

HOW TO COLOR—WITH COLORED PENCILS

Janie Gildow, Instructor

DEMO OUTLINE

THE COLORED PENCIL

- Quality
- Brands
- Composition
- Characteristics

SHARPENERS

- Electric
- Battery

PAPER

- Tooth
- Weight

APPLICATION

- Point
- Stroke
- Pressure / grip

TECHNIQUES

- Layering
- Burnishing

COLOR CONSIDERATIONS

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COLORED PENCIL ASPECTS

POINT

A long, slender point allows the color to more easily get into the paper tooth, producing more complete and even color

A more blunt point reveals more of the paper's tooth pattern and consequently creates less smooth color.

STROKE

Your stroke should vary, depending on the amount of coverage you want to create. To cover large areas smoothly, use a series of overlapping elongated loops.

PRESSURE / GRIP

For heavy application (i.e. burnishing), grip the pencil closer to the sharpened end and hold it more vertically.

For light-to-very light application, hold the pencil near the unsharpened end and let the weight of the pencil make the mark.

COLORED PENCIL TECHNIQUES

LAYERING

Changes in pencil pressure make it possible for you to get more mileage out of a single pencil by creating light-to-dark color.

Layering requires light-to-medium pressure, the more gradual the pressure, the smoother the transition from dark to light. Gradual changes make it possible to create more realistic and 3-dimensional images and shapes.

Usually, the darker colors are applied first, with lighter and lighter colors applied over them.

BURNISHING

Burnishing creates heavy, saturated color and fills the paper tooth with the appearance of enamel paint. In order to modulate color (make gradual changes from dark to light), layering must take place first.

To burnish over layered color:

1. Set COLOR 1 (the darkest color) aside. Begin to burnish with COLOR 2 (the next lightest color), gradually reducing pressure.
2. Put Color 2 aside and burnish with COLOR 3 (the next lightest color), gradually reduction pressure.
3. Repeat process with the progressively lighter colors, ending (and burnishing) with the lightest color in the mix.

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INFORMATION

COLORED PENCIL BRANDS

SOFT

Prismacolor (wax)
Lyra (oil)

HARD

Caran d’Ache Pablo (wax)
Faber-Castell (oil)

PENCIL SHARPENERS (SPIRAL METAL BLADES, AUTO STOP)

ELECTRIC

Staples 21835 (approx \$30)

BATTERY

Amazon

PAPER

SKETCHING

60-80 lb.

BETTER COLORINGS

Hot Press (HP) 100 – 140 lb.

SKETCHBOOK

Stillman & Birn Zeta Series

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MATERIALS LIST

Prismacolor colored pencils: 36-color set (or larger)

Small sketchbook: 8.5 x 5.5" or 9 x 6" (or whatever you already have)

Pencil sharpener: electric or battery

Graphite pencil

Soft eraser