



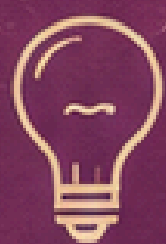
Colour PENCIL

— TIPS & TECHNIQUES —



PRACTICAL TIPS.
BEAUTIFUL RESULTS.
TAKE YOUR COLOUR
PENCIL ART FURTHER.

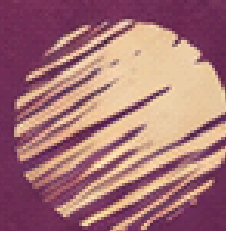
• *Susan van Zyl* •



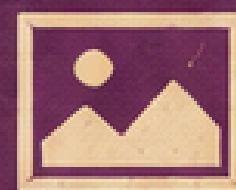
PRACTICAL
TIPS



PROVEN
TECHNIQUES



COLOUR
SECRETS



CREATE WITH
CONFIDENCE



COLOURED PENCIL BLENDING METHODS



DIFFERENT TOOLS. DIFFERENT EFFECTS. BEAUTIFUL RESULTS!

Same colours – different ways to blend!



1 LIGHT LAYERING

The most basic way to blend – layer light strokes of colour one over another.



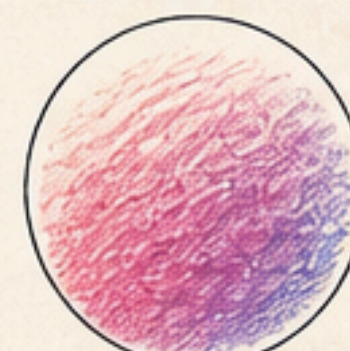
HOW TO

- ♥ Use light pressure.
- ♥ Layer colours slowly.
- ♥ Build up the layers until smooth.
- ♥ Use circular motion for best results.



Soft, gradual blend with beautiful transitions.

EFFECT



Smooth & even

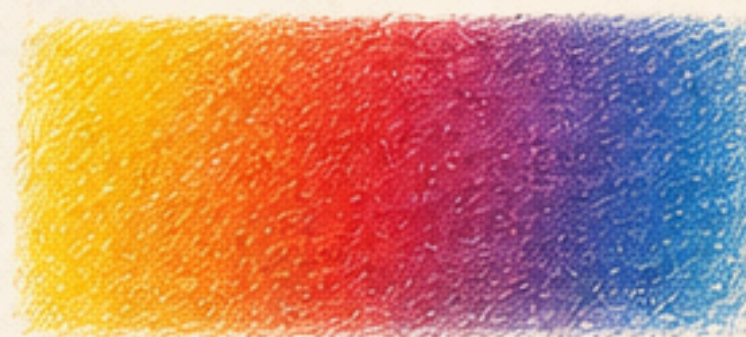
2 BURNISHING

Layer many layers of colour, then burnish to blend and create a smooth, polished finish.



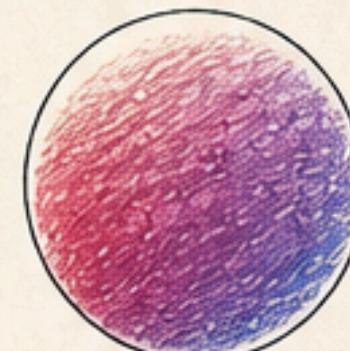
HOW TO

- ♥ Layer colours using firm pressure.
- ♥ Cover the area completely.
- ♥ Use a colourless blender or light pencil to burnish in circular motion.



Ultra-smooth, vibrant, polished finish.

EFFECT



Silky & rich

3 COLOURLESS BLENDER

A special pencil that picks up pigment and blends it smoothly together.



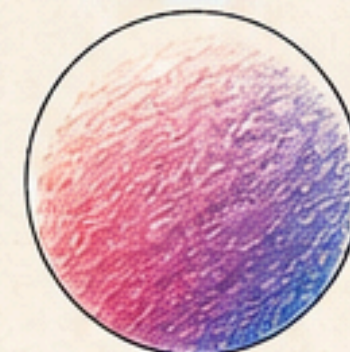
HOW TO

- ♥ Layer your colours first.
- ♥ Use the colourless blender pencil.
- ♥ Work in circular motion.
- ♥ Don't press too hard!



Smooth blending with a soft, even look.

EFFECT



Soft & seamless

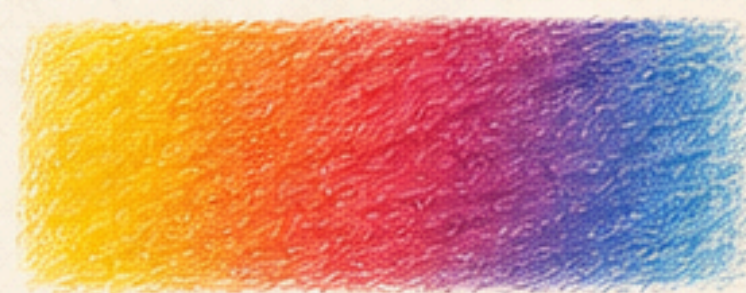
4 SOLVENT BLENDING

Use a solvent to melt the wax binder and blend the pigment like paint.



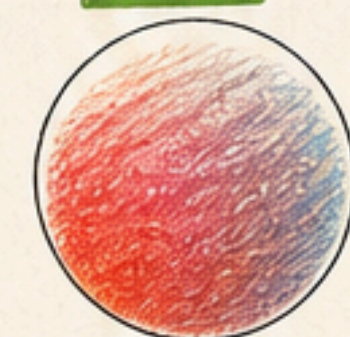
HOW TO

- ♥ Apply colours.
- ♥ Add a few drops of solvent (odorless mineral spirits).
- ♥ Blend with a brush.
- ♥ Let it dry completely.



Rich, paint-like blend with deep saturation.

EFFECT



Bold & painterly

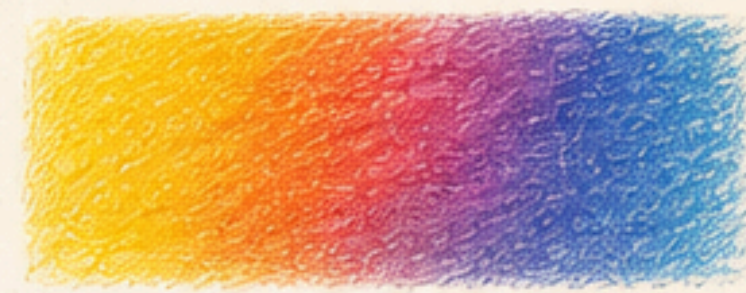
5 PAPER BLENDING

Use a blending stump or tissue to smudge and blend the pigment.



HOW TO

- ♥ Apply colours.
- ♥ Use a blending stump or tissue.
- ♥ Blend in circular motion.
- ♥ Be gentle!



Soft, diffused blend with a gentle finish.

EFFECT



Soft & diffused

TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS

- ♥ Always use quality pencils & paper.
- ♥ Work in layers – patience pays off!
- ♥ Use circular motion for smooth blends.
- ♥ Keep your pencils sharp.
- ♥ Test and enjoy experimenting!



Experiment.
Have fun.
Find your
favourite
way to blend!



REMEMBER

There's no "right" way – just the way that works best for **YOU** and your style!



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SHARE IT WITH A CREATIVE FRIEND!



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COLOURED PENCIL TEXTURES

BRING YOUR DRAWINGS TO LIFE!

Different textures make your art realistic, interesting and full of depth. Here's how to draw 6 popular textures with coloured pencils.

REMEMBER:

- ♥ Layer colours
- ♥ Build slowly
- ♥ Use light pressure
- ♥ Add details
- ♥ Have fun!

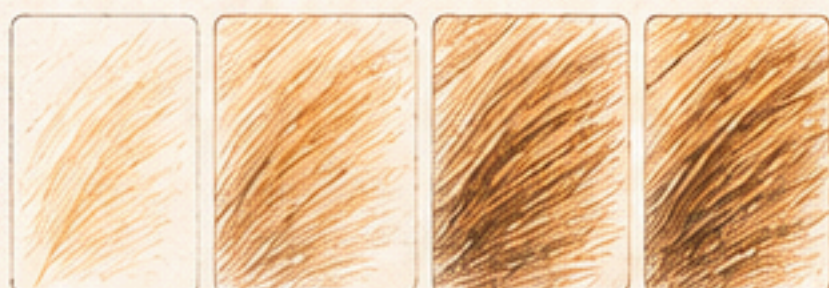


1 FUR

Fur is soft, fluffy and made of many tiny strands.



HOW TO DRAW IT:



1. Light base layer
2. Follow the direction of hair
3. Add darker strands
4. Add highlights and details

2 HAIR

Hair flows in strands. Follow the direction and layer colours.



HOW TO DRAW IT:



1. Base colour
2. Add mid tones
3. Add darks and depth
4. Add highlights and flyaways

3 FEATHERS

Feathers have a light, soft structure with fine details.



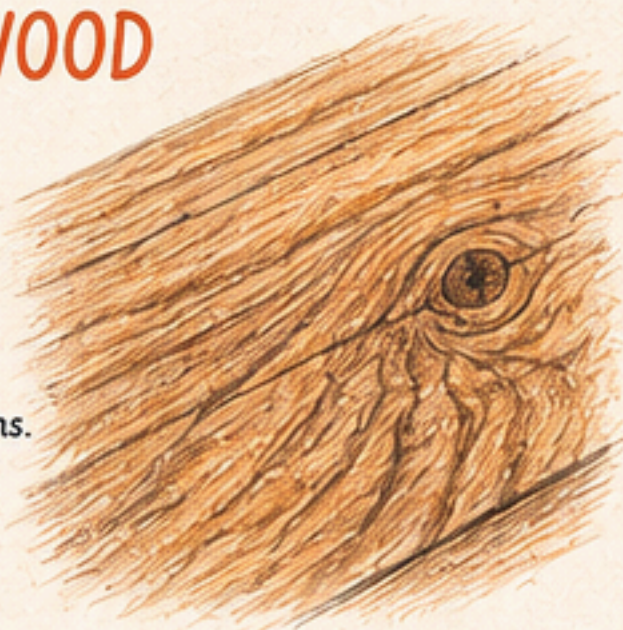
HOW TO DRAW IT:



1. Light base layer
2. Draw the barbs
3. Add darker areas
4. Add texture and highlights

4 WOOD

Wood has grain, lines and natural imperfections.



HOW TO DRAW IT:



1. Base tone
2. Add grain lines
3. Add darker shadows
4. Add knots and details

5 METAL

Metal is smooth, reflective and shows strong light and shadow.



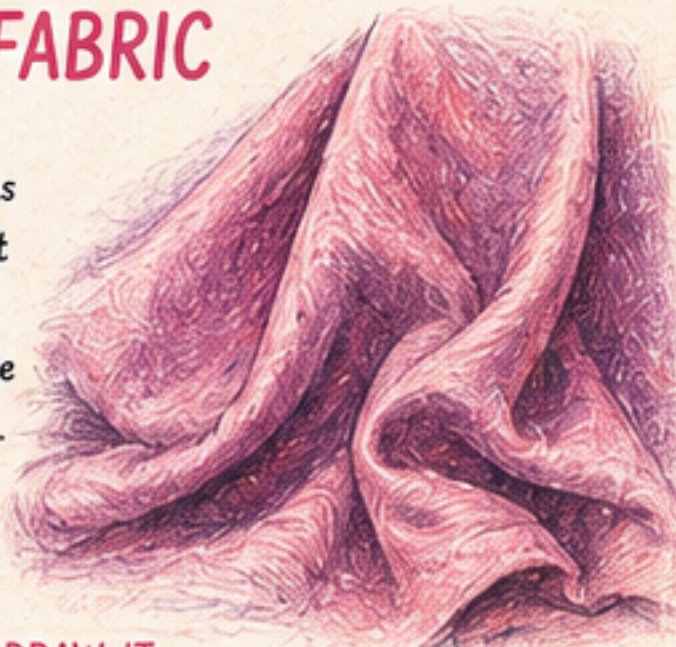
HOW TO DRAW IT:



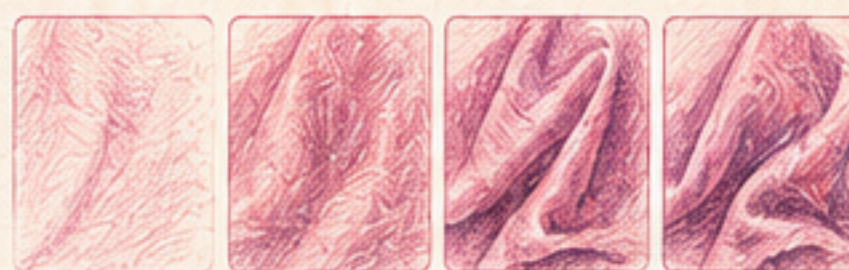
1. Mid tone base
2. Add dark values
3. Build reflections
4. Add bright highlights

6 FABRIC

Fabric has folds, soft shadows and gentle highlights.



HOW TO DRAW IT:



1. Light base layer
2. Add mid tones
3. Add shadows in folds
4. Add highlights on raised areas

GENERAL TIPS

- ♥ Work in layers and build colour slowly.
- ♥ Use sharp pencils for fine details.
- ♥ Observe real life - textures are everywhere!
- ♥ Don't press too hard - let the layers do the work.
- ♥ Practice each texture on a small area first.



TOOLS THAT HELP



Sharp pencils



Good quality pencils



Blending stump (for softening)



Soft brush (for subtle blend)

PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS!

Try drawing these textures in a small sketchbook. The more you practice, the more natural it will become.



OBSERVE. PRACTICE. CREATE BEAUTY IN EVERY DETAIL.



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HOW TO LAYER COLOURED PENCILS



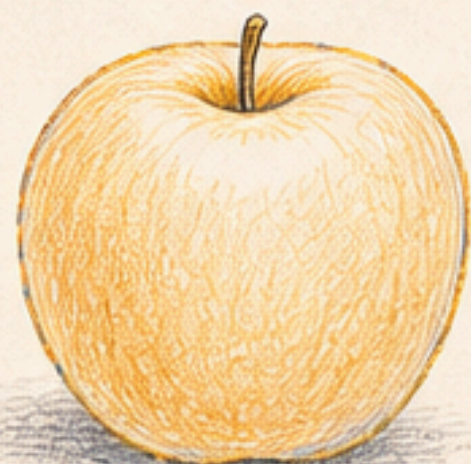
BUILD COLOUR. CREATE DEPTH. BRING YOUR ART TO LIFE!

Layering is the secret to rich colour, smooth blends and beautiful depth.



1 START LIGHT (BASE LAYER)

Start with a light pressure and a light colour. This creates your foundation.



- ★ Use light pressure to keep the tooth of the paper.
- ★ Don't worry about perfection. This is just the beginning!

COLOURS TO TRY

Light yellows, creams, light warm tones.



2 BUILD MID TONES

Add another layer with a little more pressure. Build up the mid tones and start shaping.



- ★ Layer colours gradually.
- ★ Use circular motion for smooth, even coverage.

COLOURS TO TRY

Oranges, pinks, warm reds.



3 ADD DEPTH

Add darker colours in the shadows and where you want more depth. Build slowly.



- ★ Layer dark over light.
- ★ Keep using circular motion to blend.

COLOURS TO TRY

Reds, burgundy, purples, browns.



4 BURNISH (SMOOTH & UNIFY)

Use firm pressure with a similar colour to blend everything together and create a smooth finish.



- ★ Burnish in circular motion.
- ★ This pushes the wax into the paper and intensifies colour.

COLOURS TO TRY

Use the colours you've already used.



5 ADD FINAL DETAILS

Add the final touches – more contrast, tiny details and highlights. Make it **POP!**



- ★ Use sharp pencils for details.
- ★ Add highlights with a light colour or leave the paper showing.

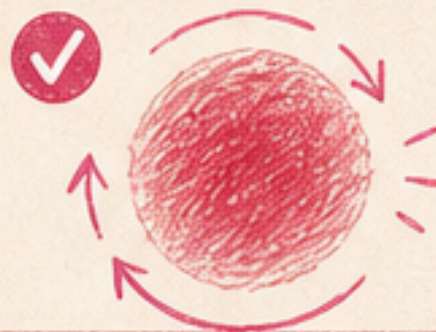
COLOURS TO TRY

Dark accents (deep red, purple, brown, black) and light highlights (cream, peach).



COLOUR IN CIRCULAR MOTION

Circular strokes blend the pigment smoothly and evenly. This avoids visible stop and start marks.



NOT TO AND FRO

Back and forth strokes create lines, uneven layers and patchy texture.



REMEMBER

- ♥ Build colour slowly.
- ♥ Be patient.
- ♥ Enjoy the process.
- ♥ Every layer brings your art to life!

Layers make the difference!



QUICK LAYERING CHECKLIST

- ☒ Start light
- ☒ Build gradually
- ☒ Use circular motion
- ☒ Add depth
- ☒ Burnish
- ☒ Finish with details



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HOW TO MIX WAX + OIL COLOURED PENCILS SUCCESSFULLY

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS = BEAUTIFUL RESULTS!

Wax for rich colour & smooth blending.
Oil for precision & fine details.
Together, they work beautifully!

