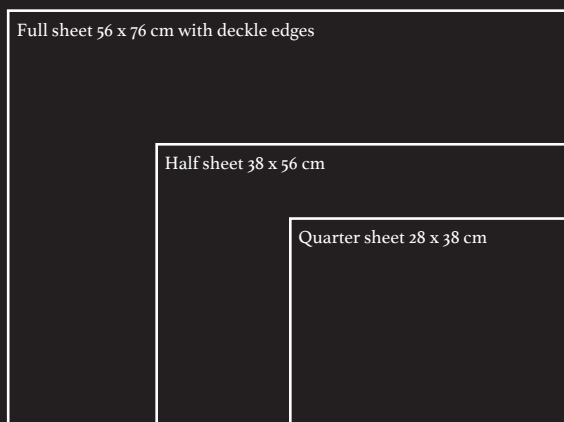


Pads 12 sheets



Short side glued

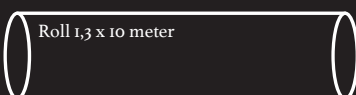
Sheet Sizes



Techniques



Rolls



BAOHONG MASTERS' TRIAL PACK



Baohong Masters' Watercolour Trial Pack contains 3 sheets of 300 grams Cold Pressed, Hot Pressed and Rough 100% Cotton Artist Watercolour Paper traditionally made on a cylinder mould.

Baohong Masters' Watercolour paper is made from 100% natural Cotton and traditionally sized internally and externally with natural gelatin. Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper has a truly unique surface that is receptive to all professional and delicate watercolour techniques.

Masters' Watercolour paper is available in Hot Pressed, Cold Pressed and Rough textures in full size 56x76cm sheets with Deckle Edges as well as in ½ size and ¼ size sheets. There are 12 block sizes ranging from 12.5 x 18 cm to 46 x 61 cm, A-size pads and in rolls of 10 meter

The Baohong Masters' Watercolour Blocks are glued on all four sides, eliminating the need to stretch the paper before painting. Whether you are painting with watercouolors or drawing with ink, Baohong Master's Choice Artists' Watercouolor Paper provide an extraordinary surface for creative expression.

KEY FEATURES:

- Made from highest grade 100% Cotton
- Traditionally made on a cylinder mould
- Acid- and Chlorine-Free, pH-neutral, and Archival
- Weight 300 Grams - 140 LB
- Available in Cold Pressed, Hot pressed and Rough
- Natural Gelatine Sizing
- Natural White with no optical bleaches
- Available in in sheets, rolls, block and pads
- Sheets are Watermarked
- Full sheets of 56x76 cm are deckled on all four sides





Block 26 x 36 cm



Block 31 x 41 cm



Block 36 x 51 cm



Alvaro Castagnet

Because I can be heavy handed with my paints and I'm pretty tough with my paintbrushes my choice of paper must be a 100% cotton of extremely high quality one with great absorption and texture. The Masters' Choice by Baohong Artist Watercolor paper in 300 gram suits my style of painting watercolours perfect.

Alvaro Castagnet



Block 46 x 61 cm



Block 36 x 51 cm



Block 46 x 61 cm



Amanda Hyatt

The Baohong paper quality is world class and suited for beginners through to masters of the watercolour medium.

I have personally found it excellent in that it offers three working surfaces suited for artists and the many varied ways in which they paint.

These are "Hot pressed smooth" paper which is excellent for detailed work because the paint spreads uniformly over the surface. This paper is suitable for botanic, wildlife and other detailed work.

The "Cold pressed medium" paper is suitable for beginners and students because it is easy to use and the paint fragments slightly.

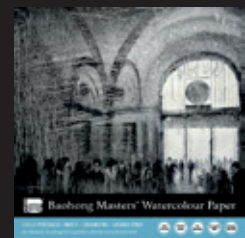
The "Grain torchon rough" paper requires considerable technical mastery. It is not suitable for detail. The paint does not cover dips and it fragments greatly. This paper is excellent for artists who want to advance their work.



