

## **Supplies for Colored Pencil**

### **Supplies:**

120 set of Prismacolor pencils, sharpened	1077 Colorless Blending Pencil
White Stonehenge Paper	Tack/Soft and Sticky Kneaded Eraser, Plastic Eraser
Pencil Sharpener, 2-hole & Battery	Flat Razor Blade
Brush to dust off work	Old rags and Q-Tips
Crayola wax crayon in White & Black, birthday candle	Small drawing board
Drafting Tape & Clear Tape	Stylus with two heads
Value-viewer (2-squares of black paper with 1 hole punched in the middle of each)	

### **Optional Supplies:**

Battery powered eraser, stiff bristle brush, watercolor pencils, wax crayons, watercolor, acrylics, caseins, oil pastels or anything that works under colored pencil!

## **Techniques**

Impressed line, “saving” with wax or barrier (tape, hard paper)  
 Roll as you go to keep pencil sharp  
 Value-viewer, erasing (light blends, heavy removes)  
 Lifting with tack pushes in some and removes some  
 Blending with rags, stiff brush, battery eraser, Q-tips, etc.  
 Tints with swatch of heavy color, rub and apply or use a wet brush for slightly darker tint  
 Tape to remove color or make sharp edges  
 Use battery eraser with rolled stiff paper towel to blend

## **Look at the Big Picture First**

1. Look for the main horizontal line or *horizon line*. It tells you the lay of the land.
2. Where is the light source coming from?
3. Where does your eye go first – *the focal point*?
4. What is in the background? How does it support the foreground?
5. Add the horizon line and several other lines to help depict the basic design to create a *simple line drawing*.

## **Make a Color Map/Guide** *use colored pencil, crayon, watercolor, acrylic, casein, oil pastel, etc.*

1. Save paper color with impressed line (fingernail or stylus) or wax.
2. Choose 4-5 colors to make a guide with and start with dark values, then medium values ... vary pencil pressure when using colored pencil.

## **Add Complex Color Layers** *work on dark, medium and then light values in colored pencil*

1. Mix complements to make rich dark values: r+g+r = dark red
2. Use warm and cool variations of analogous colors to add dimension and shape.
3. Between highlight and shadow add a bit of bright color.

## **Adjust Edges, Color & Add Detail**

1. Use a sharp pencil to make hard edges and graduated pressure for soft edges. Allow lost and found edges to “appear out of nowhere” and disappearing edges to melt into one another.
2. Make details clear and rich—darkest dark against lightest light + hard, clean edges.
3. Lift out “light” with kneaded eraser, tack or tape, and sharpen edges with a razor blade edge.

**Combinations** *use the alternate medium to make a Color Map “base”*

1. **Crayons:** use a sharpened crayon with light to medium pressure to make a waxy base.
  1. Check under dim light, erase excess pigment and make changes as needed. Then add layers of color pencil over the crayon to refine detail and make complex colors.
  2. Use light pressure to blend with a battery-powered eraser or stick eraser, or use a stiff brush with the bristles cut to about ¼”.
2. **Oil Pastel:** apply thinly (use a rag to help spread it around) if colored pencil will be layered over the top in light-medium pressure. Apply thickly where colored pencil will be used with heavy pressure—it will actually move the pastel aside.
  1. Oil pastel can be thinned and removed with solvent such as Gamsol.
3. **Casein:** paint on hard surface (like Ampersand Pastelboard) and allow it to dry thoroughly. Then use colored pencil with light to medium pressure over the paint. If there is too much paint in one area, use a razor blade to remove some of it and continue working in pencil.
4. **Acrylic or Watercolor:** use watercolor paper, mat board, or watercolor board and make a color map base. Then apply layers of colored pencil on top.
5. **Watercolor Pencils:** apply dry pencil to dry or wet paper, apply wet pencil to dry or wet paper, rub wet pigment onto a wet brush and then apply to wet or dry paper, make a palette with the watercolor pencils and then use a wet brush or sponge, etc. to apply to the paper. For tiny dots or a spray of color, rub watercolor pencil over sandpaper, and then shake the sandpaper over wet paper.
  1. Make sure to soften edges of watercolor or they will show through the colored pencil layered on top.
    1. It is difficult to remove some colors—try erasing when dry, or even try dampening the color to see if it will get lighter.
  2. The watercolor pencils create a different texture to work on. Add layers of dry colored pencil on top or in-between layers of watercolor pencil.