1. YES, YOU CAN MIX THEM!

Wax and oil based pencils are fully compatible.

- ♥ They layer well together.
- ♥ They blend beautifully.
- ♥ They give you more control, depth and versatility.

Key: Use each type for what it does best.



WAX = SOFT, RICH, OPAQUE

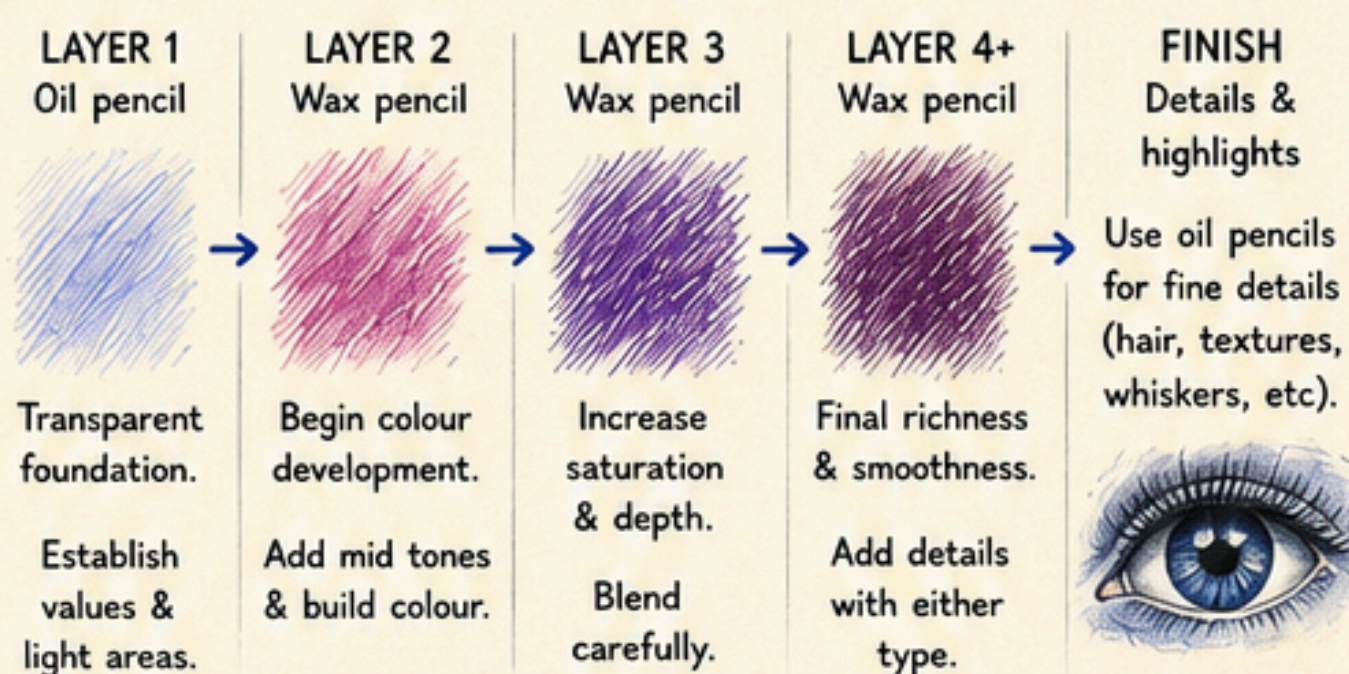


OIL = HARD, SHARP, TRANSLUCENT



2. MY GO-TO WORKFLOW (LAYERING SYSTEM)

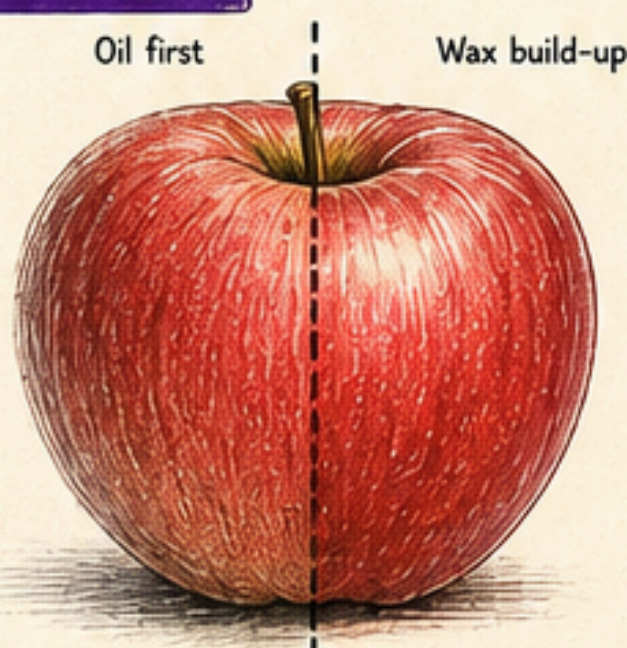
Build your drawing in layers—using the strengths of both.



This is MY approach, not the only way. Experiment and find what works for YOU!

3. WHY THIS WORKS SO WELL

- ♥ Oil pencils are more transparent, so they make the perfect first layer.
- ♥ Wax pencils are more opaque and blend like a dream, ideal for building rich colour.



The combination gives you clarity from the underlayer and depth from the top layers.

You get the best of both worlds!



4. TIPS FOR MIXING EFFECTIVELY

- ♥ Always use light pressure in early layers.
- ♥ Let each layer bond before adding the next.
- ♥ Keep your pencils sharp (especially oil pencils).
- ♥ Use quality paper with some tooth.
- ♥ Test on a scrap piece first.
- ♥ Work from light to dark, and build slowly.
- ♥ Keep your pencils and paper clean.



Patience + Light Layers = Smooth, Rich Results



5. BLENDING OPTIONS (WORKS WITH BOTH TYPES)

LAYERING ★★★★★

The safest and most versatile method. Layer light to dark. Builds rich colour and depth.

BURNISHING ★★★★★

Pressing firmly with light, even layers. Creates a smooth, polished finish. Best on later layers.

COLOURLESS BLENDER ★★★★☆

Softens transitions without changing hue. Great for smooth blends and subtle gradations.

ODORLESS MINERAL SPIRITS (for wax-based pencils) ★★★★★

Creates a painterly look. Smooths colour beautifully and moves pigment like paint.



Always test your paper and pencils—results can vary by brand.



6. THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR

WAX BLOOM

A cloudy, white haze that can appear on heavy wax layers.

How to prevent it:

- ♥ Use light layers.
- ♥ Don't press too hard too soon.
- ♥ Keep your work clean.
- ♥ If it appears, let the surface dry, then buff gently with a soft cloth.



WAX BLOOM



AFTER BUFFING

OVERWORKING

Too many layers or too much pressure can make colours muddy and dull.

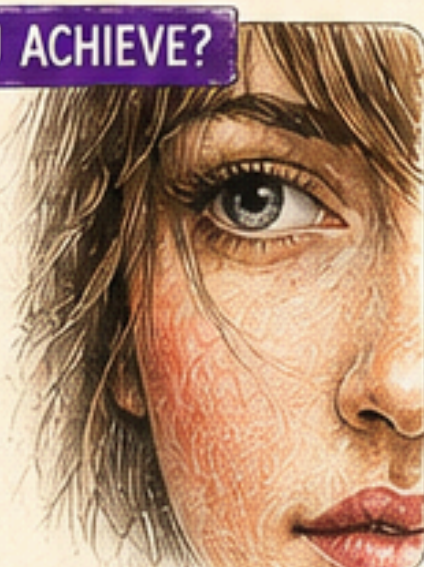
Fix it:

- ♥ Stop, step back and assess.
- ♥ Let the area rest.
- ♥ Start again with lighter layers.



7. WHAT CAN YOU ACHIEVE?

- ♥ Vibrant, rich colours
- ♥ Smooth blends
- ♥ Fine details
- ♥ Realistic textures
- ♥ Depth and luminosity
- ♥ Confidence in your pencil work!



8. EXAMPLE: HAIR

Oil for fine strands, wax for body and depth.

Oil pencil
(Fine detail)



Wax pencil
(Body & depth)



9. QUICK CHECKLIST

- ✓ Use oil for the first transparent layer.
- ✓ Build colour with wax pencils.
- ✓ Layer light to dark.
- ✓ Blend the right way for your piece.
- ✓ Avoid heavy pressure early.
- ✓ Be patient and enjoy the process!



REMEMBER:

There are no strict rules in art—only what works best for YOUR style.



EXPLORE. EXPERIMENT. ENJOY.

That's where the magic happens!



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THE LAYERING PROCESS WITH OIL BASED COLOURED PENCILS

SMOOTH COLOUR COMES FROM PATIENCE + LIGHT LAYERS

Oil based pencils are harder and more transparent. They need to be built up gradually in layers to create rich colour, smooth blends and beautiful transitions.

If your colour pencil drawings are looking streaky... this is the thing you need to practice!



1 WHY LAYERING IS SO IMPORTANT

Coloured pencil drawings are created through **LAYERING** – building up colour gradually in a series of light layers.

- ♥ Light layers allow colours to mix and blend.
- ♥ You get smoother transitions and more depth.
- ♥ Pressing hard and blocking in creates streaks and makes it hard to blend.

LIGHT LAYERS
BUILD BEAUTY



PRESSED HARD
= STREAKY



BUILT IN LAYERS
= SMOOTH



2 HOLD YOUR PENCIL THE RIGHT WAY

Hold your pencil in the middle of the shaft – not close to the tip.

- ♥ This naturally prevents you from pressing too hard.
- ♥ It gives you more control.



TOO CLOSE TO THE TIP
= Too much pressure



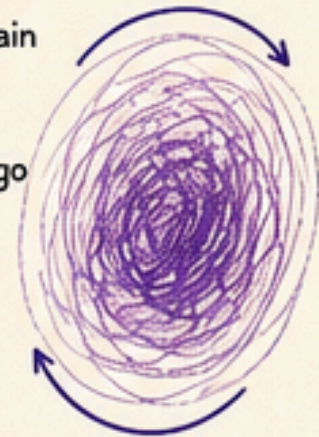
FARTHER BACK
= Light pressure & control



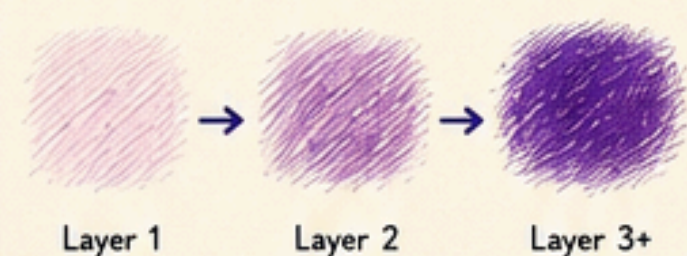
3 USE LIGHT PRESSURE & CIRCULAR MOTIONS

Use light pressure and move the pencil in small circular or oval motions.

- ♥ Go over the area again and again.
- ♥ This helps the pencil go down evenly.
- ♥ It helps the colours blend beautifully.



CIRCULAR OR OVAL MOTIONS



4 KEEP YOUR PENCIL SHARP

A sharp pencil makes a **HUGE** difference!

- ♥ Blunt pencils skip and leave uneven colour.
- ♥ Sharp pencils lay down colour smoothly.
- ♥ Sharpen often – it will transform your results.

DULL PENCIL



Uneven, scratchy and streaky.



SHARP PENCIL



Smooth, consistent and controllable.



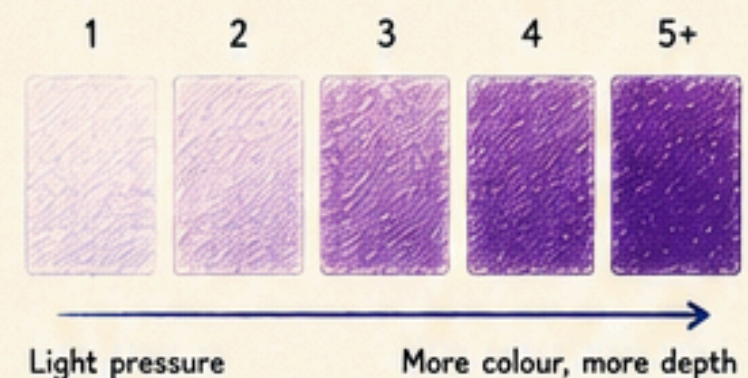
Sharpen little and often – don't wait until it's blunt!

5 BUILD COLOUR GRADUALLY

Be patient! Let the colour build up slowly.

THE POWER OF PATIENCE

- ♥ Start with a very light layer.
- ♥ Add layers one at a time.
- ♥ Let each layer do a little of the work.
- ♥ This creates rich colour and smooth blends.



Light pressure

More colour, more depth

Rushing leads to streaks. Patience leads to beauty.

6 PUT IT ALL TOGETHER – YOUR LAYERING PROCESS

1. PLAN LIGHTLY



Sketch your outline lightly.

2. LAY DOWN YOUR FIRST LAYER



Use a light pressure with oil pencils. Think "barely there".

3. BUILD WITH LIGHT LAYERS



Add layer after layer using circular motions. Let the colour build.

4. DEEPEN SHADOWS GRADUALLY



Add darker colours in layers. Keep it light and controlled.

5. ADD DETAILS LAST



Use sharper pencils for details and edges. Work carefully.

6. STEP BACK & ASSESS



Check your values. Add more layers if needed. Enjoy!

WHAT YOU'LL ACHIEVE

- ♥ Smooth, even colour
- ♥ Beautiful blends
- ♥ Depth and richness
- ♥ Professional results



EXTRA TIPS FOR OIL PENCILS

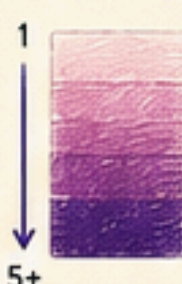
- ♥ Work on a surface with some tooth (not too smooth).
- ♥ Keep your pencils and paper clean.
- ♥ Work from light to dark.
- ♥ Use good quality pencils – they layer better.
- ♥ Experiment, practice and enjoy the process!



PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS

Try this simple exercise:

1. Choose one colour.
2. Fill a square using 5–10 layers.
3. Use light pressure and circular motions.
4. Sharpen often.
5. Notice how smooth and rich it becomes!



REMEMBER

Great blending isn't about expensive pencils. It's about technique, patience and understanding how colour gets built up.

You've got this!



EVERY ARTIST WAS ONCE A BEGINNER.
Keep practicing, keep learning, keep creating!



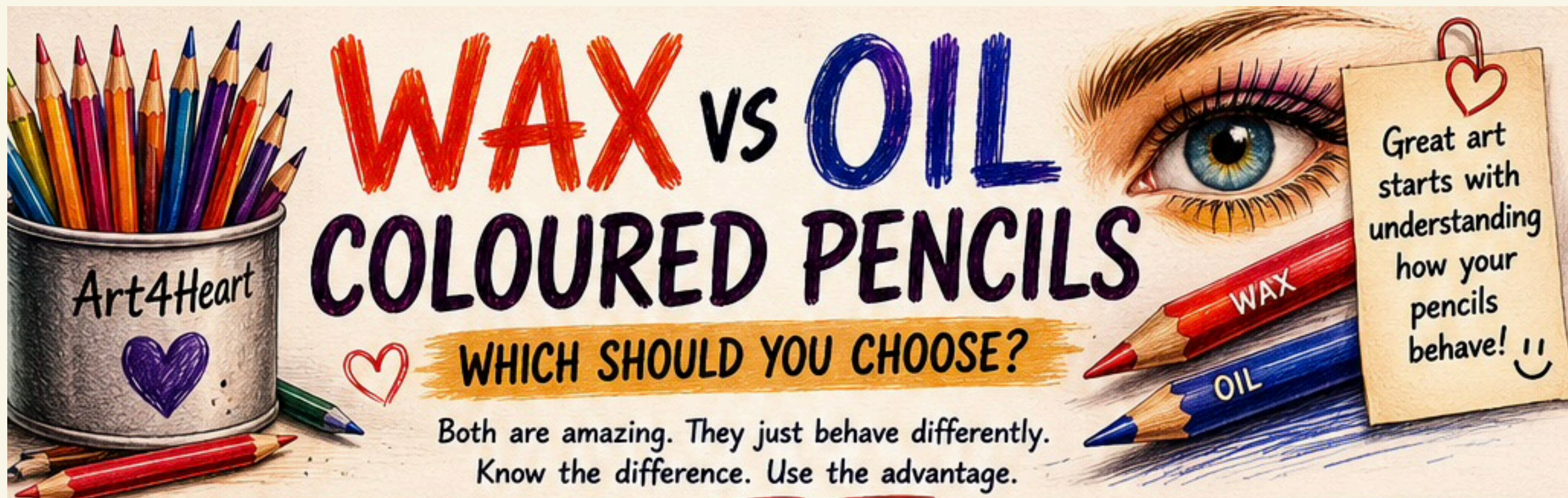
LAYER. BLEND. BUILD. BEAUTIFUL.

One light layer at a time.