Block 40 x 40 cm



Block 30 x 30 cm



Block 20 x 20 cm

Nicholas Lopez

The main reason why I choose Baohong Masters' as one of my favourite papers for painting is its defined character for the handling of water in its various textures. When making my choice, it is important to me that it brings out the brightness of the colours, the differentiated tones but above all, its expressiveness. This paper is strong and resistant with a perfect surface to paint the boldest strokes with great contrasts and a lot of character.



Jan Min

I always advice all my students to start with excellent materials, especially using great paper. Being myself always looking for new materials i was very impressed by the Baohong paper. Great possibilities for wet in wet technique, good lifting, good saturation, great for dry brush strokes and keeps in a fine way the transparency. The 300gsm cold-pressed paper is very firmly and gives all the painter needs. For students to professionals I can really reccomend this great paper!



Block 26 x 36 cm

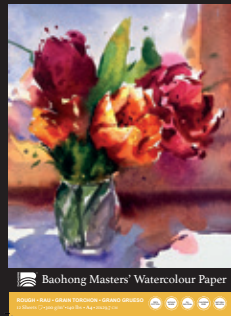


Block 13 x 38 cm





A3 Pad



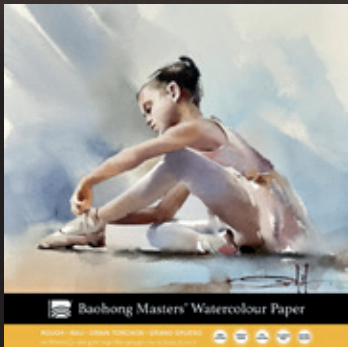
A4 Pad



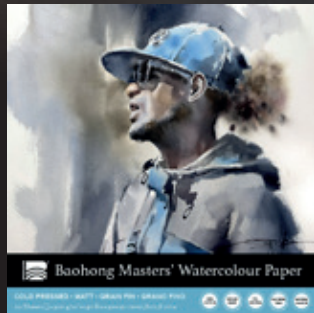
A5 Pad

Tom Sheperd

I love colour and bold brushstrokes. Colours on Baohong Masters' Watercolour paper come out so clean, clear and vibrant, with hardly any colour-shift from wet to dry. The paper handles tons of water and pigment, along a wide range of mark making techniques with absolute ease. Baohong Masters' Watercolour paper is my favourite and it is a joy to work with!



Block 40 x 40 cm



Block 30 x 30 cm



Block 20 x 20 cm



Michael Solovyev

There is simply nothing to compare Baohong Master's Choix paper with— its texture and ability to hold water are unparalleled.

I am incredibly happy that professional material has appeared in the world that not only follows traditions, but corresponds to modern watercolor techniques.



The Origin of Paper

The origin of paper starts in China. Archaeological evidence of papermaking in China dates back around 2000 years ago in the 2nd century BC. The traditional credit for the invention of paper goes to Cai Lun, a court member of the Han imperial dynasty, who is said to have developed a new and improved papermaking process in 105 BC.

Cai Lun invented paper by mixing hemp, mulberry bark, and cotton with water and then pounding them into a pulp. The pulp was then spread out on a silk-screen and allowed to dry, forming a thin sheet of paper. Cai Lun's paper was a major improvement over previous writing materials, such as bamboo and parchment. It was cheaper, more durable, and easier to write and work on. As a result, it quickly became the preferred material for calligraphy, writing and the arts in China.

By the 6th century, papermaking had spread to Korea and Japan. In the 8th century, papermaking was introduced to the Islamic world, and by the 12th century, it reached Europe. The first European paper mill was established in Spain in 1151. Papermaking quickly spread to other parts of Europe, and by the 15th century, paper was widely used throughout the European continent.

Here is a short timeline of the milestones in the history of paper:

- 2nd century: Cai Lun invents paper in China in 105 BC.
- 6th century: Papermaking spreads to Korea and Japan.
- 8th century: Papermaking is introduced to the Islamic world.
- 12th century: Papermaking reaches Europe.
- 1440: Johannes Gutenberg from Mainz, Germany invents the printing press, which leads to a dramatic increase in the production of paper books.
- 18th century: The first paper mills are built in North America.
- 19th century: Papermaking becomes more industrialized, and paper becomes more widely available and affordable.

