

Ink Painting



The artworks in this gallery were made in three East Asian countries: China, Japan, and Korea. Circle or color these three countries on this map.

Ink paintings are made on paper and silk and are very fragile. After it is painted, the paper or silk is made into a scroll by gluing it to a piece of strong fabric that is attached to rods on each end. When the **scroll** is not on display it is rolled around the rods in order to protect it.

The paintings in this gallery are called **sumi** paintings. **Sumi** means ink in Japanese.

Pick one ink painting in this gallery. How is it different from other paintings that you have seen?

Make a quick sketch of it here:

Sumi painters can make different shades of grey and black by mixing more or less water in the ink. How many shades of grey do you see?

Depending on how much pressure is put on the brush, thin or thick lines can be made. But, once the ink has touched the painting surface it cannot be changed!

Find the **chop**, a small red square or circular mark on your painting. This mark is like a signature. Some chops may belong to the artist, while others may belong to other people who later saw or owned the painting.

Famous paintings often have many different chop marks added to them, and by looking at these, experts can trace the history of a painting. Count the number of chop marks that you see.

Use the space below to design your own chop. Try using the letters in your name to create a special design.