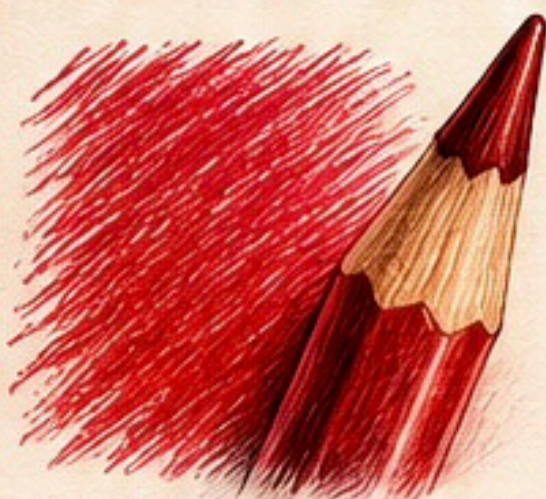
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WAX-BASED PENCILS ❤️

Softer cores. Richer colour. Blend beautifully.



- ♥ Softer core
- ♥ Rich, vibrant colour
- ♥ More opaque
- ♥ Blends easily
- ♥ Builds colour quickly
- ♥ Smoother coverage

Watch out: can develop **WAX BLOOM** →



NEITHER IS BETTER – THEY ARE DIFFERENT! ❤️

Use the right tool for the job!

OIL-BASED PENCILS ❤️

Harder cores. Sharp points. Perfect for detail.

- ♥ Harder core
- ♥ Holds a sharp point
- ♥ More translucent
- ♥ Great for layering
- ♥ Excellent for fine detail
- ♥ Greater control



CAN YOU MIX THEM?

YES! ✓

Mixing both pencils can give you the best of both worlds.



MY LAYERING RECIPE (WHAT WORKS FOR ME) 😊

1 FOUNDATION Oil pencil

Transparent first layer creates the perfect base.



2 BUILD COLOUR Wax pencil

Start building colour with soft, even pressure.



3 INCREASE DEPTH Wax pencil

Add more layers. Richer colour, more contrast.



4 FINISH & REFINE Wax pencil

Final details, polish, highlights and fine tuning.



Layer lightly. Build slowly. Let each layer do the work. ❤️

★ BLENDING OPTIONS

LAYERING



Most control and depth. Always start with light layers. ❤️

BURNISHING



Use firm pressure with light, circular motion for a smooth finish. ❤️

COLOURLESS BLENDER



Softens layers and unifies colours beautifully.

SOLVENTS (OMS)



Odourless mineral spirits create a painterly look. ❤️
• Test on your paper first.



WATCH OUT FOR WAX BLOOM

A cloudy or whitish haze that can appear after heavy layering.

HOW TO FIX:

- ♥ Make sure your artwork is completely dry.
- ♥ Gently buff with a soft, clean cloth.
- ♥ Use a workable fixative to protect.



WHICH PENCILS SHOULD BEGINNERS BUY? 🛒



LOVE SMOOTH BLENDING AND BOLD COLOUR?

→ Choose softer WAX-BASED pencils.



LOVE FINE DETAIL AND SHARP POINTS?

→ Choose harder OIL-BASED pencils.



IF YOU CAN AFFORD BOTH?

→ Use BOTH together for amazing results!



★ IMPORTANT!

The paper you choose is just as important as the pencils! ❤️

- ♥ Toothy paper = better layers
- ♥ Smoother paper = smoother blends
- ♥ Test and find what YOU love

PRESSURE MATTERS ★

TOO MUCH PRESSURE TOO SOON



- ✗ Flattens the paper tooth
- ✗ Harder to blend
- ✗ Less depth
- ✗ Can cause wax bloom

LIGHT PRESSURE FIRST



- ✓ Builds rich depth
- ✓ Better blends
- ✓ Smoother results
- ✓ More control

Great blending comes from **PATIENCE**, not pressure. ❤️

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WAX vs OIL COLOURED PENCILS

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE. USE BOTH TOGETHER. ♥

Each type has its strengths. Together, they're even better! ♥

It's not about which is better. It's about which one is right for the job—or how they work together. ♥

WAX-BASED PENCILS

KEY DIFFERENCES

OIL-BASED PENCILS



Creamy, rich and vibrant.

- ♥ **Softer core**
Lays down more colour easily.
- ♥ **More opaque**
Covers the tooth of the paper more.
- ♥ **Blends easily**
Smooth, creamy blends with less pressure.
- ♥ **More prone to wax bloom**
A hazy layer can appear over time (or with heat and humidity).
- ♥ **Less sharp point**
Wears down faster.
- ♥ **Great for**
Skin tones, bold colour, smooth blending, layering, filling large areas.

	CORE
	PIGMENT LAYDOWN
	BLENDING
	WAX BLOOM
	POINT RETENTION
	BEST USES

- ♥ **Harder core**
Needs more layers to build colour.
- ♥ **More translucent**
Shows more of the paper through.
- ♥ **Takes more effort to blend**
Requires more layers and pressure (or a blender/solvent).
- ♥ **Resistant to wax bloom**
More lightfast and stable.
- ♥ **Holds a sharp point**
Excellent for fine detail.
- ♥ **Great for**
Fine details (hair, fur, eyes), precise lines, glazing, first light layers.



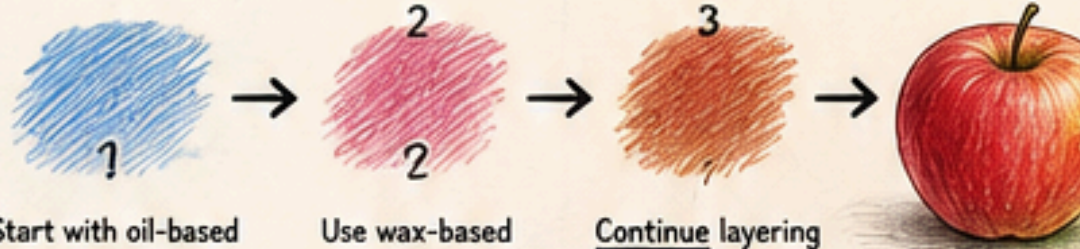
Smooth, detailed and precise.

CAN YOU MIX THEM?

YES!

Mixing wax and oil pencils can be incredibly effective. Many artists (including me) use both in the same drawing.

HOW I MIX THEM (MY APPROACH)



1 Start with oil-based pencils for the first layer. Their transparency builds a beautiful base.

2 Use wax-based pencils for layers 2-4. They add rich colour and blend beautifully.

3 Continue layering with both types as needed.

The result: depth, vibrancy and smooth blends!

WATCH OUT FOR WAX BLOOM

That cloudy or hazy film that can appear on wax-based pencil layers.

- ♥ Can be caused by heat, humidity, pressure, or certain papers.
- ♥ It's not always bad—but if it bothers you, keep it in mind.
- ♥ Work in a cool, dry environment.
- ♥ Use high quality pencils and paper.
- ♥ A light buff with a soft cloth can sometimes reduce it.



WHAT PENCILS SHOULD I BUY AS A BEGINNER?

LOOK FOR QUALITY THAT IS:

- ♥ Lightfast (won't fade easily)
- ♥ Good pigment (rich colour payoff)
- ♥ Smooth (not scratchy)
- ♥ Blendable
- ♥ Break-resistant



GREAT STARTER OPTIONS:

Prismacolor Premier (wax-based) – soft, blendable, vibrant
Faber-Castell Polychromos (oil-based) – hard, precise, lightfast
Caran d'Ache Luminance (oil-based) – high pigment, blendable
Derwent Lightfast (oil-based) – excellent lightfast range



TIP: Don't buy huge sets right away. Start small, learn, then grow your collection.

BLENDING TECHNIQUES

LAYERING		Build colour slowly, layer over layer. This is the foundation of realism.
BURNISHING		Press harder with each layer to polish the surface for a smooth finish.
COLOURLESS BLENDER PENCIL		Blends wax pencils beautifully. Less effective on oil-only layers.
SOLVENTS		Mineral spirits or Gamsol can blend and smooth oil pencil layers. Use carefully!
PAPER CHOICE MATTERS		Smoother paper = smoother blends. Textured paper = more layers needed.

Test your combos on scrap paper first! ♥

TIPS FOR MIXING EFFECTIVELY

- ♥ Start light. Build up slowly.
- ♥ Use oil pencils for underlayers and details.
- ♥ Use wax pencils for rich colour and smooth blends.
- ♥ Keep your pencils sharp for detail work, especially oils.
- ♥ Use light pressure with oil pencils, heavier pressure with wax.
- ♥ Plan your colours. Think about which pencil type suits each stage.
- ♥ Be patient! Beautiful blends take time.



EXTRA TOOLS THAT HELP

Good quality sharpener	Kneaded eraser	Soft brushes (for solvent)	Tissue or blending paper

Remember: The best tool is the one that helps you create! ♥

PRACTICE • OBSERVE • LAYER • ENJOY THE PROCESS

That's where the magic happens. ♥

Art4Heart ♥





WAX vs OIL COLOURED PENCILS

DIFFERENT, NOT BETTER.

Use what works best for YOU!



Both can create beautiful art. Understanding the differences helps you choose with confidence!

1. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

WAX-BASED PENCILS

(softer cores)

- ♥ Softer core
- ♥ Rich, vibrant colour
- ♥ More opaque
- ♥ Blends easily
- ♥ Builds colour quickly
- ♥ Great for smooth coverage



WATCH OUT:

More prone to wax bloom when layered heavily.



OIL-BASED PENCILS

(harder cores)

- ♥ Harder core
- ♥ Holds a sharp point
- ♥ More translucent
- ♥ Excellent for fine detail
- ♥ Layers well with light pressure
- ♥ Takes longer to build rich colour



WATCH OUT:

Takes more time and patience to build colour.



2. WHICH IS BETTER?

NEITHER. THEY SIMPLY DO DIFFERENT JOBS.

WAX-BASED EXCELS AT:

Skin tones



Smooth blending



Fur



Flowers



Fast coverage



OIL-BASED EXCELS AT:

Hair



Fine details



Feathers



Textures & patterns



Crisp lines & precision



3. CAN YOU MIX THEM?

YES!

Absolutely.
Many professional artists use both.



4. MY LAYERING RECIPE (EXAMPLE WORKFLOW)

LAYER 1
Oil pencil



Transparent foundation.

LAYER 2
Wax pencil



Begin colour development.

LAYER 3
Wax pencil



Increase saturation and depth.

LAYER 4
Wax pencil



Build final richness.

FINISH
Highlights & burnish if desired.



This is MY approach. There is no single "right" way—experiment and find what works for you!

5. BLENDING METHODS

LAYERING
★★★★☆



Builds colour slowly.
Most control.
Best for beginners.



BURNISHING
★★★★☆



Press harder with layers to create a smooth, rich finish.



COLOURLESS BLENDER
★★★★☆



Softens and blends layers without adding colour.



ODORLESS MINERAL SPIRITS
(For wax-based pencils)
★★★★☆



Creates a painterly look, smooths colour beautifully.
Use with care and in a well-ventilated area.

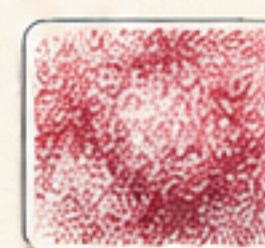


6. WATCH FOR WAX BLOOM

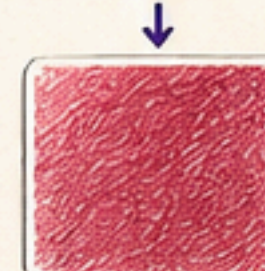
Wax bloom looks like a cloudy white haze on the surface.
It usually appears after heavy layering and in humid conditions.

HOW TO REDUCE OR REMOVE IT:

- ♥ Work in thin layers.
- ♥ Wait until drawing is completely dry.
- ♥ Gently buff with a soft cloth or tissue.
- ♥ Use a workable fixative if needed.



WAX BLOOM



AFTER BUFFING

7. WHAT KIND OF COLORED PENCILS SHOULD I BUY AS A BEGINNER?

IF YOU LOVE...
Smooth blending
Rich colour
Easy coverage

Choose softer
WAX-BASED
pencils. ♥

IF YOU LOVE...
Fine details
Sharp points
Precise control

Choose harder
OIL-BASED
pencils. ♥

IF YOU CAN AFFORD BOTH...
Use BOTH together!
They complement each other beautifully.



Start with a small set and grow your collection as you learn what you enjoy most. 😊 ♥

8. IMPORTANT NOTE

The paper you choose can affect your results just as much as the pencils you use.

Smoother paper = more layering, sharper detail.

Textured paper = more tooth, softer look.



9. PRESSURE MATTERS

HEAVY PRESSURE TOO SOON

- ✗ Flattens the paper tooth.
- ✗ Makes layering difficult.
- ✗ Harder to blend.



LIGHT LAYERS FIRST

- ✓ More depth and richness.
- ✓ Better blends.
- ✓ Smoother results.



10. REMEMBER



Great blending comes from patience, observation and practice—not just the pencils.



EXPERIMENT. HAVE FUN. TRUST THE PROCESS.

> ~ YOUR ART, YOUR JOURNEY.



Art4Heart ♥





COLOURED PENCIL MISTAKES TO AVOID



Small mistakes can = big frustration.
Avoid these and enjoy better results! 

1 PRESSING TOO HARD TOO EARLY

Heavy pressure makes it hard to layer, blend and add details.

✗ WRONG



Waxy, patchy, hard to layer

VS.

✓ RIGHT



Smooth layers, richer colour

TIP

Use **LIGHT** pressure at first.
Build colour slowly in layers.



2 NOT LAYERING COLOURS

One layer rarely gives rich, vibrant results.

✗ WRONG



Flat, dull and lifeless

VS.

✓ RIGHT



Depth, richness and vibrancy

TIP

Layer colours gradually.
This creates depth, beauty and realism.



3 USING DULL PENCILS

Dull points scratch the paper and make colours look muddy.

✗ WRONG



Scratchy marks, muddy colour

VS.

✓ RIGHT



Smooth application, clear, clean colour

TIP

Keep pencils **SHARP**.
It makes a huge difference!



4 BLENDING TOO LATE

Waiting too long makes it harder to blend smoothly.

✗ WRONG



Streaky, uneven blending

VS.

✓ RIGHT



Soft, smooth transitions

TIP

Blend as you go.
Layer, blend, layer again.
Build it step by step.



5 IGNORING PAPER QUALITY

The wrong paper can ruin your results.

✗ WRONG



Too smooth = poor layering

VS.

✓ RIGHT



Good tooth = better layers

TIP

Use paper with **tooth** (texture).
It holds the layers beautifully.



GOOD HABITS
BETTER ART!

- ♥ Be patient – good things take time.
- ♥ Practice often – it's the secret.
- ♥ Enjoy the process, not just the result.
- ♥ Mistakes help you grow!

Take your time,
enjoy the journey,
and your art will
shine! 



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COMMON COLOURED PENCIL MISTAKES

Avoid these common mistakes and take your coloured pencil art to the next level!



1 PRESSING TOO HARD

Pressing too hard makes colours patchy, waxy and difficult to layer. It can damage your paper and limit depth.

WRONG



RIGHT



HOW TO FIX IT: Use light pressure and build — up colour gradually in layers.



2 MUDDY COLOURS

Using too many colours or the wrong combinations can create mud and make your colours lose vibrancy.

WRONG



RIGHT



HOW TO FIX IT: Plan your palette. Layer fewer, harmonious colours and keep them clean.



3 USING DULL PENCILS

Dull pencils skip, scratch and make it harder to get smooth, even colour and fine details.

WRONG



RIGHT



HOW TO FIX IT: Keep your pencils sharp for smooth application and clean details.

4 OVERBLENDING

Blending too much can cause colours to lose their life and make your drawing look flat and lifeless.

WRONG



RIGHT



BLEND JUST ENOUGH

- ✓ Build layers
- ✓ Blend gently
- ✓ Maintain texture
- ✓ Keep some contrast
- ✓ Add details last

HOW TO FIX IT: Blend with intention. Leave some texture and contrast. Not everything needs to be perfectly smooth!



5 USING BLACK FOR EVERY SHADOW

Black can look harsh and lifeless. It can kill colour and make shadows look flat.

WRONG



RIGHT



➔ **BETTER SHADOW COLOURS TO TRY:**



HOW TO FIX IT: Use dark colours like brown, blue, purple or indigo for richer, more natural shadows.

EXTRA TIPS FOR BETTER RESULTS



LAYER, DON'T RUSH
Great colour takes time. Build it up slowly—layer by layer.



OBSERVE REAL LIFE
Look at real textures, colours and light. Reference is your friend!



LIMIT YOUR COLOURS
Use fewer colours well. It keeps your art clean and harmonious.



PRACTICE SMALL STUDIES
Try small swatches, textures and practice drawings to improve your control.



BE PATIENT & ENJOY THE PROCESS
Mistakes help you grow. Keep practicing and have fun!



REMEMBER:

- ♥ Light pressure builds beautiful layers.
- ♥ Clean colours create vibrancy.
- ♥ Sharp pencils create smooth results.
- ♥ Patience + Practice = Progress!

GOOD HABITS TODAY, BEAUTIFUL ART TOMORROW.

PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

- ♥ Work in layers
- ♥ Keep pencils sharp
- ♥ Choose colours with purpose
- ♥ Practice textures
- ♥ Trust the process!

