

Colored Pencil Techniques



Lesson Plan: Colored Pencil Drawing Techniques

Resources:

Article by Helen South- [www. Drawsketch.com](http://www.Drawsketch.com),
Techniques Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFGBQJCnwbI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Je_8ERZioTg

IO: Students will develop an understanding of colored pencil as an art medium and a means of personal expression. Learn a variety of colored pencil techniques.

Delivery:

1. Tips before Beginning:

- a. Always start with LIGHT pressure strokes
- b. Colored pencils work best when applied in thin layers.

2. Ways to Apply the Colored Pencil:

- a. **Circular or Oval Stroke:** using light pressure, draw tiny overlapping circles or ovals that do not have any space in between them. The goal is an even coat of colored pencil over the box. This is the most effective way to create even layers.
 - b. **Linear Stroke:** using light pressure, draw linear strokes going in the same direction with no space in between the strokes. The goal is an even coat of colored pencil over the box. If you can see space between your strokes, go back and fill in with more line or apply linear strokes going in the opposite direction.
 - c. **Hatching:** Rapid, regular, evenly spaced lines are drawn, leaving a little white paper or underlying color showing.
 - d. **Cross-hatching:** Hatching overlaid at right-angles. This can be done with different colors, or carried through multiple layers, to create a textured effect.
3. **Stroke Pressure:** The amount of pressure you place on the pencil directly affects the tonal value laid on the paper. It is very important to learn to control the amount of pressure you apply when using colored pencils. It is best to begin with soft or light pressure, slowly building the layers until the final layer looks bright & vibrant (usually ending with the burnishing technique).
- a. **Value Scale: 5-Block Scale**
Use the pressure to change the tonal value in each box. Beginning with a slightly heavy pressure, Use a straightforward side-to-side shading motion, changing the pressure applied from somewhat heavy to very light
4. **Gradation:** Blended Value Scale using Pressure Stroke
Using the stroke pressure method, create a value scale that smoothly transitions from light to dark values of one color. We should see not “streaks” or pencil lines. Start off with very light pressure and slowly increase in pressure as you move along the box.
5. **Tint:** A tint is the lighter value of a color. It is made by mixing the color with white. Apply a light layer of a color down over the box, then lightly go over the color with a white colored pencil. The more pressure, the lighter the tint (pressing very hard will also burnish it).

6. **Shade:** A shade is the darker value of a color. It is made by mixing the color with black or brown. Apply a light layer of a color down over the box, then lightly go over the color with a black or brown colored pencil. To burnish it, go over the box with the original color with harder pressure.
7. **Value Scale with Tints & Shades**
Create a smooth gradated value scale using a color, white and black to show the color with its tints and shades.
8. **Burnishing with Colored Pencils:** Burnishing refers to applying layers of pencil until the tooth of the paper is completely filled in with colored pencil, and a smooth, shiny surface is created. It has an almost paint-like finish. To burnish, layer multiple colors and then finish by applying heavy pressure with a light color pencil. The wax will meld together filling up the entire tooth of the paper's surface. *Burnish your light areas first so that you do not drag any dark pigment where you don't want it.
9. **Burnishing with Colorless Blender:** Same as #8 with the exception of using a Colorless Blender to burnish instead of a light color pencil.
10. **Blending with Mineral Spirits:** Mineral spirits can be used to soften and blend colored pencil, and can create a watercolor-like effect. Use with caution-can be toxic! Use a tortillon (blending stumps) or 'q tip' cotton buds dipped in the spirits in order to smudge and blend pencil. Be careful not to rub too much because the spirits also lift the pigment a little.
11. **Blending with Baby Oil:** Baby oil can also be used to soften and blend colored pencil. Use a tortillon (blending stumps) or 'q tip' cotton buds dipped in the baby oil in order to smudge and blend pencil. Be careful to not use too much because too much oil will leave a halo around the colored pencil.
12. **Blend 2 Colors together:** Take the first color & draw in the color changing the pressure applied from somewhat heavy to very light. Now take the second color & from the other side blending into the first color. Continue process until the blending is even.
13. **Change a Color's Intensity:** In order to make a color duller (changing its intensity), you mix it the color with its complement on the color wheel. Complementary colors are opposite from each other on the color wheel. Take the first color & draw in the color over the whole box. Now take the complementary color and blend it into the first color.
14. **Scumbling (2 colors):** Draw tiny overlapping circles rapidly over the box. Scumbling can be used to build up a single color or different colors.
15. **Scraffitto (2 Colors):** Scraffitto means to "scratch in" in Italian. Apply a light color first very thickly, then a second darker color over the first. Use an Exacto knife or scratching tool to gently scratch into the top layer of color off in order to let the lower layer show through.
16. **3D Shading:** Use a burnishing technique and a color's tints and shades to shade the forms giving them the illusion of 3D form. Decide where your light source is coming from and shade with a full range of values (incorporate highlights and cast shadows). Make sure to use directional lines that follow the contour of the form.

Colored Pencil Techniques Worksheet

Name _____

Circular-Oval Stroke



Linear Stroke



Hatching



Cross-hatching



Stroke Pressure (5 Block Value Scale)

Apply light pressure in the first box, as the boxes progress, increase the amount of pressure you are applying in each box. The last box should not show any white of the paper.

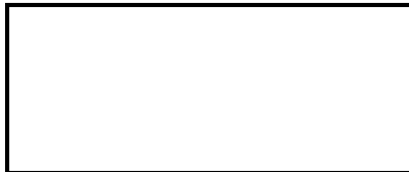


Lightest

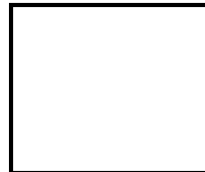
Darkest

Gradation

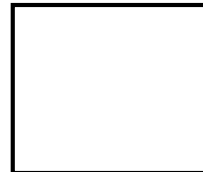
(Blended Value Scale-Pressure Stroke)



Tint



Shade



Value Scale with Tints & Shades



Burnishing: with Colored Pencils



Burnishing: with Colorless Blender



Blending: with Mineral Spirits



Blending: with Baby Oil



Blend 2 Colors together



Change a Color's Intensity



Scumbling (2 colors)



Scraffitto (2 Colors)



3D Shading

Use a burnishing technique and a color's tints and shades to shade the forms giving them the illusion of 3D form. Decide where your light source is coming from and shade with a full range of values (incorporate highlights and cast shadows). Make sure to use directional lines that follow the contour of the form.