Paper made from cotton pulp had a profound impact on the world. It made it possible for many people to read, learn, write, make art, and it was essential to spread knowledge and culture more widely. Paper also played a key role in the development of printing and publishing, which in turn helped to spread the ideas and the arts from Renaissance to current days.

The Chinese invention of paper is one of the most important and exciting technological advancements in human history. It has had a profound impact on the world, and it continues to play a vital role in our society today. Paper is one of the most widely used materials in the world; it is used for writing, making art, printing, packaging, and an incredible wide variety of other essential purposes. The art of making paper is one of the most important technological ancient inventions that we still enjoy and use in present times.





The difference between Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper and Baohong Masters' Watercolour Paper.

A review by Jan Min

I have greatly enjoyed working with Baohong Masters' Watercolour paper for a number of years, usually with the cold pressed paper, which has a medium structure. This paper has a nice texture, excellent possibilities for wet-in-wet, good "lifting" and gives you fantastic granulation.

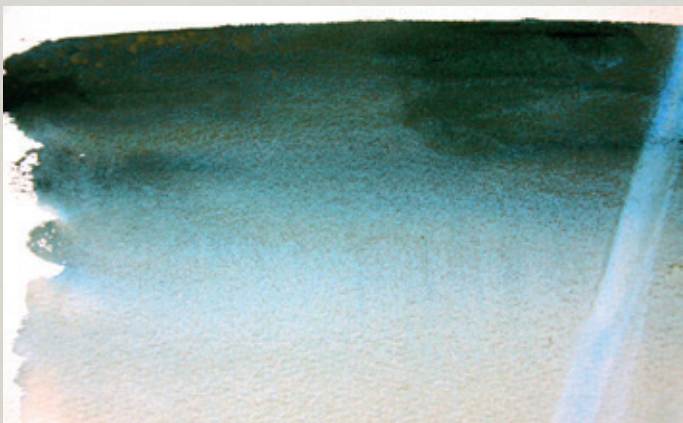
Baohong Classic Watercolour paper has been available since the beginning of this year. It is also a 100% cotton paper, but at a lower price. What are the differences that you are finding between the two versions in terms of the paper and the artistic possibilities? I have tried to pay attention to the different properties of these watercolour papers, while focussing on what is important.

First of all, I contacted the European distributor of Baohong paper regarding the technical differences. Both are made from 100% cotton, but there are differences in the quality of the cotton, the speed of the production process and the type of gelatine used. Baohong Masters' is made from the highest quality cotton shreds with very long fibres, while Baohong Classic is made from cotton with shorter fibres. The Baohong Paper Mill also states that the gelatine used in each type of paper is different and that the production speed on the circular sieve for the Masters' paper is lower. The Baohong Masters' paper, therefore, has better absorption and better colour/pigment development, making it a worthy consideration for both developing and established artists.

The TEST – my practical experiences and the differences between the papers.

GRANULATION

I am testing the granulation on both types of paper. A great colour that breaks up beautifully into a blue and yellow hue is Cascade Green by Daniel Smith. Granulation occurs on both types of paper, which is easily seen on the Masters' paper, but less pronounced on the Classic. This is not a big problem in itself. After all, they are different papers and where one person may like strong granulation, someone else may be looking for a paper with more subdued granulation.



Baohong Classic with Cascade Green



Baohong Masters' with Cascade Green



Baohong Classic Cold Pressed



Baohong Masters' Cold Pressed

Wet-in-Wet, Texture, Lifting, Pigment Development

Both pictures go well and the Classic paper is very pleasing to work with, but lifting and dry brush strokes are a little more difficult with this paper. The wet-in-wet technique is no problem at all. The colour and pigment development remain good, but are better on Masters' paper than on the Classic.

I also encounter the same features in the following results on the Rough quality

In the example below, it is striking that when using the Masters' paper, the colour is brighter and more powerful and the granulation much more attractive. Lifting is also better and dry brush strokes become stronger, thanks to the improved texture of the Masters' paper.