EVERY STROKE IS A STEP FORWARD. KEEP CREATING!

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COLOURED PENCIL MISTAKES TO AVOID



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Avoid these and enjoy better results! 

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Waxy, patchy, hard to layer

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The wrong paper can ruin your results.

 WRONG



Too smooth = poor layering

VS.

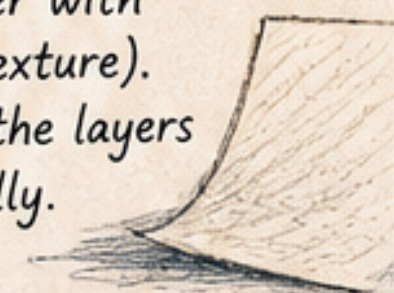
 RIGHT



Good tooth = better layers

TIP

Use paper with tooth (texture).
It holds the layers beautifully.



GOOD HABITS BETTER ART! 

-  Be patient – good things take time.
-  Practice often – it's the secret.
-  Enjoy the process, not just the result.
-  Mistakes help you grow!

Take your time,
enjoy the journey,
and your art will shine! 



SAVE THIS POST FOR FUTURE REFERENCE! 

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COLOURED PENCIL LAYERING GUIDE

BEAUTIFUL RESULTS ARE BUILT... LAYER BY LAYER.

Patience today, realism tomorrow.
Many light layers create magic!



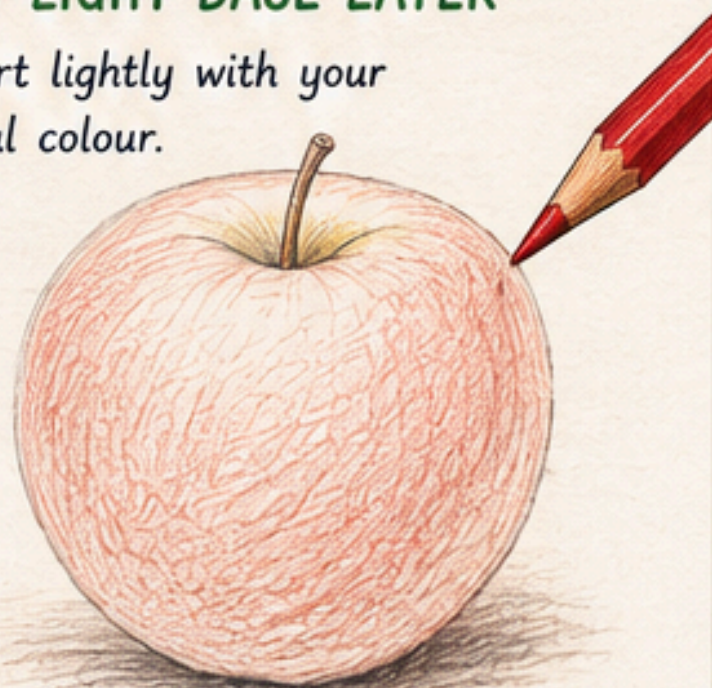
WHY LAYER?

- ♥ Builds rich colour
- ♥ Creates depth
- ♥ More control
- ♥ Smooth blending
- ♥ Realistic results



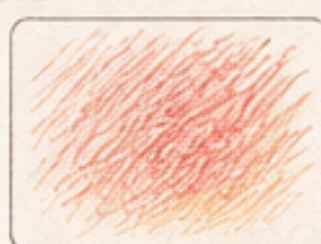
1 LIGHT BASE LAYER

Start lightly with your local colour.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use light pressure.
- ♥ Let the paper show through.



2 SECOND COLOUR LAYER

Add warmth, cool tones, or colour variation.



TIPS:

- ♥ Add another colour.
- ♥ Follow the form of the object.



3 SHADOW LAYERS

Build depth slowly with darker colours.



TIPS:

- ♥ Add shadows gradually.
- ♥ Layer darker colours where needed.



4 CIRCULAR BLENDING

Use circular motions to avoid streaks.



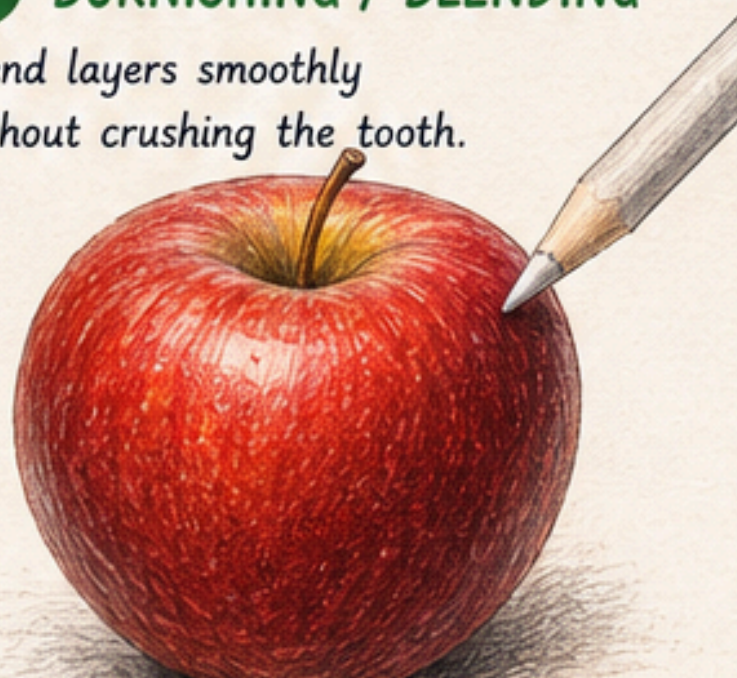
TIPS:

- ♥ Blend gently using small circles.
- ♥ Keeps texture even and natural.



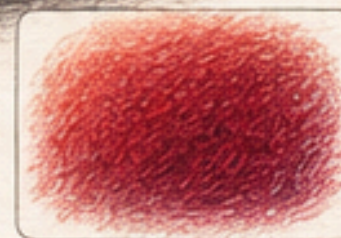
5 BURNISHING / BLENDING

Blend layers smoothly without crushing the tooth.



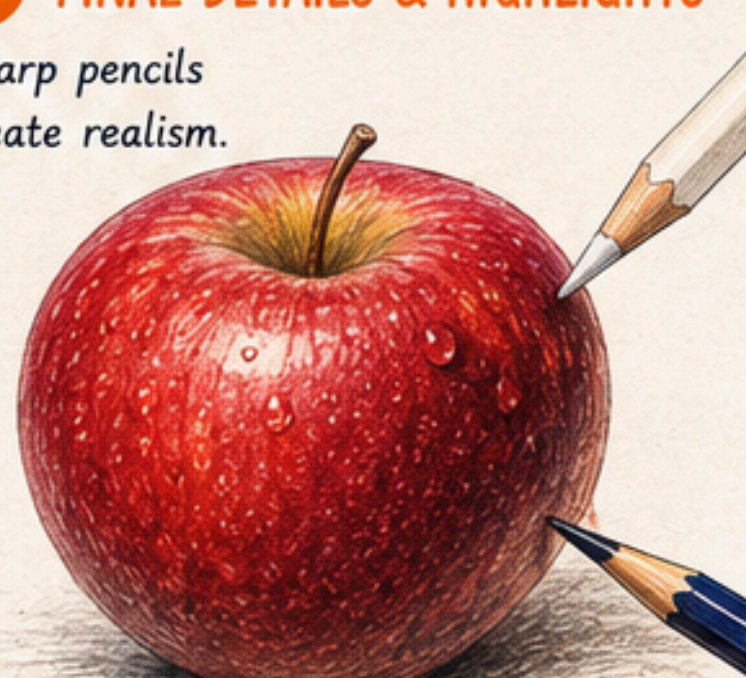
TIPS:

- ♥ Use light pressure.
- ♥ Burnish to smooth and unify layers.



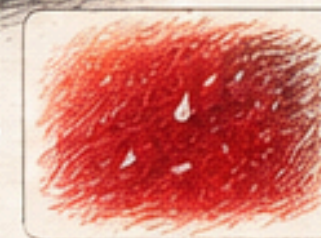
6 FINAL DETAILS & HIGHLIGHTS

Sharp pencils create realism.



TIPS:

- ♥ Add fine details.
- ♥ Use white for highlights & extra pop!



GOLDEN RULE:

MANY LIGHT LAYERS
CREATE RICHER COLOUR
THAN ONE HEAVY LAYER.

DON'T:

- ✗ Press too hard
- ✗ Rush the process
- ✗ Skip the light layers

Many light layers ✓



VS.

One heavy layer ✗



MORE TIPS

- ♥ Keep your pencils sharp.
- ♥ Work in good lighting.
- ♥ Reference photos help.
- ♥ Enjoy the process!



Art
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REMEMBER

- ♥ Layer with patience.
- ♥ Trust the process.
- ♥ Small steps create stunning results.
- ♥ You've got this!





5 COLOURED PENCIL EFFECTS

YOU CAN CREATE



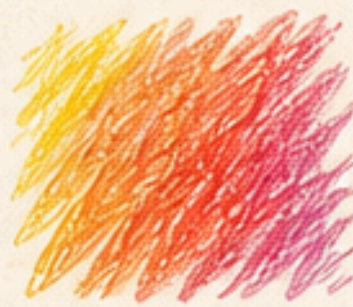
Different pressure + layering = different effects

1 SMOOTH GRADIENTS

Blend colours seamlessly for beautiful transitions and soft finishes. 

HOW TO:

Layer light to dark



Build more layers



Burnish gently for ultra smooth



USE IT FOR:

- ♥ Skies
- ♥ Sunsets
- ♥ Water
- ♥ Backgrounds



2 TEXTURE (FUR, WOOD, FABRIC)

Create realistic textures that you can see and feel. 

HOW TO:

Use short, light strokes



Follow the direction



Add layers and variation



USE IT FOR:

- ♥ Animal fur
- ♥ Wood grain
- ♥ Leaves
- ♥ Fabric & more



3 SOFT BACKGROUNDS

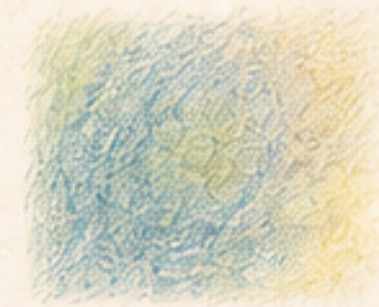
Create gentle, subtle backgrounds that make your subject stand out. 

HOW TO:

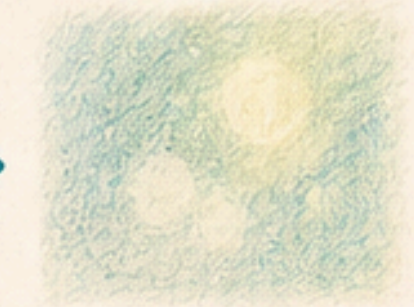
Apply light layers



Use circular motion



Keep it light and even



USE IT FOR:

- ♥ Portraits
- ♥ Wildlife
- ♥ Flowers
- ♥ Dreamy scenes



4 SHARP DETAILS

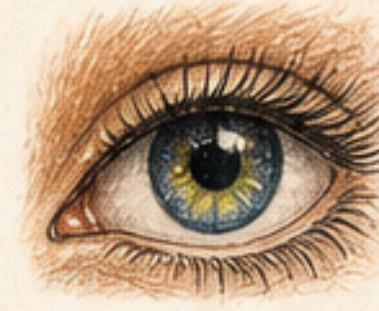
Add crisp, clear details and fine lines for stunning realism. 

HOW TO:

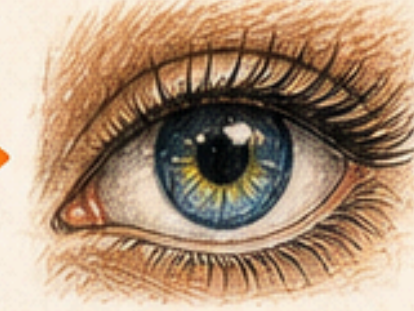
Use a sharp pencil



Light pressure for fine lines



Layer for depth and contrast



USE IT FOR:

- ♥ Eyes
- ♥ Textures
- ♥ Tiny details
- ♥ Intricate work



5 LIGHT EFFECTS (HIGHLIGHTS & GLOW)

Make areas glow and shine with highlights and reflected light. 

HOW TO:

Leave the light area



Build surrounding colours



Burnish around for a glow



USE IT FOR:

- ♥ Night scenes
- ♥ Metal & glass
- ♥ Water reflections
- ♥ Magical glow



 Use quality pencils and paper.

 Layer patiently. Build slowly.

 Keep your pencils sharp.

 Practice regularly. Enjoy the process!

Every layer you add brings your art to life! 



 EXPLORE. EXPERIMENT. ENJOY YOUR ART JOURNEY!

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SHARE IT WITH A CREATIVE FRIEND! 

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COLOURED PENCIL BLENDING COMPARISON

DIFFERENT TOOLS. DIFFERENT RESULTS.

The same colours, blended in different ways.
See the difference. Choose what works best for you! ♥

GOOD TO KNOW:

Blending helps create smoother transitions, softer shading and a more polished look.



1

WHITE PENCIL

Softens colours and creates a smoother, lighter blend.



- ♥ Great for highlights and soft transitions
- ♥ Works best on lighter areas

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



2

COLOURLESS BLENDER

Blends pigment without changing the hue.



- ♥ Smooth, even blending
- ♥ Maintains colour vibrancy

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



3

SOLVENT / PARAFFIN OIL

Melts the wax binder for a rich, painterly blend.

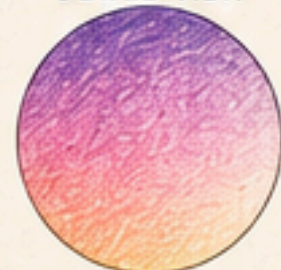


- ♥ Very smooth, almost paint-like
- ♥ Use sparingly – a little goes a long way

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



4

VASELINE

Softens and blends wax for a glossy, smooth finish.



- ♥ Adds a subtle sheen
- ♥ Blend small areas at a time

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



5

BABY OIL

Blends smoothly and enhances colour richness and depth.

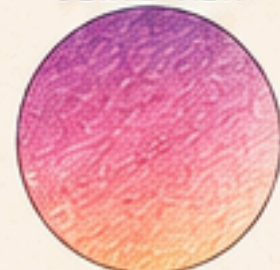


- ♥ Creates a soft, vibrant blend
- ♥ Wipe off excess to avoid stains

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



6

BURNISHING

Uses firm pressure to blend and polish the layers together.



- ♥ Creates a smooth, polished finish
- ♥ Builds depth and intensity

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



7

LAYERING ONLY

Builds smooth blends by layering colours gradually.



- ♥ Most control and precision
- ♥ Takes time but beautiful results

SWATCH



DETAIL VIEW



WHICH SHOULD YOU CHOOSE?

- ♥ For subtle blending: White pencil
- ♥ To keep colours pure: Colourless blender
- ♥ For rich, painterly blends: Solvent / Paraffin oil
- ♥ For a glossy finish: Vaseline
- ♥ For vibrant, soft blends: Baby oil
- ♥ For a smooth, polished look: Burnishing
- ♥ For maximum control: Layering only

SAME COLOURS, DIFFERENT RESULTS!



Experiment, compare and find your favourite method! ♥

TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS

- ♥ Use good quality paper and pencils.
- ♥ Test each method on a swatch first.
- ♥ Work in thin layers.
- ♥ Start light and build up.
- ♥ Clean your tools between uses.
- ♥ Have fun and experiment!

REMEMBER:

There's no "perfect" way – only what works best for your style! ♥

TRY. PRACTICE. EXPLORE.
THAT'S WHERE BEAUTIFUL
ART BEGINS. ♥

PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

- ♥ Test each method.
- ♥ Use what suits your style.
- ♥ Combine methods for unique results!

♥ TOOLS ARE IMPORTANT, BUT YOUR CREATIVITY IS EVERYTHING. ♥

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COLOURED PENCIL PRESSURE GUIDE

SAME COLOUR. DIFFERENT PRESSURE. DIFFERENT RESULTS.

The pressure you use changes the look and feel of your colour.
Here's how it affects the same colour. ♥

WHY PRESSURE MATTERS

- ♥ Creates values
- ♥ Adds depth
- ♥ Builds realism
- ♥ Improves control
- ♥ Makes colours more vibrant



1 LIGHT PRESSURE

Use a gentle touch.
Lets more of the paper show through.

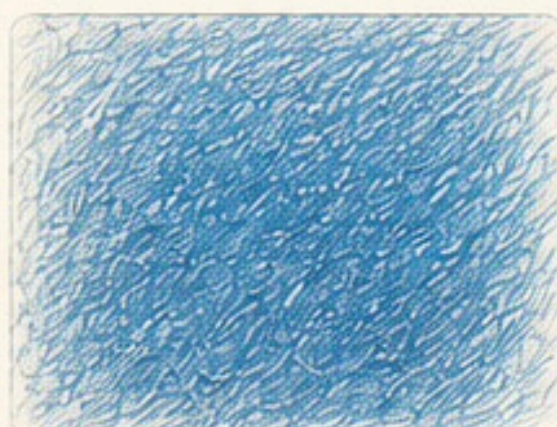


IDEAL FOR:

- ♥ Base layers
- ♥ Soft areas
- ♥ Highlights
- ♥ Building up colour slowly

2 MEDIUM PRESSURE

A moderate touch.
Good colour coverage with some texture.

