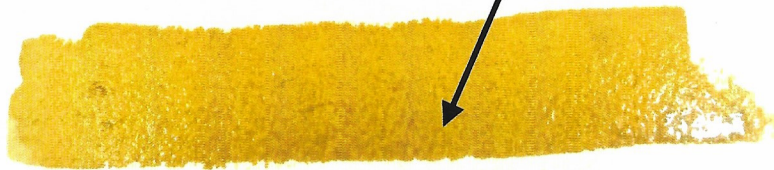


## Basic Kissed Edge Blends

Core Skills - 2" Gravity Beads

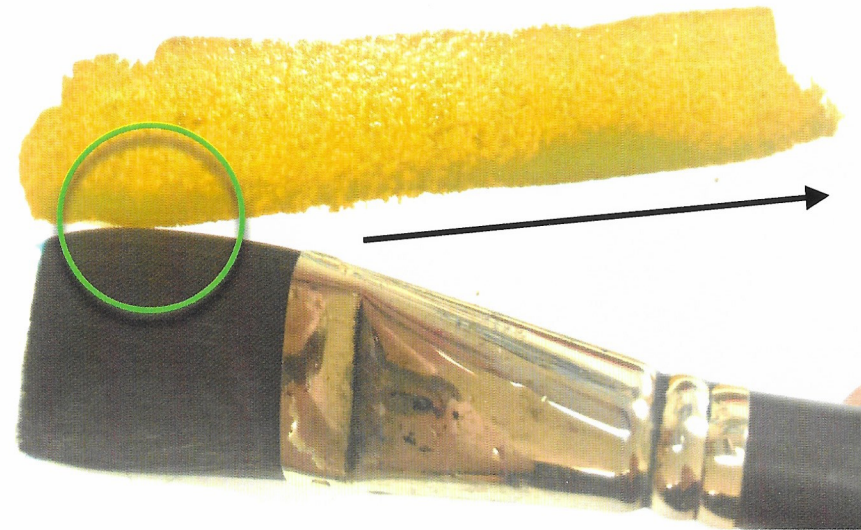
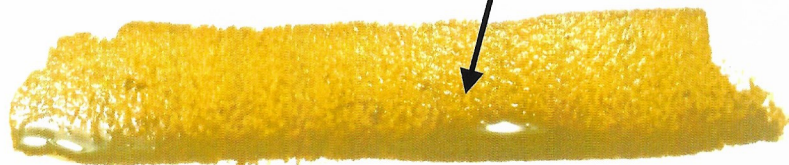
### Thin Bead

This is where the brushwork produces very little bead at the bottom of the gravity flow.



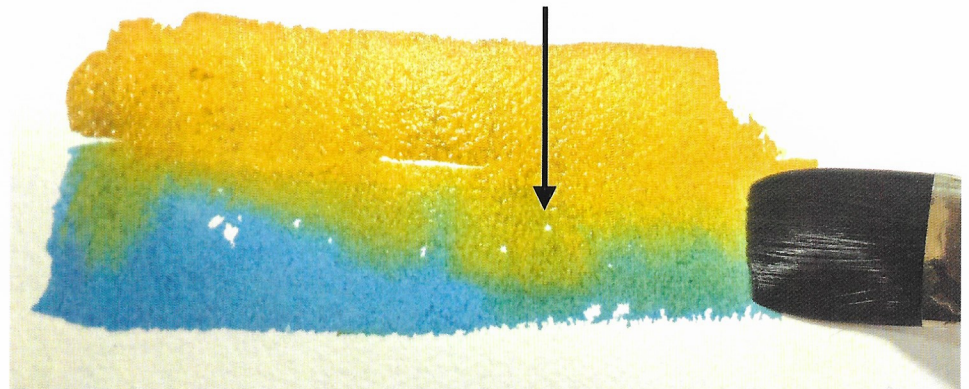
### Strong Bead

With more added water in the brush mix... a larger more well developed gravity bead forms at the bottom edge of the gravity flow.



### Kissing the Edge

Drag the brush tip or tip edge carefully along the bottom edge of the gravity bead so that you just barely touch the wet bead.