Baohong Classic Rough



Baohong Masters' Rough

Conclusion:

The new Classic Baohong paper is a really good watercolour paper at a very attractive price for a 100% cotton paper and is a great alternative to paper made from cellulose. I prefer the Baohong Masters' paper based on its great properties and advantages, but it is, as a result, more expensive to purchase.

The advantages are: better texture, better ability to lift and better colour/pigment development and granulation.

Jan Min, PWSA
Watercolourist, Daniel Smith Brand Ambassador
& Chairman IWS Holland



Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper



HOT PRESSED
SATINIERT
GRAIN SATINÉ
GRANO SATINADO

COLD PRESSED
MATT
GRAIN FIN
GRANO FINO

ROUGH
RAU
GRAIN TORCHON
GRANO GRUESO



Baohong Classic Watercolor Paper

Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper has gained recognition among artists for offering professional-quality paper at a competitive price point. It is made from 100% cotton fiber, which is considered the gold standard for professional watercolor papers. Baohong Classic 300 grams watercolour paper is acid-free and of archival quality, ensuring artwork longevity. It is available in both cold-pressed (CP) and hot-pressed (HP) and Rough (R) surfaces.

Surface Characteristics

Cold-Pressed

The cold-pressed variant features a fine texture (grain fin) that strikes an excellent balance between rough and smooth. This surface texture:

- Creates natural granulation effects with mineral-based pigments
- Allows for controlled washes while maintaining some texture
- Provides enough tooth for dry brush techniques
- Accepts multiple layers of paint without deterioration

Hot-Pressed

The hot-pressed version offers a smooth surface (satiné) that excels in:

- Detailed architectural and botanical illustrations
- Fine line work and precise brushstrokes
- Creating sharp edges and clean lifts
- Supporting mixed media applications

Rough

The Baohong Classic rough (grain torchon) version offers:

- Pronounced hills and valleys in the paper surface
- More prominent texture than the cold-pressed version
- Shows visible grain even from a distance
- Creates natural texture effects even with smooth wash.

Paint Absorption

Because of its 100% Cotton content and excellent sizing Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper allows colours to sit on the surface long enough for manipulation while still maintaining good absorption when needed.

Durability

Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper holds up well under various watercolour techniques: it sustains repeated wetting and scrubbing, will resist buckling when properly stretched and handles erasing and surface modification well

Baohong Classic Watercolor Paper represents an excellent 100% cotton quality value proposition. Baohong Classic offers many characteristics of premium papers but at a more accessible price point, making it a worthy consideration for both developing and established artists.





Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper

HOT PRESSED • SATINIERT • GRAIN SATINÉ • GRANO SATINADO



 Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper
Aquarell • Aquarelle • Acuarela