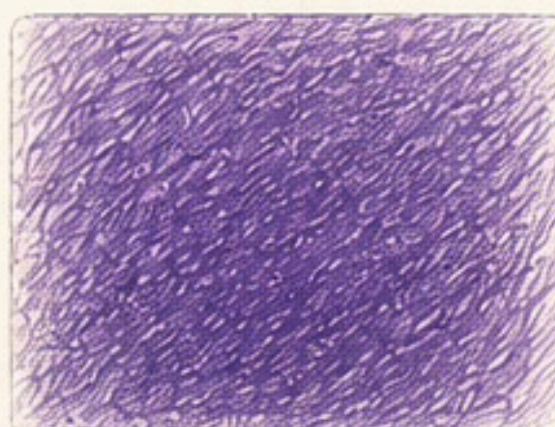


IDEAL FOR:

- ♥ Mid tones
- ♥ General colouring
- ♥ Smooth, even layers
- ♥ Adding dimension

3 HEAVY PRESSURE

Firm pressure.
Rich, bold colour with less texture.

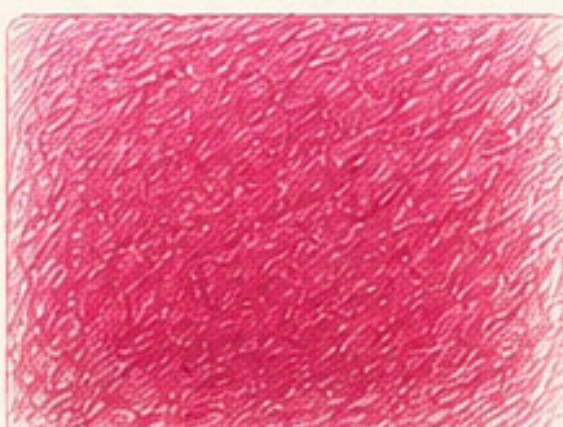


IDEAL FOR:

- ♥ Dark areas
- ♥ Strong contrast
- ♥ Bold details
- ♥ Quick coverage

4 BURNISHING

Use very firm pressure with multiple layers.
Creates a smooth, polished finish.



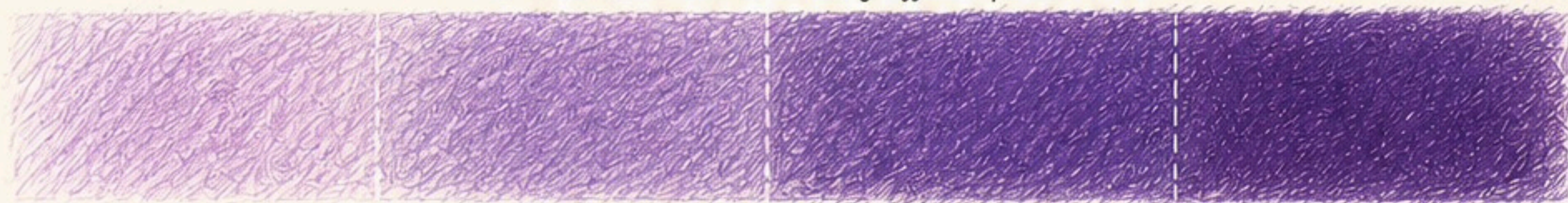
IDEAL FOR:

- ♥ Maximum vibrancy
- ♥ Smoother finish
- ♥ Intense colour
- ♥ Final layer for polish



PRESSURE COMPARISON – ONE COLOUR, FOUR LOOKS

This is the same violet colour using different pressure levels.



LIGHT PRESSURE



MEDIUM PRESSURE



HEAVY PRESSURE



BURNISHING

TIPS FOR BETTER RESULTS

- * Start light, build up gradually.
- * Let each layer do the work.
- * Use sharp pencils for smoother application.
- * Work in layers, not pressure.
- * Patience creates beautiful depth!



Layering light pressure first, then building up creates depth, richness and realism.



Art 4

REMEMBER

- ♥ Pencils are not about how hard you press...
- ♥ ...it's about how smart you layer.
- ♥ Control your pressure, control your art!



GOOD PRESSURE. BETTER CONTROL. BEAUTIFUL RESULTS. ♥



HOW TO COLOUR SMOOTHLY

BETTER TECHNIQUE. BETTER RESULTS.

Smooth colour comes from patience, practice and the right technique.

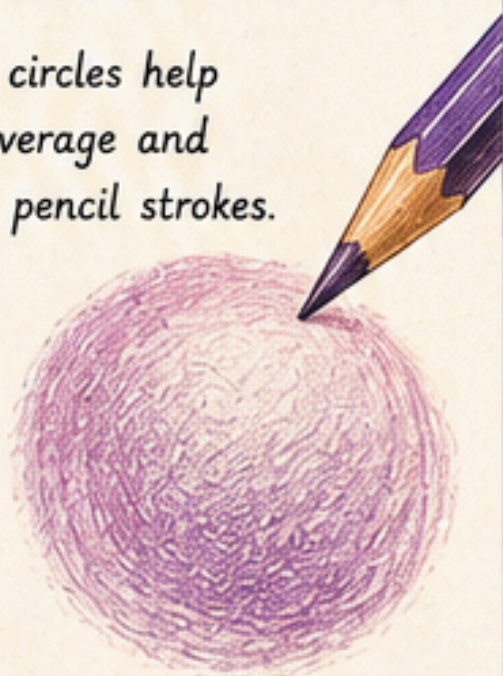
SMOOTH COLOUR
= LAYERS OF
LIGHT, PATIENT
STROKES THAT
BUILD BEAUTIFUL
DEPTH!

1 USE CIRCULAR MOTIONS

Small, gentle circles help build even coverage and reduce visible pencil strokes.

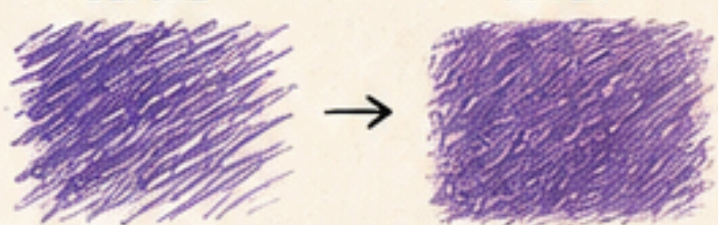
TRY THIS:

Use small circles that overlap each other.



BEFORE

AFTER



Circular strokes = even, smooth coverage

2 BUILD COLOUR WITH LAYERS

Build up colour slowly with multiple light layers. This creates richness and smoothness.

TRY THIS: Add layer after layer, allowing each layer to build depth and vibrancy.

LAYER PROGRESSION (BLUE)



Patience creates depth.
Depth creates beauty.

3 KEEP YOUR PENCILS SHARP

A sharp pencil gives you better control, clean layers and smoother details.

TRY THIS:

Sharpen often for crisp lines and smooth colour application.



DULL PENCIL

Scratchy marks
Hard to layer
Less control



SHARP PENCIL

Smooth marks
Easy to layer
Better control

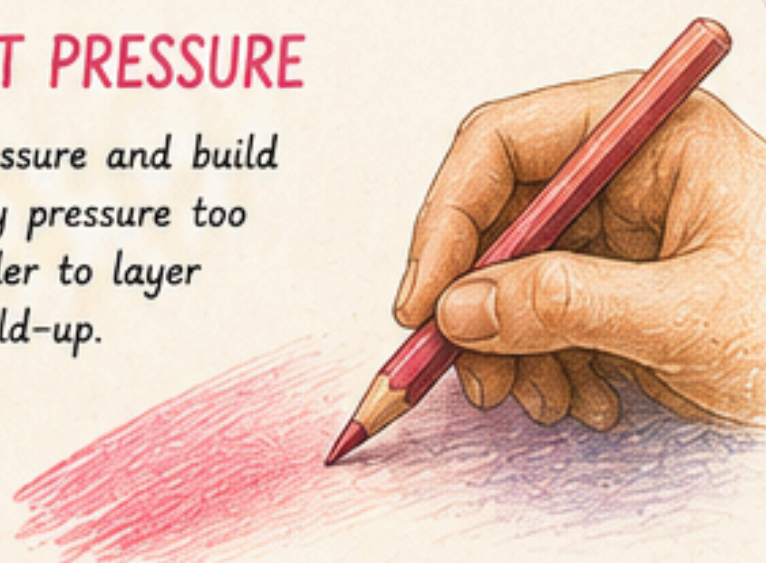


4 USE LIGHT PRESSURE

Start with light pressure and build up gradually. Heavy pressure too early makes it harder to layer and causes wax build-up.

TRY THIS:

Press lightly, then increase pressure slowly as the colour builds.



LIGHT PRESSURE

Builds smoothly
Easy to layer
Brighter results

VS.

HEAVY PRESSURE

Waxy build-up
Hard to layer
Dull, uneven results



5 BLEND FOR A FLAWLESS FINISH

Blending unifies layers and removes visible strokes for a silky smooth look.

TRY THESE BLENDING METHODS:

COLOURLESS BLENDER



Softens layers without changing the colour.

WHITE PENCIL



Lightens and smooths while adding highlights.

BURNISHING



Press firmly with light circular motions to polish the surface.

LAYERING ONLY



More layers = smoother colour and depth.

Experiment and find the method that works best for you!

EXTRA TIPS

- Work on good quality paper.
- Take your time - smooth colour is built, not rushed.
- Keep your pencils clean and your workspace tidy.
- Practice small areas before starting your artwork.

Smooth colour is the result of
GOOD HABITS
and consistent practice.



REMEMBER

- Small circles
- Light pressure
- Build layers
- Keep pencils sharp
- Blend with care

Keep going - you're getting better every day!



ENJOY THE PROCESS. TRUST THE PROCESS. LOVE YOUR ART.



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COLOURED PENCIL REALISM TIPS

SMALL DETAILS. BIG DIFFERENCE.

Realism isn't about perfection.
It's about observation, patience and technique.

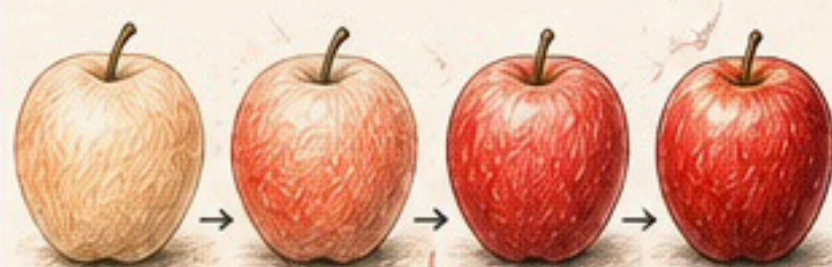
REALISM IS BUILT,
NOT RUSHED.

- ♥ Observe closely
- ♥ Build in layers
- ♥ Take your time
- ♥ Enjoy the process



1 LAYERING

Build colours slowly in light layers.
This creates depth, richness
and smooth blending.



Layer 1 (light base) Layer 2 (build colour) Layer 3 (deepen tones) Layer 4 (details & richness)

TIPS:

- ♥ Use light pressure at the start.
- ♥ Add darker layers gradually.
- ♥ Let each layer do the work.

2 SHARP EDGES

Sharp edges create definition,
detail and a sense of clarity.
They make your subject pop.

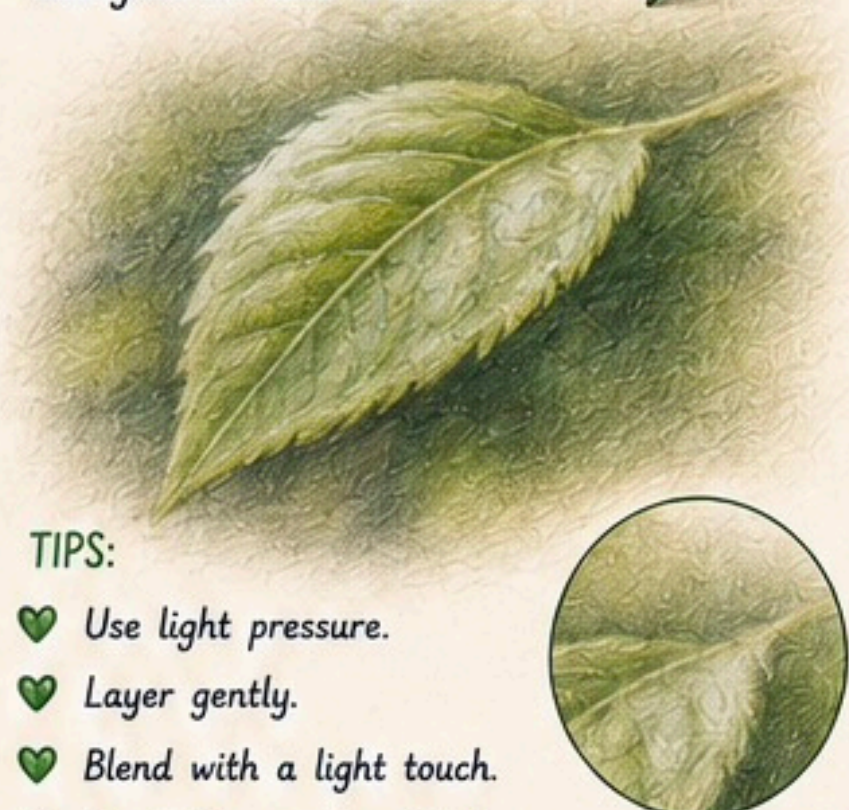


TIPS:

- ♥ Use a sharp pencil.
- ♥ Press a little firmer.
- ♥ Perfect for small details, textures and areas of contrast.

3 SOFT EDGES

Soft edges create a sense of
depth, realism and atmosphere.
Use them for shadows,
backgrounds and transitions.

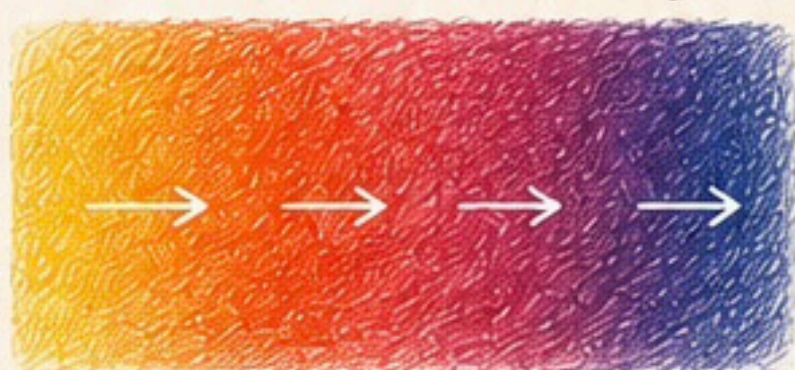


TIPS:

- ♥ Use light pressure.
- ♥ Layer gently.
- ♥ Blend with a light touch.
- ♥ Great for creating depth.

4 COLOUR TRANSITIONS

Smooth transitions make your drawing
look natural and realistic.
The secret is layering and patience.

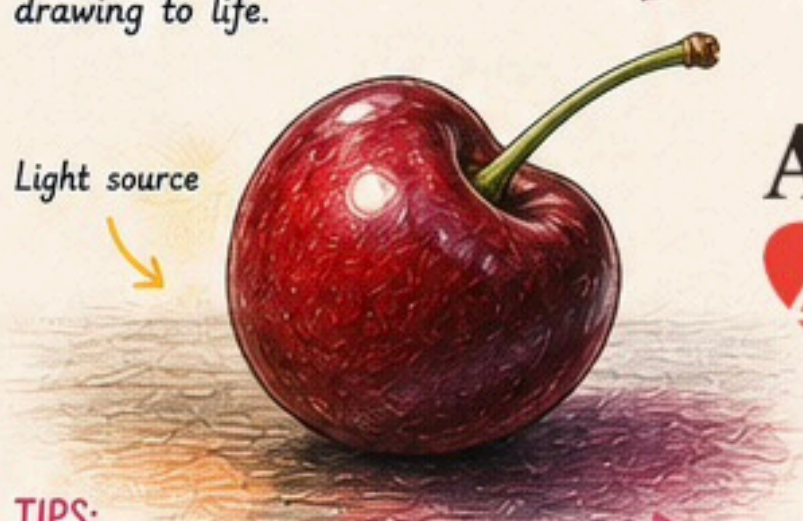


TIPS:

- ♥ Start with one colour.
- ♥ Add the next colour lightly.
- ♥ Build layers where the colours meet.
- ♥ Blend with overlapping strokes, not by pressing hard.

5 REFLECTED LIGHT

Light bounces off surrounding surfaces
and reflects onto your subject.
It adds realism and brings your
drawing to life.

