

STAGE 4

Now the darks need to be added, the trick to creating the speckled effect of the Brown Hares fur is to leave much of the under painting showing through. Begin by mixing two browns using equal amounts of Burnt Sienna and Ultramarine, one soft brown (1) and one dark brown (2) as illustrated below, plus another two mixtures of light red and ultramarine to make a reddish grey (3) and a blue grey (4). I would again use the No. 5 brush, but if you feel more confident working with the small brush do so changing to the No. 5 when the hair becomes longer.

I suggest you start with the ears again as this will give you the 'feel' of creating the fur and if you make a mistake it will not be as disastrous as on the face. Start with the blue grey in the ears, beginning down inside the ear and out towards the tips, going back over the grey again to make it darker where needed. Following the way the hair grows work the grey into the blond fringing on the inside edges of the ear to make it stand forward. The ears are a cupped shape to channel the sound down so think of this shape whilst you are painting it.

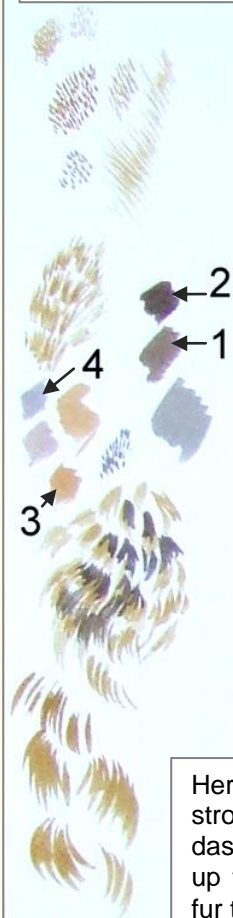
With the warm brown apply small

darks dots and dashes on the inside speckled area of the ears, along the top and outer edges then on the backs of the ears leaving plenty of Raw Sienna and Umber under painting showing through. Now continue using the dark brown go back over the latter areas again but with less frequency allowing the different shades of under painting to show through. Because of the direction of light coming from the right the left hand ear will be darker. Finish off the eye by adding the dark brown around the outside of the eyeball and add a little more dark to the pupil. Use the same dark brown to fill in the nostril.

Now using the tip of your brush of your choice delicately dot the warm brown on the nose and upwards over the bridge of the nose and over the lips, adding slightly larger dots to indicate the whisker follicles. Gradually dot and dash the warm brown up over the eyes and around the cheeks. Go back to the nose and add the dark brown sparingly over the whole head to create shadowed areas, form and texture. Use the light red with a little blue to deepen the area under the throat going back over the fur with the grey made from the red and blue.

The Brown Hares fur is pale underneath overlaid with darker guard hairs so use the warm brown 'clump' your strokes together sparingly imitating the tawny effect on the body fur, going back in with the darker brown to create depth in the fur and on the light and shadow areas. Try not to overdue this stage, you can always add more colour if you feel you need to. It is important to place your final strokes randomly giving the pattern of the fur as loose a look as possible. The majority of whiskers are white, I have used Titanium White.

Artists Tip; watercolour is a transparent medium so when you wish to make an area darker wait until the layer is dry and then apply another layer sparingly of the same colour mix. This way you gain depth in your painting.



Here are samples of strokes, dots and dashes which make up the final hair and fur texture.

