

how to draw with pastels

How to Draw with Pastels: A Beginner's Guide to Vibrant Artistry

how to draw with pastels is a question many aspiring artists ask when they want to explore the vivid and tactile world of pastel art. Pastels offer a unique blend of drawing and painting techniques, allowing for rich colors, soft textures, and expressive strokes. Whether you're a complete novice or have some experience with other mediums, learning how to draw with pastels can unlock a new layer of creativity and expression. In this article, we'll walk through essential tips, techniques, and materials to help you confidently create stunning pastel drawings.

Understanding Different Types of Pastels

Before diving into techniques, it's important to know the varieties of pastels available. Each type behaves differently, influencing your approach to drawing.

Soft Pastels

Soft pastels are the most popular choice for beginners because of their vibrant pigment and ease of blending. They have a powdery texture and apply smoothly, making them perfect for creating soft gradients and rich color layering. Keep in mind, though, that soft pastels produce quite a bit of dust, so working in a well-ventilated space or using protective gear like gloves can be helpful.

Hard Pastels

Hard pastels are firmer and less dusty than soft pastels. They are excellent for detailed work and fine lines. Artists often use hard pastels for sketching initial outlines before filling in with softer sticks. These are ideal when you want more control over the finer aspects of your drawing.

Pastel Pencils

Pastel pencils combine the softness of pastels with the precision of pencils. They're great for adding intricate details and finishing touches that might be difficult with traditional pastel sticks. Pastel pencils are also less messy, making them a convenient option for travel or sketching outdoors.

Essential Materials for Drawing with Pastels

Having the right tools can make a significant difference in your pastel drawing experience.

Choosing the Right Paper

Pastel paper is not just any ordinary paper. It usually has a textured surface, known as “tooth,” which grips the pastel pigment effectively. Look for papers specifically designed for pastels, such as sanded pastel paper or heavyweight textured paper. Colors like mid-tone gray or tan can add depth to your artwork, allowing both highlights and shadows to stand out beautifully.

Fixatives and Blending Tools

Because pastel pigments sit loosely on the paper, they can smudge easily. Fixatives are spray solutions that help set the pastel layers and protect your drawing. However, use fixatives sparingly and test on scrap paper first, as some can alter the colors or dull the vibrancy.

Blending tools such as tortillons (blending stumps), cotton swabs, or even your fingers can help soften edges and create smooth transitions. Experiment with different tools to find what works best for your style.

Basic Techniques for Drawing with Pastels

Once you have your materials ready, it's time to explore some fundamental pastel drawing techniques that will help you bring your artwork to life.

Layering Colors

One of the joys of pastel drawing is layering colors to achieve depth and luminosity. Start with lighter colors and gradually apply darker shades on top. This approach allows you to build up rich textures and subtle color shifts. Remember to avoid pressing too hard initially; you can always add more pigment to intensify your colors.

Blending for Smooth Transitions

Blending is crucial when you want to create smooth gradients or realistic shading. Use soft tools or your fingertips to gently merge colors together. Be careful not to over-blend, as this can muddy your colors. Instead, layer and blend selectively to maintain vibrancy and contrast.

Creating Texture and Details

Pastels are versatile enough to produce both smooth areas and textured effects. For texture, try using the side of the pastel stick with quick, light strokes. For fine details, sharpen your pastel sticks or switch to pastel pencils. Adding sharp highlights or crisp lines can make your artwork pop.

Step-by-Step Guide: How to Draw with Pastels

To put theory into practice, here's a straightforward step-by-step approach to help you start your pastel drawing journey.

1. **Prepare your workspace:** Set up a clean, flat surface with good lighting. Have your pastels, paper, and blending tools within reach.
2. **Sketch your composition:** Lightly outline your subject with a hard pastel or pastel pencil. Keep the lines loose and simple.
3. **Apply base colors:** Using soft pastels, fill in the larger areas with mid-tone colors. Don't worry about details yet.
4. **Build up layers:** Gradually add darker shades and highlights, layering colors to add depth. Use blending tools to smooth transitions.
5. **Add details:** Switch to hard pastels or pastel pencils for fine lines, textures, and intricate parts of your drawing.
6. **Refine and fix:** Step back periodically to assess your work. Make any adjustments needed, then apply a fixative if desired.