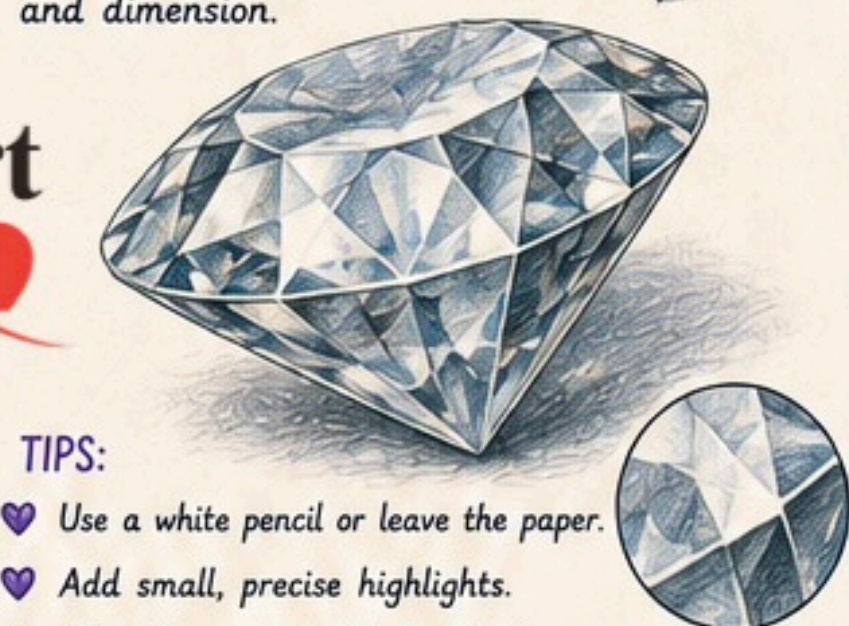


TIPS:

- ♥ Look for nearby colours that can reflect.
- ♥ Add subtle hints of that colour to shadows.
- ♥ It creates harmony and realism.

6 HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights are the brightest parts
that catch the light.
They add sparkle, realism
and dimension.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use a white pencil or leave the paper.
- ♥ Add small, precise highlights.
- ♥ Place them where the light hits the surface.
- ♥ Less is more – small highlights make the biggest impact.

EXTRA TIPS FOR REALISTIC RESULTS

- ♥ Work from reference photos.
- ♥ Observe colours, values and light.
- ♥ Use quality pencils and good paper.
- ♥ Zoom in on small areas.
- ♥ Step back and look at the big picture.



Observe.
Layer.
Refine.
Repeat.
That's how
realism is built.

REMEMBER

- ♥ Every layer adds depth.
- ♥ Every detail tells a story.
- ♥ Patience turns practice into progress.
- ♥ You've got this!

PRACTICE. PATIENCE. PASSION. THAT'S THE REAL MAGIC.



USING COLOURED PENCILS WITH OTHER MEDIUMS



More ways to create. More ways to express.



1 COLOURED PENCILS + GRAPHITE PENCILS

Use graphite for drawing, shading and values. Then add coloured pencil for richness and life!



BEFORE



AFTER



WHY IT WORKS

- ✓ Graphite creates structure and depth.
- ✓ Coloured pencils bring colour, vibrancy and detail.

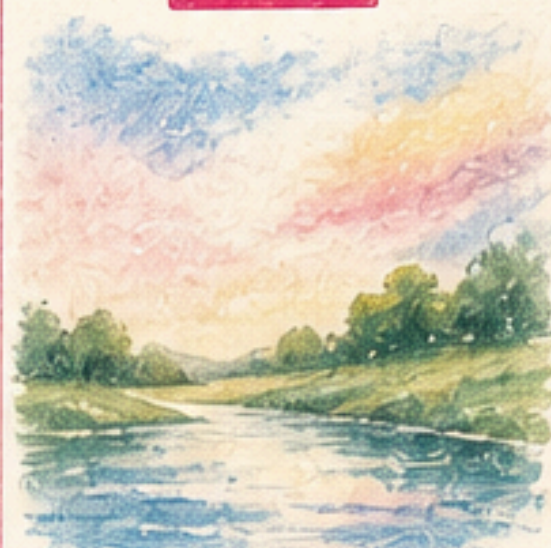


2 COLOURED PENCILS + WATERCOLOUR

Use watercolour for a soft, fluid base. Once dry, add coloured pencil for detail, texture and definition.



BEFORE



AFTER



WHY IT WORKS

- ✓ Watercolour creates beautiful washes.
- ✓ Coloured pencils add details and pop!



3 COLOURED PENCILS + ACRYLICS

Paint your acrylic base and let it dry completely. Add coloured pencil for texture, fine details and finishing touches.



BEFORE



AFTER



WHY IT WORKS

- ✓ Acrylics build bold colour and texture.
- ✓ Coloured pencils add precision and extra detail.



4 COLOURED PENCILS + GOUACHE

Use gouache for soft, matte base layers. Once dry, add coloured pencil for crisp details and dimension.



BEFORE



AFTER



WHY IT WORKS

- ✓ Gouache gives soft, smooth, opaque coverage.
- ✓ Coloured pencils add crisp lines, texture and depth.



BIG TIP

Coloured pencils are the perfect **finishing touch!** They give you control, detail and personality over many different mediums.



EXPLORE. EXPERIMENT. ENJOY THE PROCESS!



YOUR ART, YOUR WAY.

SAVE THIS POST FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!



SHARE IT WITH A CREATIVE FRIEND!



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COLOURED PENCIL BLENDERS & HIGHLIGHTS

DIFFERENT TOOLS. DIFFERENT EFFECTS.

There's more than one way to perfect your drawing!
Choose the right tool for the look you want to achieve.



1 COLOURLESS BLENDER MARKER

A solvent-based marker that dissolves pigment and blends it smoothly.

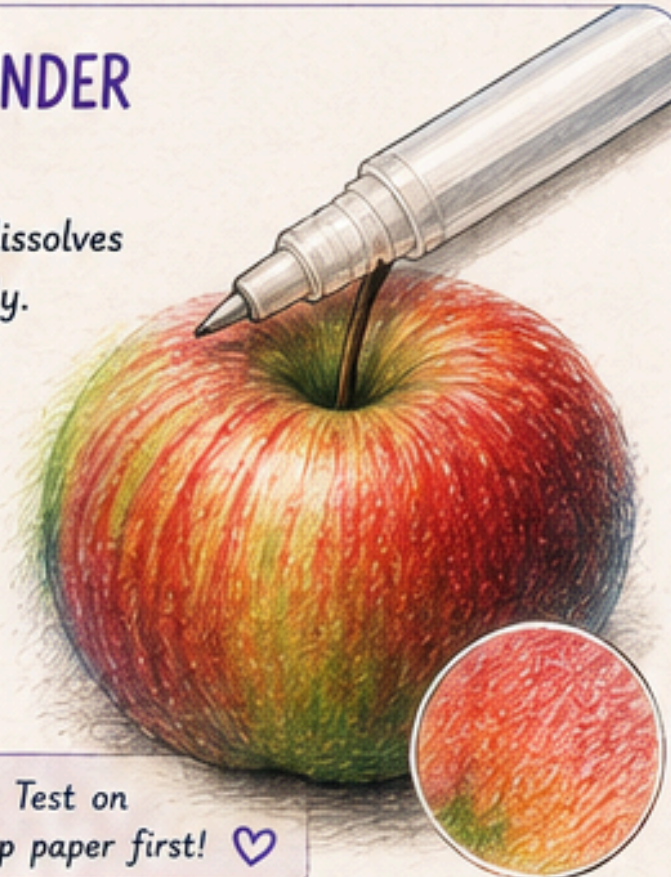
HOW TO USE:

- Apply over layers to blend colours together.
- Work in small areas.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Smooth blending
- ♥ Soft transitions
- ♥ Removing graininess

TIP: Test on scrap paper first! ♥



2 WHITE GEL PEN

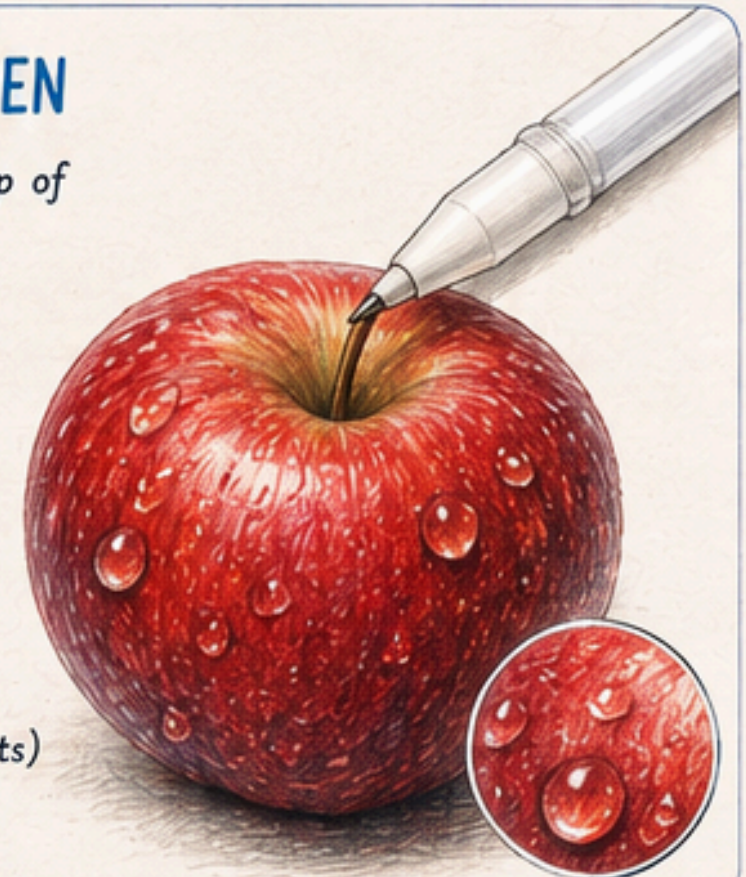
Opaque ink that sits on top of the pencil layers.

HOW TO USE:

- Use light pressure.
- Perfect for tiny details.
- Allow to dry.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Small highlights
- ♥ Tiny details (eyes, droplets)
- ♥ Fine lines



3 WHITE GOUACHE PAINT

Opaque paint that creates bold, bright highlights.

HOW TO USE:

- Use a fine brush.
- Apply in thin layers.
- Let each layer dry.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Strong, bright highlights
- ♥ Reflections
- ♥ Opaque details

TIP: Less is more!
Build up gradually. ♥



4 SCRATCHING (LIFTING COLOUR)

Carefully removes pigment to reveal the white paper underneath.

HOW TO USE:

- Use a craft knife or scratch tool.
- Go gently!
- Work in one direction.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Highlights
- ♥ Fur and hair strands
- ♥ Texture and details



TIP: Always cut AWAY from yourself! ♥

5 EMBOSSING (INDENTING)

Presses into the paper to create a white line without removing any pigment.

HOW TO USE:

- Use a needle, embossing tool or a ballpoint pen (no ink).
- Press gently to avoid tearing.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Fine highlights
- ♥ Whiskers, fur, hair
- ♥ Subtle light lines

TIP: Works best on thicker paper with good tooth. ♥



6 ADDING LIGHTER COLOURS

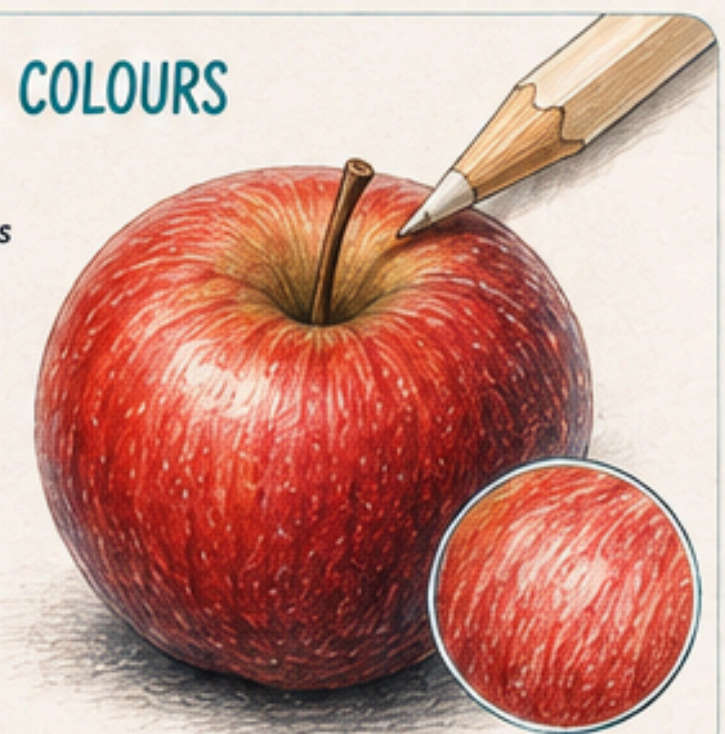
Use pale colours or build up light layers to create highlights and soft blends.

HOW TO USE:

- Layer light colours gradually.
- Use gentle pressure.
- Blend as you build.

BEST FOR:

- ♥ Soft highlights
- ♥ Smooth transitions
- ♥ Natural light effects



EXTRA TIPS

- ♥ Keep your pencils sharp.
- ♥ Work in good lighting.
- ♥ Use quality paper.
- ♥ Practice on scrap paper.
- ♥ Patience creates magic! 😊

DIFFERENT TOOLS = DIFFERENT RESULTS



BLENDER MARKER



GEL PEN



GOUACHE



SCRATCHING



EMBOSSING



LIGHTER COLOURS

REMEMBER

- ♥ There's no "right" way to add highlights.
- ♥ Try different methods and see what you love.
- ♥ Combine techniques for even more realism! 😊

THE RIGHT TOOL BRINGS OUT THE LIGHT IN YOUR ART.



COLOURED PENCIL PAPER TYPES

THE PAPER YOU CHOOSE CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Different papers create different textures, blending, vibrancy and overall results. ♡

GOOD PAPER =
BETTER RESULTS

- ♡ Better layers
- ♡ Smoother blending
- ♡ Richer colours
- ♡ More control



1 SMOOTH PAPER

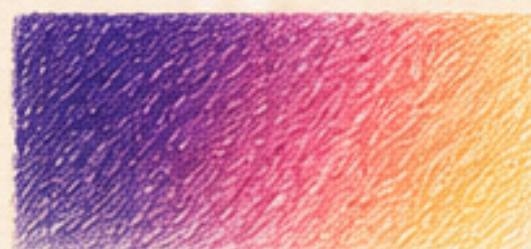
Very fine texture with little to no surface tooth. Pencils glide easily.



PENCIL MARKS



BLENDING



♡ PROS

- Smooth, even coverage
- Excellent blending
- Vibrant colours
- Great for fine detail

♡ CONS

- Less tooth = lower layers may slide if too many layers are added

BEST FOR

Portraits, realism, fine details, smooth gradients, layering

2 ROUGH PAPER

Pronounced texture with plenty of tooth. More grip for the pencil.



PENCIL MARKS



BLENDING



♡ PROS

- Excellent tooth for layering
- Great for texture and detail
- Holds many layers well
- Ideal for bold coverage

♡ CONS

- Harder to blend smoothly
- Pencil wears down faster
- Can look grainy

BEST FOR

Textures, landscapes, bold colours, detailed work

3 TONED PAPER

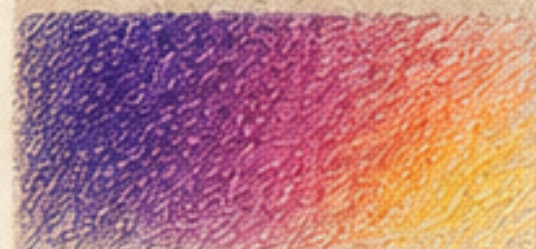
Coloured paper (mid-tone) changes how colours look and adds atmosphere.



PENCIL MARKS



BLENDING



♡ PROS

- Adds warmth or coolness
- Great for mid-tones & shadows
- Less layering needed
- Creates mood and harmony

♡ CONS

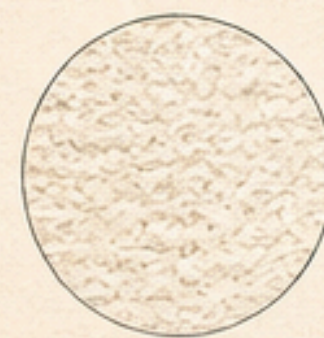
- Colours look different than on white paper
- Not ideal for bright, neon-like colours

BEST FOR

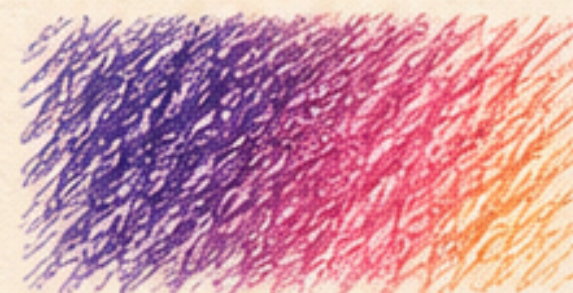
Portraits, atmospheric art, warmth, subtle realism

4 MIXED MEDIA PAPER

Versatile surface designed to handle multiple mediums (dry + wet).