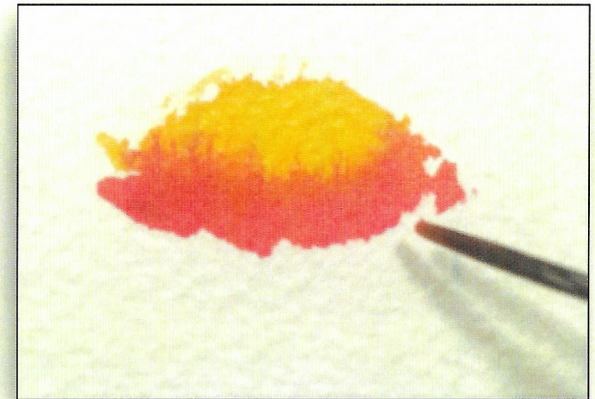
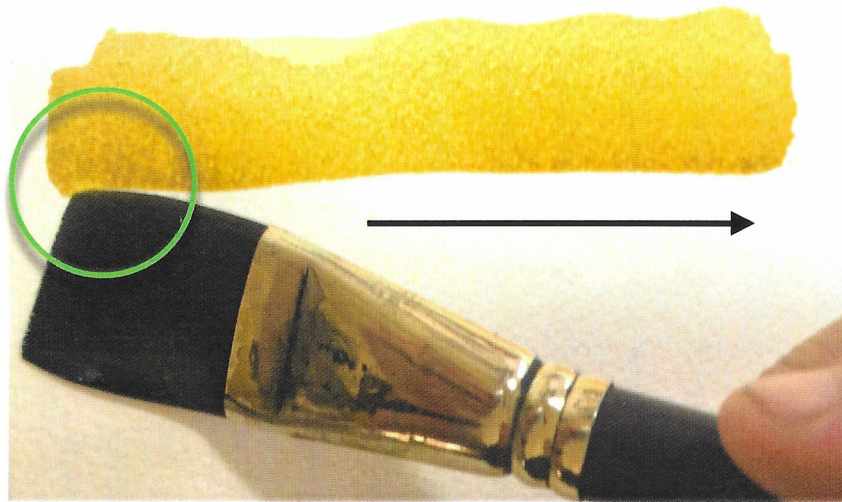


The bead pool will quickly descend into the wet brush stroke... blending right on the paper.

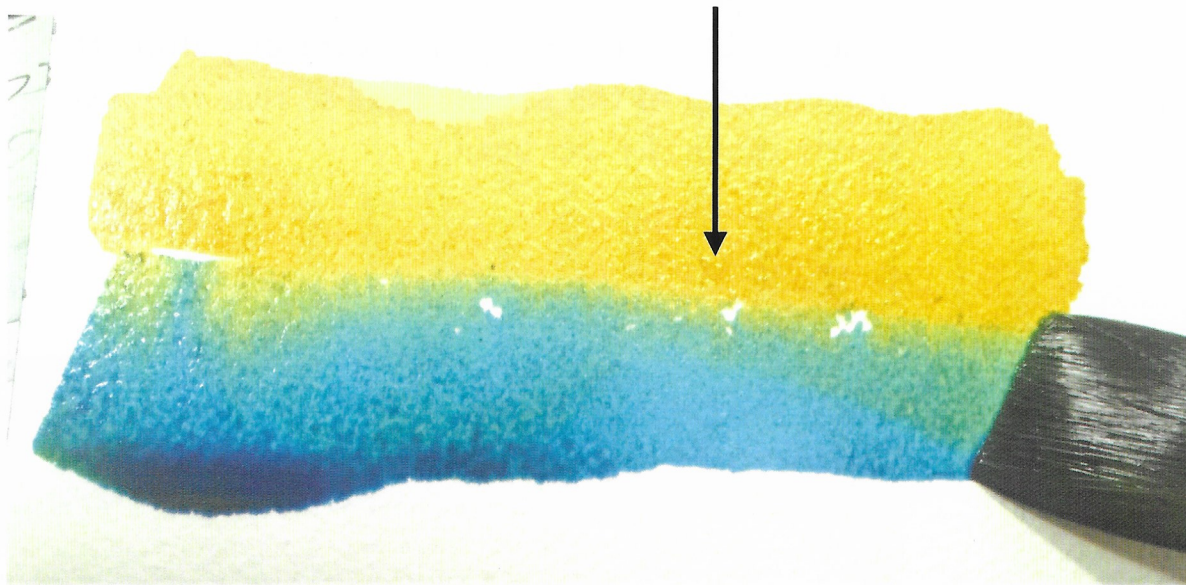


**Thin Bead**

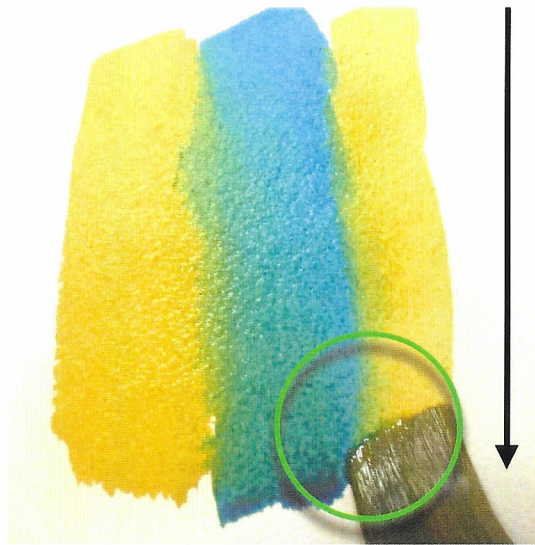
With a very thin gravity bead, the upper color does not flow downward into the lower kissed edge brushstroke as much or as quickly.



When painting birds in watercolor... this is a primary skill and must be practiced with both large & small brushes.







Here's a recent painting I did in my sketchbook where I used this very same technique.



**Vertical Kissed  
Edge Blends**

I use this same skill in vertical brushwork as well.







**2B Pencil Drawing - 5-10 minutes**

Using my Stop & Go Method, draw the initial image of this Macaw paying close attention to the facial shapes & markings.