Tips to Enhance Your Pastel Drawing Experience

Drawing with pastels can be incredibly rewarding, but it also requires some practice and patience. Here are a few additional tips to keep in mind:

- **Experiment with color mixing:** Pastels blend beautifully directly on paper. Try layering complementary colors to create vibrant effects.
- **Use a limited palette:** Starting with fewer colors can help you focus on values and shapes without getting overwhelmed.
- **Protect your artwork:** When finished, store your pastel drawings between sheets of glassine paper or in a portfolio to prevent smudging.
- **Keep your pastels clean:** Wipe off excess pigment from sticks to avoid muddy colors when switching hues.
- **Practice different subjects:** Still lifes, landscapes, and portraits all have unique challenges that will grow your pastel skills.

Exploring Advanced Techniques

As you grow more comfortable with pastels, you might want to explore some advanced methods that add sophistication to your work.

Scumbling

Scumbling involves lightly dragging a pastel stick over a dry layer to create a broken, textured effect. This is perfect for adding highlights, rough textures, or atmospheric elements like clouds and foliage.

Underpainting

Some artists begin with an underpainting in acrylic or watercolor to establish tonal values before working with pastels on top. This technique can add depth and complexity to your pastel drawings.

Combining Pastels with Other Media

Pastels work beautifully alongside charcoal, ink, or colored pencils. Mixing media allows you to exploit the strengths of each, such as adding sharp ink outlines over soft pastel backgrounds for contrast and detail.

Learning how to draw with pastels is a journey filled with discovery and tactile pleasure. With patience and practice, you'll find yourself creating vivid, expressive artwork that captures the unique beauty of this versatile medium. Take your time experimenting with colors, textures, and techniques, and most importantly, enjoy the process of bringing your artistic vision to life with pastels.

Frequently Asked Questions

What materials do I need to start drawing with pastels?

To start drawing with pastels, you will need soft or oil pastels, pastel paper or textured paper, blending tools like tortillons or cotton swabs, a fixative spray to preserve your artwork, and a kneaded eraser for corrections.

How do I choose the right type of pastel for my drawing?

Soft pastels are great for vibrant colors and blending, while oil pastels have a creamy texture and are more durable. Choose soft pastels for fine art and detailed work, and oil pastels if you prefer a painterly effect or more permanence.

What techniques can I use to blend colors effectively with pastels?

You can blend pastels by layering colors and using your fingers, blending stumps, or soft cloths to smooth transitions. You can also use cross-hatching or scumbling techniques to mix colors visually without fully blending them.

How do I prevent pastel drawings from smudging?

To prevent smudging, use a fixative spray specifically designed for pastels once your drawing is complete. Additionally, work from the top to bottom and avoid touching finished areas. You can also place a sheet of paper under your hand while drawing.

Can I use regular paper for pastel drawings?

Regular paper is usually too smooth for pastels because they need a textured surface to hold the pigment. It's best to use pastel paper or textured paper like sanded paper, which provides a tooth that grips pastel particles effectively.

What are some beginner-friendly subjects to draw with pastels?

Beginner-friendly subjects include simple still life objects like fruit, flowers, or basic landscapes. These subjects allow you to practice color blending, shading, and layering techniques without complex details.

How do I layer colors when drawing with pastels?

Start with a light layer of base colors and gradually add darker or more saturated colors on top. Use gentle pressure to avoid damaging the paper and blend layers as needed. Layering helps create depth and richness in your pastel artwork.

Is it necessary to fix pastel drawings, and how do I do it?

Fixing pastel drawings is recommended to preserve your work and prevent smudging. Use a fixative spray designed for pastels in a well-ventilated area. Hold the spray about 12 inches from the drawing and apply light, even coats, allowing each layer to dry before adding more.

How can I achieve fine details when drawing with pastels?

To achieve fine details, use pastel pencils or sharpened hard pastels. You can also use a small brush or a pointed blending tool to refine edges. Working slowly and building up layers carefully helps maintain control for detailed work.