PENCIL MARKS



BLENDING



♡ PROS

- Strong & durable
- Good texture for grip
- Works with wet & dry media
- Great all-rounder

♡ CONS

- Not as smooth as some papers
- Can be pricier

BEST FOR

Experimenting, mixed media, practice, all-round use

SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON (same pencil, same pressure)

SMOOTH PAPER



ROUGH PAPER



TONED PAPER



MIXED MEDIA PAPER



♡ NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE?

The same colours look and behave differently on each surface!



TIPS FOR CHOOSING PAPER

- ♡ Think about your style and subject
- ♡ Test papers with your pencils
- ♡ Consider the final look you want
- ♡ Good paper makes the process more enjoyable!



REMEMBER

- ♡ There's no "best" paper – only what works best for YOU.
- ♡ Experiment and find your favourites.
- ♡ Great art starts with great choices!





BEST COLOUR COMBINATIONS

HARMONY • CONTRAST • BALANCE

Great colour choices bring your art to life! ♥



1 COMPLEMENTARY COLOURS

Colours opposite each other on the colour wheel create strong contrast and make each colour pop!



BLUE & ORANGE



PURPLE & YELLOW



RED & GREEN



2 WARM / COOL CONTRASTS

Pair warm colours with cool colours for natural contrast and balance.

WARM



COOL



♥ Warm colours advance, cool colours recede.



3 EARTHY PALETTES

Earthy colours feel natural, calm and timeless. Perfect for landscapes and nature scenes.



4 VIBRANT PALETTES

Bright, energetic combinations bring excitement and life to your artwork.

TROPICAL



SUNSET



BOLD & BRIGHT



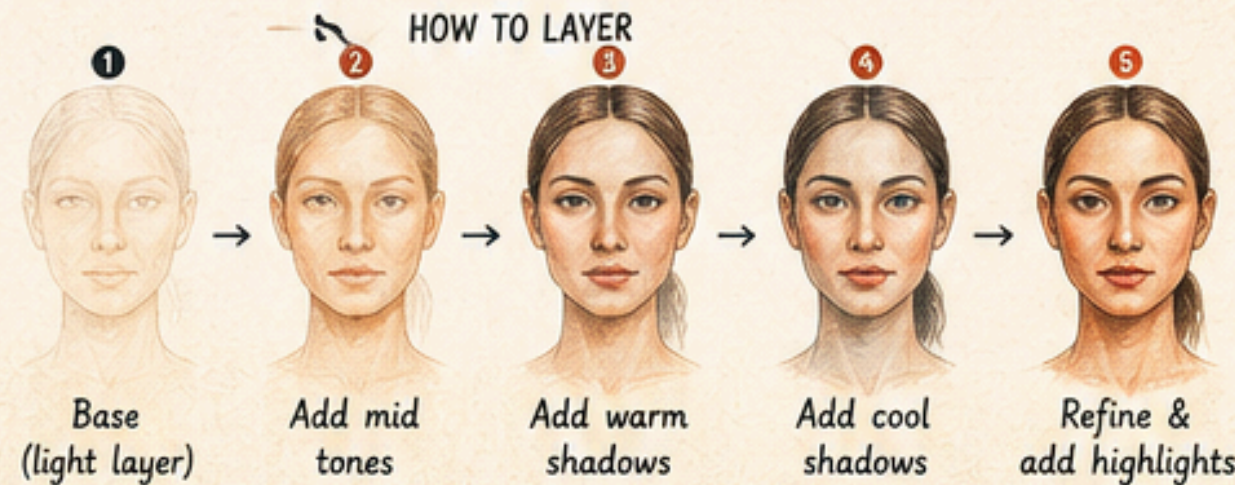
♥ Use vibrant colours as accents or focal points.



5 SKIN TONE LAYERING

Realistic skin tones come from layering warm, cool and neutral colours.

BASIC SKIN TONE PALETTE



USE COLOUR VARIATION

Don't rely on one colour. Mix warm, cool and neutral tones.



TIPS TO REMEMBER ♥

- ♥ Start with light pressure.
- ♥ Layer gradually.
- ♥ Observe real life.
- ♥ Test colours on scrap paper.
- ♥ Let colours work together, not against each other.

EXPLORE. EXPERIMENT.
TRUST YOUR EYE.
ENJOY THE PROCESS! ♥

COLOUR IS YOUR
GREATEST TOOL—
USE IT WISELY AND
HAVE FUN! 😊

♥ The more you play with colour, the better you'll understand it. ✨

♥ Art4Heart INC



HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC CRYSTALS

© Art4Heart

CLARITY. STRUCTURE. ENERGY.



1. PLAN THE STRUCTURE

- Start with simple geometric shapes (hexagons, prisms, triangles).
- Keep your lines confident and straight.



2. FIND THE LIGHT SOURCE

- Decide where the light is coming from.
- Mark the bright faces and the shadowed sides.



3. BUILD TRANSPARENCY

- Use light pressure to create clear, glass-like areas.
- Leave whites for the brightest reflections.



4. ADD COLOUR & DEPTH

- Layer colours gradually from light to dark.
- Let colours blend within the crystal.



5. REFINE DETAILS & SPARKLE

- Add sharp highlights on edges.
- Include internal cracks, bubbles, veils and inclusions.
- Increase contrast for realism.



Crystals are all about structure, transparency and the beauty of light within and around them. ♥

Light passes through...

...reflects inside...



TIPS FOR REALISTIC CRYSTALS

- ✓ Use a reference. Real life or photos help you see more.
- ✓ Crystals have hard edges and flat planes.
- ✓ Think like light: Reflect, refract, transmit.
- ✓ Use sharp pencils for crisp edges.
- ✓ Layer patiently. Slow strokes build brilliance.



TYPES OF CRYSTALS



WHAT TO LOOK FOR



LIGHT SOURCE
Controls highlights, shadows and reflections.



FACETS & EDGES
Flat planes catch light differently.



TRANSPARENCY
Some areas are clear, some more cloudy.



INCLUSIONS & TEXTURE
Tiny cracks, bubbles and veils make each crystal unique.



REFLECTIONS
Surfaces reflect the world around them.



CONTRAST
Bright highlights + deep shadows = realism.

BEST PENCILS TO USE:

- Graphite Pencils (2H - 8B)
- Coloured Pencils
- White Gel Pen / White Pencil
- Blending Tools (softly!)
- Tortillon / Paper Stump



"Crystals don't just sparkle... they capture light and hold stories."
Observe. Understand. Layer. Refine. That's the magic!





HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC EYES WITH COLOURED PENCIL

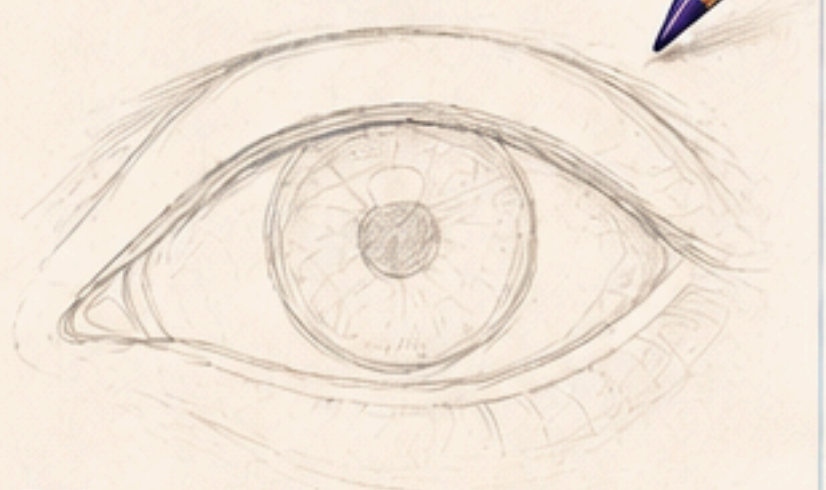
STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR LIFE-LIKE RESULTS

♥ Break it down. Build it up. Bring your eyes to life! ♥



1 SKETCH

Start with a light sketch. Use light pressure and simple shapes to map the eye.



TIPS:

- ♥ Keep your lines light and loose.
- ♥ Focus on proportions.
- ♥ Take your time at this stage.

2 BASE LAYER

Apply a light base colour over the whole eye. This creates a smooth foundation.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use light pressure.
- ♥ Layer lightly and evenly.
- ♥ Choose a colour close to your final skin tone.



3 IRIS

Add the main iris colour. Build circular strokes from the pupil outwards. Add variation with different tones.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use circular strokes.
- ♥ Add darker tones near the pupil and outer rim.
- ♥ Add lighter tones around the centre.



4 SHADOWS

Build the shadows around the eye and on the eyelid. Add depth, contrast and shape.



TIPS:

- ♥ Observe where the light is coming from.
- ♥ Layer darker colours gradually.
- ♥ Keep transitions soft.



5 EYELASHES

Use a sharp pencil to add individual lashes. Follow the natural direction and vary the length.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use a sharp dark pencil.
- ♥ Wings grow outwards and upwards, as do lashes.
- ♥ Not all lashes are the same length!



6 HIGHLIGHTS

Add the final highlights to the eye and tear duct. This brings life, shine and realism.



TIPS:

- ♥ Use white pencil for highlights.
- ♥ Add tiny reflections in the pupil.
- ♥ Less is more!



Practice today, create beauty tomorrow! ♥



DETAILS MAKE REALISM. PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS. ♥



HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC GEMSTONES

© Art4Heart

SHINE. DEPTH. COLOUR. REALISM.



Gemstones captivate because of their colour, clarity and the way light dances within.

Let's bring that magic to life! ♥

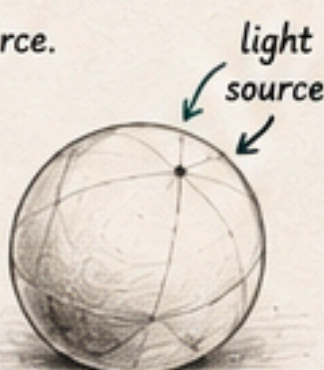
1. DRAW THE SHAPE

- Start with a basic shape.
- Use simple geometric forms to map the facets.
- Keep your lines light and clean.



2. UNDERSTAND THE LIGHT

- Identify the light source.
- Know where the highlights, mid-tones and shadows fall.
- This is the key to believable depth.



3. BLOCK IN THE BASE COLOUR

- Choose the main colour of your gemstone.
- Apply a light layer with even pressure.
- Leave white areas for highlights.



4. BUILD DEPTH & FACETS

- Add darker tones in the shadow areas.
- Follow the direction of each facet.
- Work from dark to light for realism.



5. ADD SPARKLE & REFLECTIONS

- Add sharp highlights where the light hits.
- Create reflected colours inside the gem.
- Increase contrast for that brilliant sparkle!



Sharp edges create brilliance.

Light enters, bounces and reflects.



Depth comes from contrast and layers.

Colour and reflections bring your gem to life!

WHAT TO LOOK FOR



LIGHT SOURCE

The light determines the highlights, shadows and reflections.



FACETS

Each facet reflects light differently. Watch the shapes and angles.



COLOUR VARIATION

Real gemstones have subtle shifts in tone and colour.



REFLECTIONS

Look for reflected colours from the environment or nearby objects.



CONTRAST

Strong contrast between lights and darks creates that 'pop'!

TIPS FOR REALISTIC GEMSTONES

- ✓ Use a reference. Real life or photos help you see more.
- ✓ Look for the light source and follow it.
- ✓ Keep your pencils sharp for clean facets.
- ✓ Use layers to build depth and colour.
- ✓ Don't be afraid of darks!
- ✓ Patience brings brilliance.



BEST PENCILS TO USE:

- Coloured Pencils
- White Gel Pen / White Pencil
- Black / Dark Pencil
- Blending Tools (softly!)

TIP!

Take your time and build layers slowly. Patience is what makes a gemstone truly shine! ♥



RUBY



EMERALD



SAPPHIRE



CITRINE



AMETHYST

♥ Observe. Understand. Layer. Refine. · That's the secret to brilliance! ♥



HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC FUR

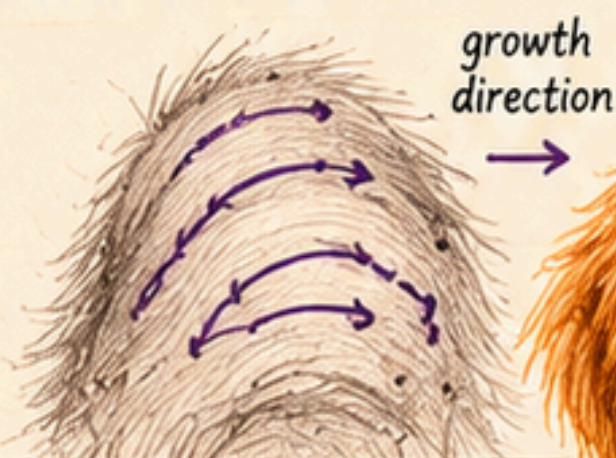
CAPTURE SOFTNESS, DIRECTION & LIFE!

Fur isn't random – it follows growth, light and movement.



1. UNDERSTAND FUR

- Fur grows in layers.
- It follows direction.
- It reflects light.



2. BUILD THE BASE

- Lightly block in the shapes.
- Use a light colour or gentle pressure.
- Keep it soft.



3. CREATE DIRECTION

- Use short, confident strokes.
- Follow the direction of the fur.
- Vary the length and curves.



4. ADD DEPTH & LAYERS

- Work from mid-tones to darks.
- Build layers slowly.
- Darker in shadows, lighter on top.



5. REFINE & ADD DETAIL

- Add flyaway hairs.
- Soften harsh lines.
- Highlight the tips where the light hits.



TIPS FOR REALISTIC FUR

- ✓ Use sharp pencils for fine strokes.
- ✓ Work in layers, don't rush.
- ✓ Keep your hand light.
- ✓ Look at real fur for reference.
- ✓ Patience creates realism.



Best pencils to use:

- Coloured pencils
- White for highlights
- Light layers
- Blending (softly!)



TIP!



Fur is all about LIGHT, DIRECTION and CONTRAST.
Observe... then play!



"Study nature, be patient, and enjoy the process."



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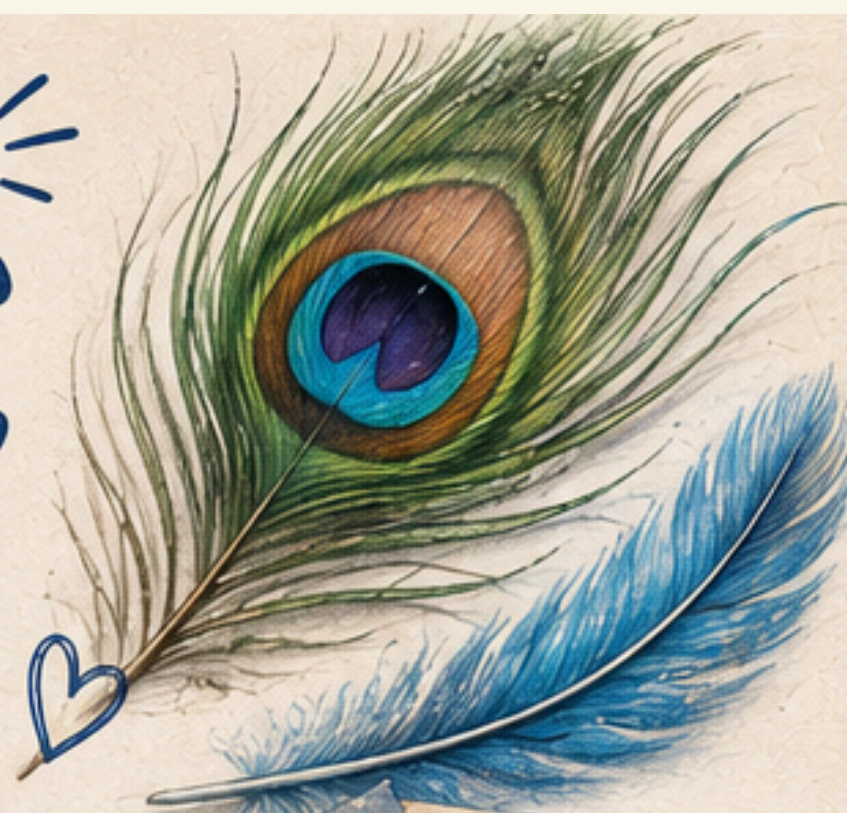


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HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC FEATHERS

SOFT. LIGHT. NATURAL. BEAUTIFUL.



Feathers are all about flow, texture, and the way light dances across soft surfaces. ♥

1. SHAPE & FLOW

- Start with the central shaft (rachis).
- Map the overall shape with light, flowing lines.
- Think of the natural curve and direction.



Feathers may look delicate, but with the right observation and gentle layers, you can bring them to life. ♥

Follow the natural curve.

2. BUILD THE BARBS

- Feathers have barbs branching out from the shaft.
- Use light, gentle strokes following the curve.
- Keep them slightly uneven and soft.



3. ADD DEPTH & LAYERS

- Layer more strokes to create thickness.
- Overlap some barbs and vary the lengths.
- Darker near the shaft, lighter towards the edge.