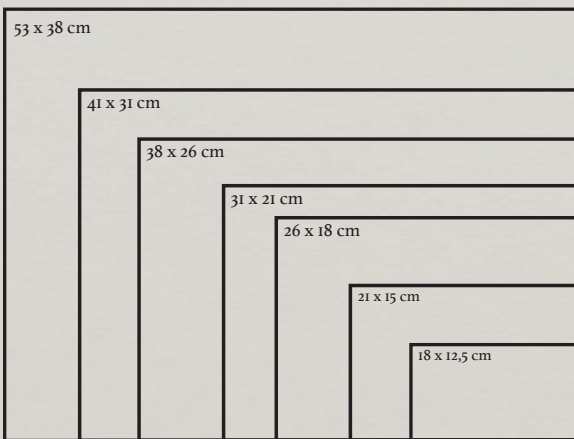


HOT PRESSED • SATINIERT • GRAIN SATINÉ • GRANO SATINADO

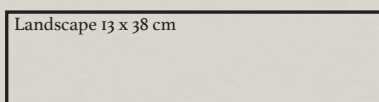
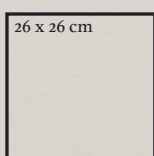
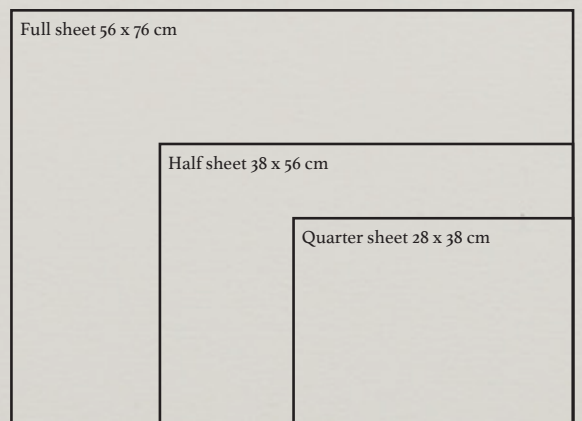
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BLOCK SIZES, SHEETS & ROLLS

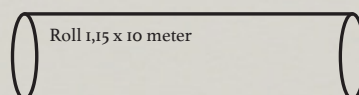
Blocks 20 sheets glued on 4 sides



Sheet Sizes



Rolls





Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper

COLD PRESSED • MATT • GRAIN FIN • GRANO FINO



 **Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper**
Aquarell • Aquarelle • Acuarela

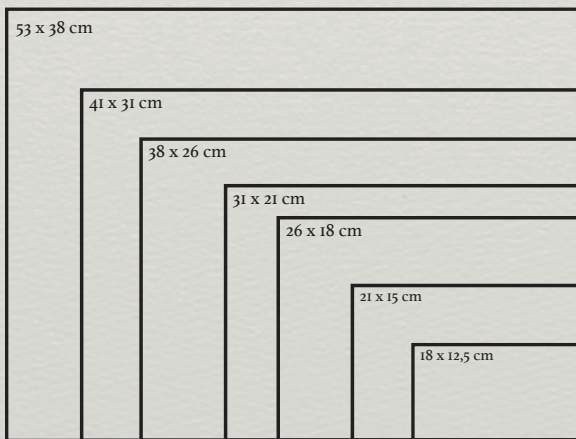


COLD PRESSED • MATT • GRAIN FIN • GRANO FINO

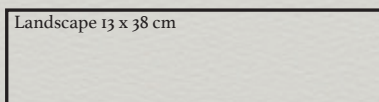
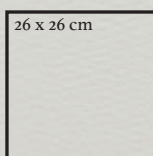
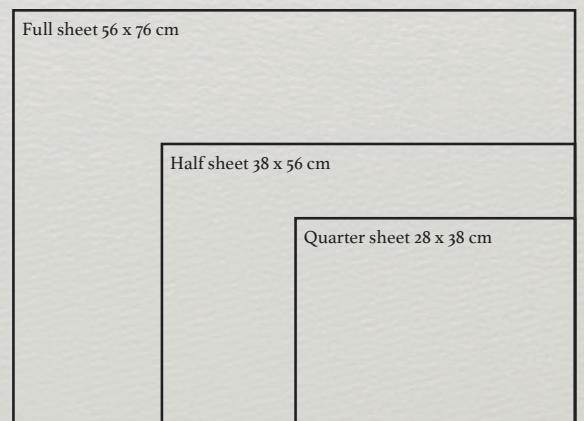
Sheets • Bogen 20 Feuilles • Hojas	Grams/m ² 300 140 lbs	Cotton • Baumwolle 100% Pur Coton • Algodón	Format • Block 21x31 cm 8,2 x 12,2 Inch	Acid Free pH-Neutral pH-Neutre Libre de ácido	Mould Made Rundsieb Cylindre ronde Máquina Redonda	Archival Quality Archivqualität Qualite des archives Calidad de Archivo
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BLOCK SIZES, SHEETS & ROLLS

