Easy Colored Pencil Techniques

In this project you will learn several easy to copy techniques for making a drawing using colored pencils. Follow the directions outline the video titled “Techniques for Using Colored Pencils”. Learn to do more than just “color in.”

Supplies
- Blank paper
- Colored pencils (including white)
- Pencil sharpener (you can use a sharp kitchen knife if you don’t have a sharpener)

Process
- Sharpen all of your pencils first (be careful, the points break off easily)

- Four basic techniques:
  - **Hatching**: Use parallel, short pencil strokes to create shading and pattern in your work.
    - Hint 1: Press lightly for lighter values (darkness) and harder for darker values).
    - Hint 2: The closer together that the hatches are made, the darker the color will appear.
  - **Cross-Hatching**: Use hatching above, but then create a second layer that goes in the opposite direction.
    - Hint: follow the hints above :)
  - **Stippling**: The use of tiny dots (like pixels on a screen) to create darker and lighter areas in a drawing.
    - Hint: follow the hints above :))
  - **Scribbling**: Go for it...you’ve been doing this random movement of a pencil on paper since you were 2...now you have reason to keep doing it. Once again, follow the hints above to get varied values (light to dark).

- Three methods to add depth and color richness to your art:
  - **Layering**: Using hatching and cross-hatching over each other to build color intensity and form (3-D illusion and/or depth) in your drawing.
  - **Burnishing**: This is where using the white pencil comes in. The white pencil “melds” the layers together and creates a unified glossy surface.
    - Hint: This technique does not have to be used everywhere, choose selected areas of the drawing to create different surface effects.
**Blending:** New colors can be created by hatching, cross-hatching and stippling using two or more colors. Blending can give you unique colors not available in your pencil box.

- Hint 1: Primary Colors are Red, Blue, and Yellow you mix them to make the:
  - Secondary Colors:
    - Red + Yellow = Orange
    - Yellow + Blue = Green
    - Blue + Red = Violet

  (Sometimes with colored pencils the blue and red does not make a good violet. Also, purple and violet are the same colors)

- Hint 2: Color compliments (opposites like red/green, purple/yellow, and orange/violet) create muddy, brown, or neutral colors when blended.

- Hint 3: Try making tertiary colors by mixing a primary color with a secondary color for example (and there are 6 tertiary colors):
  - Orange + red = red orange
  - Green + yellow = yellow green….etc.

Now that you have the basics, look around and pick one item to draw from life OR work on creating basic forms (sphere, cube, cone, pyramid) with your new skillset. Check in with Perspective Gallery if you have any questions...we’re here to answer them for you. Have fun!

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