4. REFINE THE TEXTURE

- Use smaller, fine strokes to add soft strands.
- Break some barbs for a natural, delicate look.
- Blend gently with a paper stump or soft brush.



5. DETAILS & HIGHLIGHTS

- Deepen the darkest areas for contrast.
- Add highlights where the light catches.
- Use an eraser to lift tiny highlights if needed.
- Step back and admire the softness!



WHAT TO LOOK FOR



LIGHT SOURCE
Know where the light is coming from.



DIRECTION
Notice how the barbs follow the flow.



VALUES
Darker near the shaft, lighter at the edges.



COLOUR & PATTERN
Observe subtle colour shifts and markings.



SOFTNESS
Feathers are delicate, not sharp.



MOVEMENT
They have life and natural movement.

- ### TIPS FOR REALISTIC FEATHERS
- Use reference. Observe real feathers closely.
 - Vary your pressure for soft to bold strokes.
 - Work in the direction of growth.
 - Layer slowly. Feathers are built, not rushed.
 - Keep edges soft and natural.
 - Light & shadow create the magic!

- ### BEST TOOLS TO USE:
- Graphite Pencils (2H - 6B)
 - Coloured Pencils
 - Markers (for deep tones)
 - White Gel Pen
 - Blending Tools (softly!)
 - Kneaded Eraser



REMEMBER: Patience, light strokes, and love for details will turn a simple feather into something breathtaking. ♥



HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC EYES WITH COLOURED PENCIL

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR LIFE-LIKE RESULTS

♡ Break it down. Build it up. Bring your eyes to life! ♡



1 SKETCH

Start with a light sketch.
Use light pressure and simple
shapes to map the eye.

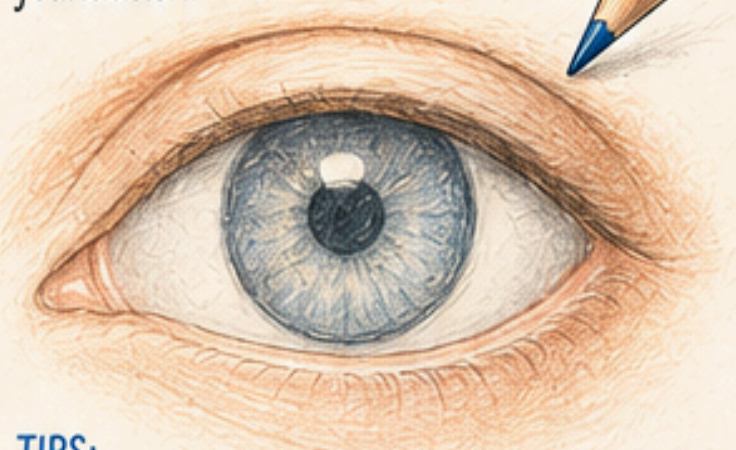


TIPS:

- ♡ Keep your lines light and loose.
- ♡ Focus on proportions.
- ♡ Take your time at this stage.

2 BASE LAYER

Apply a light base colour
over the whole eye.
This creates a smooth
foundation.



TIPS:

- ♡ Use light pressure.
- ♡ Layer lightly and evenly.
- ♡ Choose a colour close to your final skin tone.



3 IRIS

Add the main iris colour.
Build circular strokes from
the pupil outwards.
Add variation with
different tones.



TIPS:

- ♡ Use circular strokes.
- ♡ Add darker tones near the pupil and outer rim.
- ♡ Add lighter tones around the centre.



4 SHADOWS

Build the shadows around
the eye and on the eyelid.
Add depth, contrast
and shape.



TIPS:

- ♡ Observe where the light is coming from.
- ♡ Layer darker colours gradually.
- ♡ Keep transitions soft.



5 EYELASHES

Use a sharp pencil to add
individual lashes.
Follow the natural
direction and
vary the
length.



TIPS:

- ♡ Use a sharp dark pencil.
- ♡ Wings grow outwards and upwards.
- ♡ Not all lashes are the same length!



6 HIGHLIGHTS

Add the final highlights
to the eye and tears.
This brings life,
shine and realism.



TIPS:

- ♡ Use white pencil for highlights.
- ♡ Add tiny reflections in the pupil.
- ♡ Less is more!



Practice today,
create beauty tomorrow! ♡



DETAILS MAKE REALISM. PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS. ♡

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HOW TO DRAW REALISTIC WATER DROPLETS

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SMALL DROPLETS. BIG IMPACT.

Water droplets are all about light, reflection, transparency and the surface beneath.



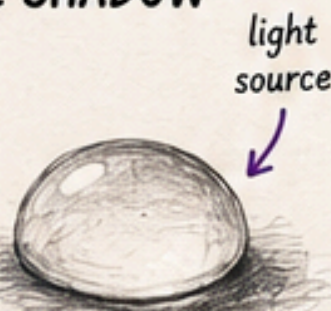
1. DRAW THE BASIC SHAPE

- Sketch the droplet shape lightly.
- Think of it as a dome sitting on the surface.
- Keep the edges smooth and round.



2. ESTABLISH THE SHADOW

- Decide where the light is coming from.
- Add a soft shadow opposite the light.
- Keep the shadow soft and slightly blurry.



3. ADD THE BASE TONE

- Lightly shade the droplet, leaving a bright highlight area.
- The edges should be darker than the center.
- Keep it smooth!



4. BUILD TRANSPARENCY & REFLECTIONS

- Add reflected colours from the surface underneath.
- Add the cast shadow and any reflected light near the droplet.
- Keep transitions smooth.



5. ADD HIGHLIGHTS & DETAILS

- Add a bright highlight (the light source).
- Add subtle secondary highlights if needed.
- Add tiny details around the droplet if there are smaller droplets.
- Blend everything carefully.



Observe real droplets. They are perfect teachers!



WHAT TO LOOK FOR



LIGHT SOURCE

Strong highlight on the light side.
Soft shadow on the opposite side.



REFLECTIONS

Look for what the droplet reflects (sky, leaves, surroundings etc.).



TRANSPARENCY

You should still see the surface under the droplet.



SHADOW & CONTACT

A soft shadow gives the droplet weight and realism.



SMALL DETAILS

Tiny droplets, texture and subtle tones bring it to life!

TIPS FOR REALISTIC WATER DROPLETS

- ✓ Use a reference. Real life or photos help you see more.
- ✓ Think like light: Where is it coming from?
- ✓ Keep your pencils sharp for clean, crisp highlights.
- ✓ Use smooth, controlled strokes.
- ✓ Less is more. Don't overwork it!
- ✓ Patience brings realism.



BEST PENCILS TO USE:

- Graphite Pencils (2H - 8B)
- Coloured Pencils
- White Gel Pen / White Pencil
- Blending Tools (softly!)



REMEMBER:



It's not just a drop.
It's a tiny world
of light, shadow
and reflection.
Enjoy the magic!



Practice. Observe. Be patient.
That's how tiny droplets
become stunning!



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Colour pencil Texturing Techniques

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✓ Cross Hatching



For texture, depth, and shadows.

✓ Scribbling



For loose, expressive texture.

✓ Hatching



For soft texture and subtle shading.

✓ Stippling



For delicate, grainy shading.

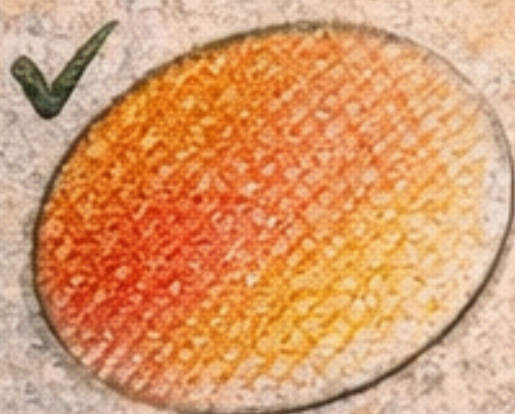
TIP: Vary pressure and layer colours for more depth and interest.



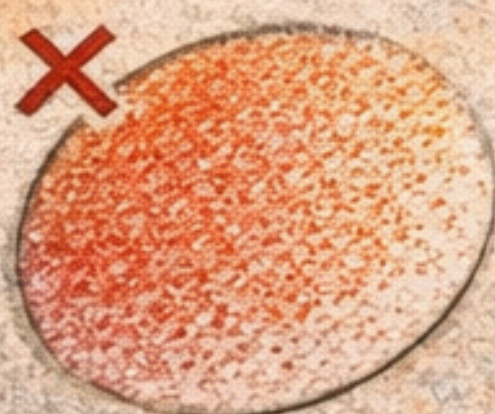
COLOURED PENCIL TIPS

Keep Pencils Sharp

- Sharp pencils are essential to fill the "tooth" (texture) of the paper, reducing grainy or white spots in your drawing.



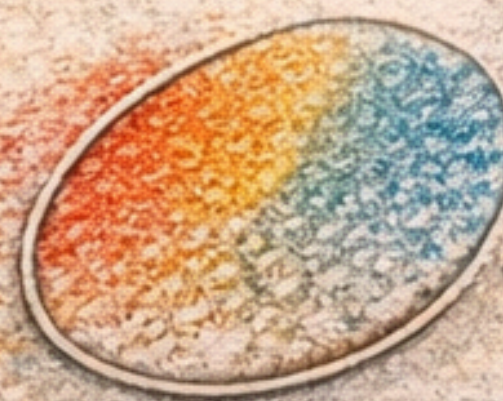
Sharp ✓



Dull ✗

Use Consistent Motions

- Apply color using small circular or oval motions, rather than back-and-forth strokes, to create smooth, even coverage.



Mix Colors Optically

- Because pencils don't mix like paint, create new colors by layering one color on top of another.



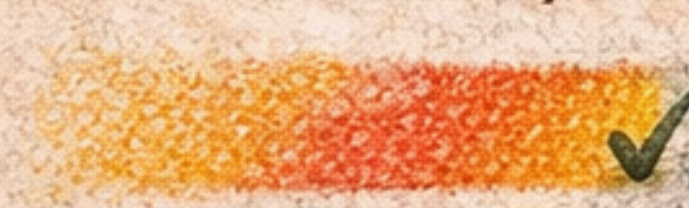
✓ Circular ✓



Back-and-forth ✗

Avoid damage

- Do not press hard on the first few layers.



Damages grain!



Avoid damage

- Do not press hard on the first few layers.



Use Complementary Colors for Shadows

- Rather than just using black, use a complement (e.g., green over red) to create richer shadows.



Black



Green ✓



COLOURED PENCIL TECHNIQUES

Layering

- Soft, rich colour
- Build depth
- Mix hues



Layer colours lightly for richer shades

Burnishing

- Smooth finish
- Deep saturation
- No paper tooth



Hard pressure blends colours smoothly

Blending with blenders

- Paper-stump
- Colourless blender
- Blending medium



Blend gently with light pressure

Blending

- Soft transitions
- Smooth gradients
- Mix two or more colours



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Blending

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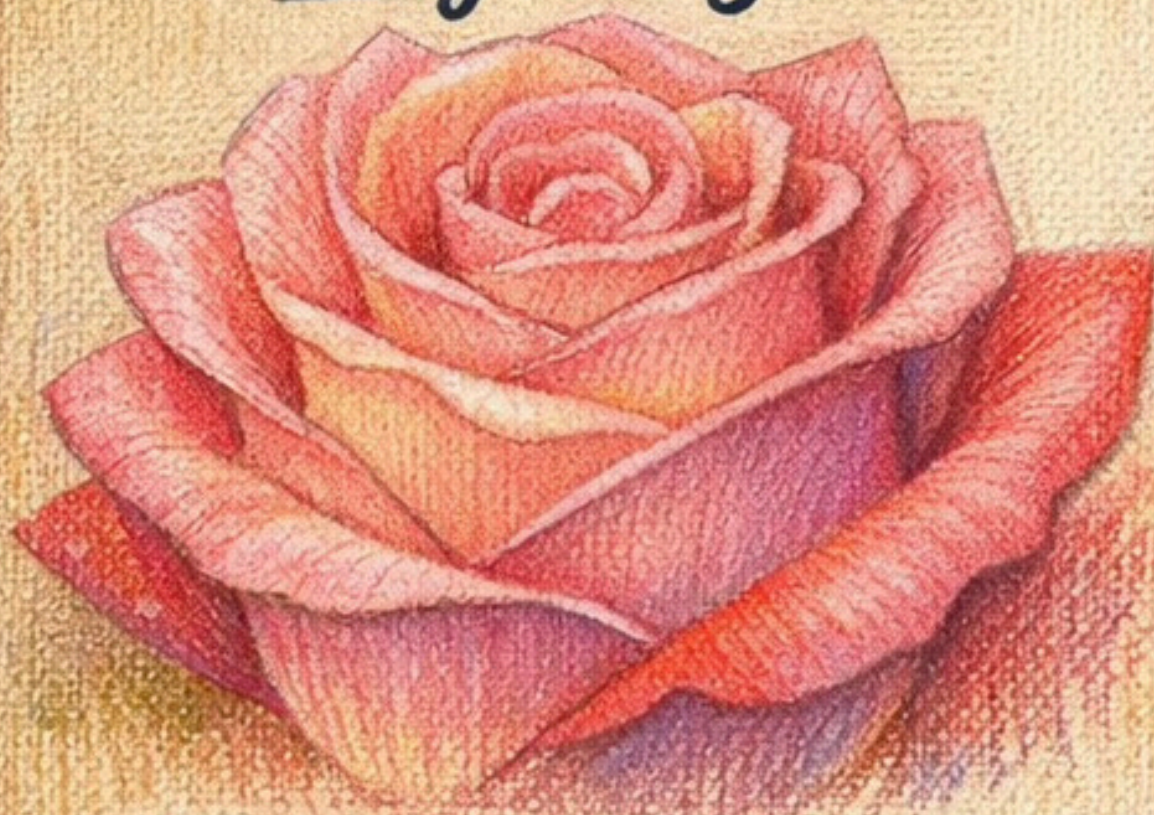


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Colour pencil Techniques

= Layering =



Creates smooth transitions and rich depth of color.

Build slowly from light to dark

= Burnishing =



Gives a smooth paint-like finish and intensifies colours.

Apply heavy pressure at the final stage

= Pressure Control =



Controls tone and prevents muddy colors.

Vary pressure for realistic shading

= Blending =



Reduces visible strokes and creates smooth gradients.

Blend for soft, realistic effects.

TIP: Use a colourless blender pencil or pen.
It's ideal for blending and layering.



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COLOURED PENCIL TECHNIQUES

Layering

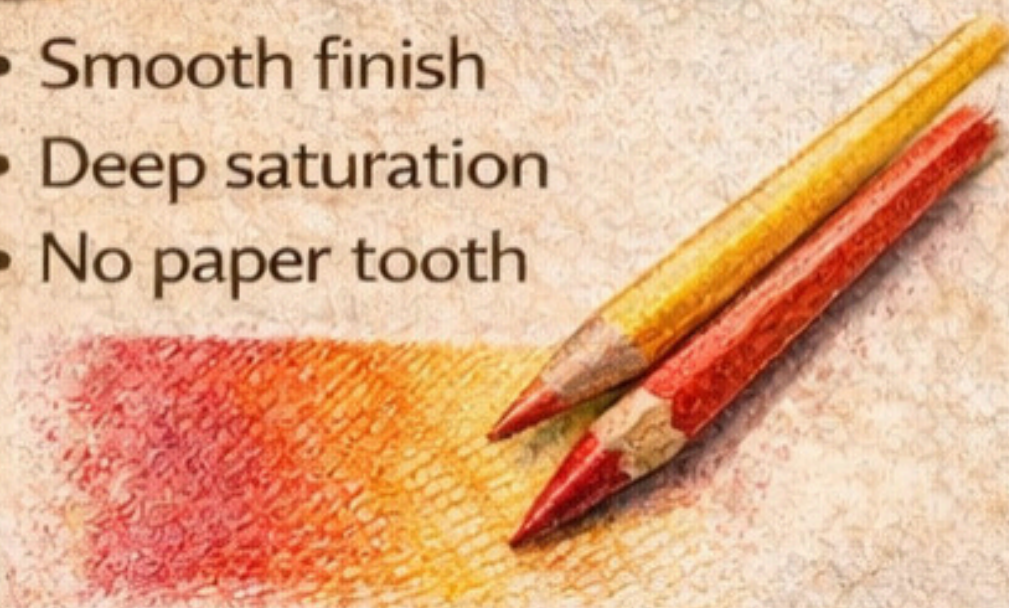
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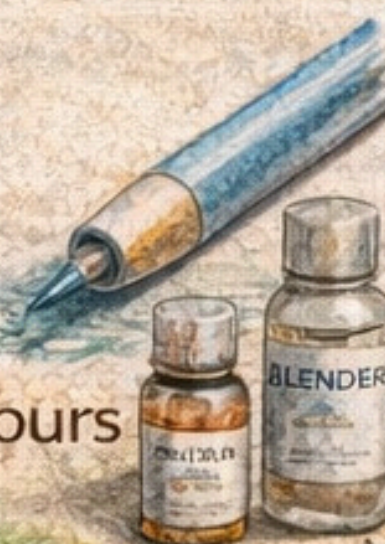
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Blend gently with light pressure

TIP: Keep your pencils sharp for better results.