Additional Resources

How to Draw with Pastels: A Professional Exploration into Technique and Creativity

how to draw with pastels is a question that intrigues both beginners and seasoned artists seeking to harness the unique qualities of this medium. Pastels, with their vibrant pigmentation and tactile nature, offer a distinct artistic experience compared to other drawing tools like pencils or charcoal. This article delves into the nuances of pastel drawing, examining techniques,

materials, challenges, and best practices that define the art form.

Understanding the fundamentals of how to draw with pastels requires an appreciation of the medium's characteristics. Pastels are composed of pure powdered pigment bound together with a minimal amount of binder, resulting in rich, intense colors. The most common pastel types include soft pastels, hard pastels, and pastel pencils, each offering different textures and control levels. The choice among these depends largely on the artist's style, subject matter, and desired effects.

Exploring the Types of Pastels and Their Impact on Drawing

The diversity within pastel mediums significantly influences the drawing process. Soft pastels are favored for their velvety texture and ease of blending, making them ideal for creating smooth gradients and expressive strokes. However, their fragility means they can be dusty and prone to smudging, demanding careful handling and fixatives to preserve the artwork.

In contrast, hard pastels provide more precision due to their firmer structure, allowing for finer details and sharper lines. Artists often use hard pastels for underdrawings or detailed sections before applying soft pastels for broader color areas. Pastel pencils combine the benefits of drawing tools with the color richness of pastels, giving artists enhanced control for intricate work.

Choosing the Right Paper and Surface

Surface selection is paramount when learning how to draw with pastels. The paper's texture, often referred to as the "tooth," must be sufficient to hold the loose pigment particles without excessive fallout. Heavier papers with a rough or sanded texture, such as pastel paper or sanded pastel boards, are preferred for their ability to accept multiple layers of pastel application.

Sanded papers, in particular, allow artists to build depth by layering and scraping back to reveal underlying colors. This technique expands the expressive potential of pastels but requires patience and a willingness to experiment. Conversely, traditional watercolor or drawing papers with lighter textures may limit layering possibilities but can still be effective for certain styles or techniques.

Essential Tools and Accessories for Pastel Drawing

Beyond pastels and paper, several tools enhance the pastel drawing experience. Blending stumps or tortillons help in achieving smooth transitions and softening edges without excessive smudging. Some artists prefer using fingers for blending, though this introduces oils that can affect pigment adhesion.

Fixatives play a critical role in preserving pastel artwork. These sprays stabilize the pigment on the surface, reducing smudging and fading over time. However, fixatives can slightly alter the colors' vibrancy and should be

applied sparingly and in controlled environments. Additionally, easels, palettes, and storage cases contribute to an organized workspace conducive to focused pastel drawing sessions.

Techniques and Approaches in Drawing with Pastels

Mastering how to draw with pastels involves exploring various techniques that leverage the medium's unique properties. Layering is one of the foundational methods, where artists apply multiple pastel layers to build color richness and depth. This process benefits greatly from using papers with ample tooth to hold successive pigment layers.

Blending is another critical technique, allowing artists to create smooth gradients or textured effects. Methods range from gentle finger smudging to using specialized tools or even brushes. Notably, some contemporary pastel artists incorporate cross-hatching or stippling to add dimension and interest to their compositions.

Color Mixing and Pigment Application

Unlike paint, pastels do not blend physically but rather optically, meaning colors mix visually when layered or placed adjacent. Artists must develop an understanding of color theory to predict how pigments will interact on the paper. For instance, layering complementary colors can produce vibrant contrasts, while analogous colors encourage harmony.

The method of applying pastel—whether through broad strokes, delicate touches, or scraping techniques—affects the color's intensity and texture. Some artists use subtractive techniques, removing pigment layers to create highlights or textures, showcasing the medium's versatility.

Challenges and Considerations When Drawing with Pastels

While pastels offer vivid color and immediacy, they pose distinct challenges. The dusty nature of soft pastels can be messy and requires proper ventilation and workspace management. Smudging is an inherent risk, necessitating careful layering and the use of fixatives.

Additionally, pastel artworks are sensitive to light and environmental conditions, which can cause fading or pigment degradation over time. Proper framing under glass and storage away from direct sunlight are essential for longevity. These considerations often influence an artist's approach to subject matter and technique when working with pastels.