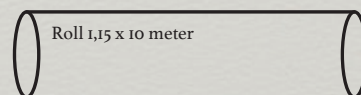
Blocks 20 sheets glued on 4 sides



Sheet Sizes



Rolls





Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper

ROUGH • RAU • GRAIN TORCHON • GRANO GRUESO



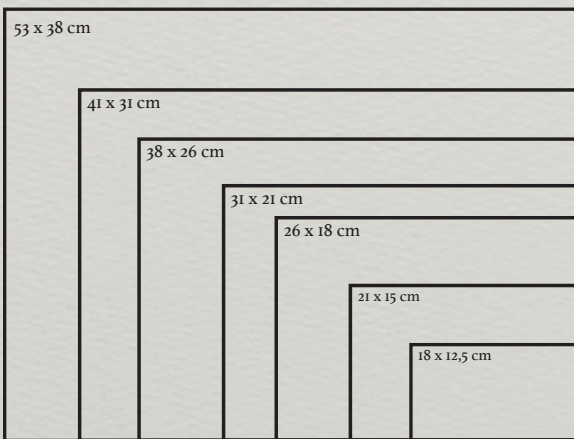
Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper
Aquarell • Aquarelle • Acuarela

ROUGH • RAU • GRAIN TORCHON • GRANO GRUESO

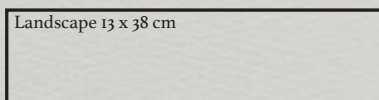
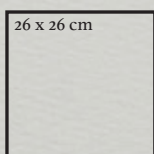
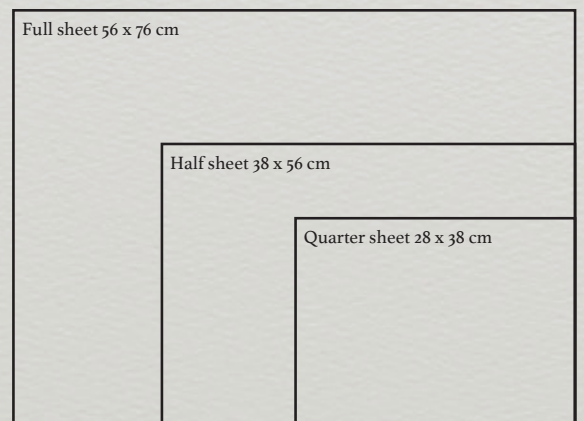
Sheets • Bogen ☐ 20 Feuilles • Hojas	Grams/m ² 300 140 lbs	Cotton • Baumwolle 100% Pur Coton • Algodón	Format • Block 21x31 cm 8,2 x 12,2 Inch	Acid Free pH-Neutral pH-Neutre Libre de ácido	Mould Made Rundsieb Cylindre ronde Máquina Redonda	Archival Quality Archivqualität Qualité des archives Calidad de Archivo
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BLOCK SIZES, SHEETS & ROLLS

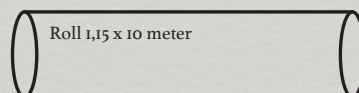
Blocks 20 sheets glued on 4 sides



Sheet Sizes



Rolls





Baohong Classic Watercolour Paper

SKETCHBOOKS

Hot Pressed



16x24 cm



12x16 cm



9x14 cm

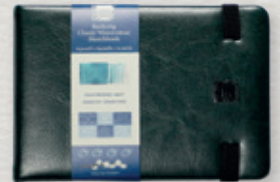
Cold Pressed



16x24 cm



12x16 cm



9x14 cm

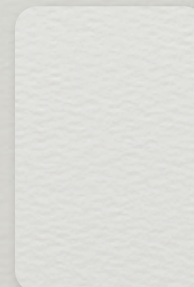
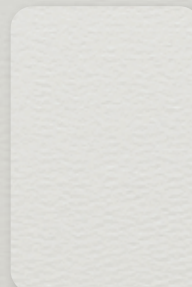
POSTCARD TIN 10x15 cm



16x
Cold Pressed

2x
Rough

2x
Hot Pressed





The Masters have changed their Paper Have You?



Alvaro Castagnet



Joseph Zbukvic



Jean Haines



Thomas W Schaller



Tom Sheperd



Michael Solovyev



Victoria Prishedko



Jorge Corpuna



Ross Paterson



Amanda Hyatt



Gregg Allen



Jan Min