Comparing Pastels with Other Drawing Media

Understanding how to draw with pastels is enhanced by contrasting them with

alternative media such as charcoal, graphite, or colored pencils. Charcoal shares the tactile and blendable qualities but generally lacks the vibrant color range of pastels. Graphite offers precision and subtlety but cannot match the expressive color saturation pastels provide.

Colored pencils, while capable of detailed work, differ in texture and layering capacity. Pastels excel in immediacy and expressiveness but require more maintenance and technical awareness. Artists often combine these media to exploit their respective strengths, creating mixed-media compositions that highlight pastels' unique attributes.

Practical Tips for Beginners

For artists starting with pastels, adopting a systematic approach is beneficial:

1. Begin with hard pastels or pastel pencils to develop control and understand pigment behavior.
2. Use toned paper to establish mid-values and experiment with highlights and shadows.
3. Practice layering and blending gradually to avoid overworking the paper surface.
4. Keep a fixative handy but use it sparingly to maintain color integrity.
5. Maintain a clean workspace and handle pastels gently to reduce breakage and mess.

Adhering to these guidelines helps build confidence and technical proficiency in pastel drawing.

Drawing with pastels unlocks a vibrant and tactile realm of artistic expression. As artists become familiar with the interplay of materials, techniques, and surface textures, they gain the ability to manipulate color and form with remarkable sensitivity. The journey of how to draw with pastels is as much about experimentation and discovery as it is about mastering fundamentals, offering endless possibilities to those willing to engage deeply with this compelling medium.

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how to draw with pastels: *How To Pastel* HowExpert, Farcas Fabiana, 2012-08-13 In this book *How To Pastel*, you will discover in a practical and easy way how to draw with pastels. The book contains information, techniques, tips and images from which you can learn: about the pastel, about the types of pastels, how they work, how to take care of them, the surface of the paper and about the papers for pastels, how to hold the pastel in your hand, how to hatch, blend, color, draw, sketch, harmonize, blend, how to do the light, how to make a work more darker, how to make a more 3-D

look, how to use soft and oil pastels, the surface of the colored paper, its texture and other valuable tips. The images are placed in the order of the drawing steps, which are described below each drawing. The book is based on the personal experiences of the artist. The examples are written in a very easy and friendly way. They can help a lot of people, of every level to draw better with pastels. The drawings in "How To Use Pastels" include a wide range of subjects: still life objects, nature, animals, nudes and portraits. All things put together, this book will be a fascinating journey that will lead you to the beautiful world of drawing/painting in pastel. Have a nice learning experience! About The Expert Farcaș Fabiana was born in Arad, Romania and she is 23 years old. The author of this book attended the Popular School of Arts, a private school for talented children and later finished the High School of Arts in Arad with a degree in Graphic Design. However, she expanded that specialization, and learned to paint in oil and watercolor by herself and then she began to master the pastels. After painting and selling a series of oil paintings, she began her work with pastels and realized the illustrations for a poetry book by a young Romanian author. She currently works in oDesk, doing drawings, paintings and graphic designs. HowExpert publishes quick 'how to' guides on all topics from A to Z by everyday experts.

how to draw with pastels: How to Draw with Pastels Walter Thomas Foster, 1948

how to draw with pastels: *Pastel School* Hazel Harrison, 1996 *Pastel School* contains everything you need to begin with confidence. It describes the different types of pastels available and offers invaluable advice on putting together a basic starter palette and adding the colors suitable for landscapes, portraits, flowers, and other popular subjects. Simple exercises introduce you to the effects of various colors on papers of different tones and textures. The versatility of pastels is one of their most appealing qualities, and *Pastel School* takes you step-by-step through the techniques that make them such a remarkable medium. From how to hold a pastel (including how the angle produces specific effects) to hatching, blending colors, feathering, stippling, overlaying, and more, each step is explained in detail and accompanied by clear illustrations. And when it's time to use your skills to create your first still life or landscape, you'll find plenty of helpful tips and guidelines about such matters as composition, lighting, and perspective - plus a gallery of finished paintings illustrating different approaches and styles. The eight projects included here demonstrate the creative process from initial planning to final touches. They give you eight great ideas to begin with, but feel free to let your imagination fly.

how to draw with pastels: *Pastels For Dummies* Sherry Stone Clifton, Anita Marie Giddings, 2010-01-08 The latest tips and techniques for working with pastels - in full color Pastels offer bright colors, a great level of portability, and no drying time - plus they're relatively inexpensive and can be used to draw and paint on almost any surface. *Pastels For Dummies* covers the many aspects of this exciting medium, from the fundamentals of choosing the right materials to step-by-step projects, including landscapes, abstracts, and portraits. Inside you'll find hands-on, easy-to-follow exercises and attractive full-color artwork. Presents drawing, painting, and shading techniques and styles in an easy-to-understand format Accessible to artists of all levels Discover your inner artist with *Pastels For Dummies* and make your artwork come alive!

how to draw with pastels: *An Introduction to Pastels* Michael Wright, 1993 Presents a practical guide to a wide range of pastel drawing techniques.

how to draw with pastels: *Portfolio: Beginning Pastel* Paul Pigram, 2017-04-01 *Beginning Pastel* guides beginning artists through an exploration of pastel techniques and step-by-step projects for a comprehensive and approachable overview of the vibrant pastel medium. Pastels are a unique tool, and *Beginning Pastel* is the perfect introductory resource for artists just getting started in this colorful medium. Before jumping into the step-by-step projects, this book covers choosing the right paper, pastels, and colors, to basic techniques like blending, gradating, and masking. Each stroke and technique is clearly explained and beautifully illustrated. After learning the key concepts, you'll promptly put them into practice through simple step-by-step exercises. With pastel often considered an advanced medium, *Beginning Pastel* makes the tricky task of drawing in pastel accessible and achievable for any artist. The *Portfolio* series covers essential art techniques, core concepts, and

media with an approach and format that's perfect for aspiring, beginning, and intermediate artists. Also available from the series: Beginning Acrylic, Beginning Drawing, Beginning Watercolor, Beginning Colored Pencil, Beginning Color Mixing, Expressive Painting, Beginning Color Mixing, Beginning Pen & Ink, and Beginning Composition.

how to draw with pastels: Practical Drawing with Pastels Gerald Woods, 1996 Contains detailed descriptions of materials and techniques used in drawing with pastels. Includes step-by-step exercises to familiarize you with a range of methods, and a discussion of color, composition, and perspective.

how to draw with pastels: How to Draw in Pastels, Pencils and Pen & Ink Stan Smith, 1986 Explains the principles and techniques of drawing and painting with pastels, pencils, and pen and ink and offers professional advice on selecting materials, medium, and subjects.

how to draw with pastels: Landscape Drawing with Pastels Stella Rose Murphy, Embark on a breathtaking journey of capturing nature's beauty with pastels. This comprehensive guide provides a detailed roadmap to mastering the art of landscape drawing. From understanding color theory and composition to advanced techniques and seasonal color palettes, you'll discover everything you need to bring the landscapes you envision to life on paper. Each chapter delves into a specific aspect of landscape drawing, offering insightful tutorials, exercises, and inspiration from master pastelists. Learn how to sketch the sky with smooth transitions, create depth and perspective, and capture the intricate textures of trees and foliage. Explore the nuances of water, mountains, and buildings, and discover the secrets to drawing landscapes in all their seasonal variations. With its practical techniques, step-by-step demonstrations, and inspiring ideas, this book will ignite your passion for pastel landscapes. Whether you're a beginner eager to learn the basics or an experienced artist looking to expand your skills, you'll find invaluable knowledge within these pages. Let the colors of nature guide you as you embark on a creative adventure with pastels. Immerse yourself in the beauty of landscapes and transform your artistic vision into stunning works of art.

how to draw with pastels: How to Draw with Pastels Walter Foster, 197?

how to draw with pastels: Pastel: Basics Alain Picard, 2013-05-20 Pastel Basics seeks to create a fun and approachable means of introducing this adaptable medium to beginning artists, illustrating that pastels are accessible to any artist who wants to work with them.

how to draw with pastels: Painting with Pastels Maggie Price, 2007-05-18 Come enjoy the art of pastel painting with beloved workshop instructor Maggie Price. In this step-by-step guide, she teaches you everything you need to know to make the most of this accessible art form. From selecting the right materials to learning the fundamentals of composition, Maggie starts with the basics and progresses to 21 complete pastel demonstrations that detail specific painting techniques and effects. You'll learn how to:

- Create depth and movement with color
- Paint using a range of strokes
- Blend colors to create luminous skies, reflections and more
- Underpaint to achieve brilliant light and deep shadows
- Mix pastels with watercolor and gouache to create fluid effects
- Create new compositions from photographs

In addition to step-by-step guidance, you'll be inspired by the work of ten nationally renowned pastel artists. Their contributions to this book illustrate the limitless possibilities of pastel painting and offer additional insight for working with this versatile medium. Maggie also includes dozens of helpful sidebars to help you save time, avoid mistakes and work more efficiently. With its blend of visual instruction, thorough guidance and breathtaking artwork, this is the only guide you need to experience the joy and satisfaction of painting with pastels.

how to draw with pastels: Finding Your Style In Pastel Jean Hirons, 2012-10-25 As artists, we have choices. There are very few rules that apply across the board. We can create highly realistic paintings, or perhaps more expressive paintings, or paintings that have very little basis in reality, including those that are totally non-representational. We can record color as we see it or as we'd like it to be. As pastel artists, we have even more choices. We can use a wide variety of pastels, strokes, surfaces, and techniques to create many different looks. The choices we make form the framework of our individual style, our signature as artists. Any subscriber to The Pastel Journal realizes how

varied the medium of pastel can be. For the experienced artist, these articles are stimulating, offering possible ways to experiment with alternative approaches. For the beginner, the panoply of choices can be overwhelming. Painting is primarily an intuitive process. But intuition is gained through study and experience. Part of my impetus in writing this book has been to create a more structured approach to help those fairly new to the medium understand its many possibilities. The book is aimed at all levels of pastel artists. Beginners will find a wealth of helpful information and intermediate artists will gain insight into how to take their work to another level and develop a style. Many advanced artists teach pastel; the organization of ideas and the exercises included should be of assistance. I offer a variety of suggested approaches and sometimes make up terminology to describe my experiences with the medium. The instructions in the book are based on my preferences and the guidance that I offer my students. The diversity of styles and techniques evident in the paintings of contributing artists should make it clear, however, that there are many ways to successfully work in pastel. Having acknowledged the many possibilities, I want to note a few musts. Representational paintings must be well-drawn. Poor drawing skills cannot be overcome with lovely color or great technique. Likewise, paintings must have strong compositions, regardless of whether they are realistic, abstracted, or non-representational. Values must be properly interpreted to produce strong compositions and to use pastel to its full effect. And finally, pastel paintings must sing! Whether the applications are light and airy, or rich and painterly, it should be clear that the artist is in control of the medium and is using it to produce his or her desired look. For years I have resisted suggestions that I write a book. As a landscape painter, I knew that there were more authoritative books already available. And the growing popularity of pastel has led to so many resources, including online blogs, a biennial convention, and the wonderful Pastel Journal, mentioned above. What could I add to this? My personal training in pastel has been from weeklong landscape workshops with some of the leading pastel painters in the country. As a teacher in a community college, I am not teaching a particular style nor focusing on specific subject matter. Some of my students work with the landscape, but others do portraits or figurative work, while others prefer still life, or work abstractly. In dealing with this mixture, I've realized that there are different ways to approach one's use of color, and this formed my first idea for creating a book. Furthermore, as a teacher, I've spent time experimenting with different surfaces, pastel brands, and techniques in order to make suggestions to students to help them find the look they want to achieve. I do not teach students to paint the way I do, but instead, try to share my experience and help them develop their own individual style.

how to draw with pastels: How to Paint Portraits in Pastel Joe Singer, 1972 Discusses the technical and artistic aspects of painting portraits in pastels and provides reproductions of works by masters.

how to draw with pastels: Pastel Innovations Dawn Emerson, 2017-05-25 Pastel Painting Techniques That Are Revolutionary, Fun and Easy! Designed for beginners considering using pastel for the first time, for experienced artists who may feel uninspired, and for anyone in between, the skills you will gain with Pastel Innovations, will help you build confidence and open your world so you can paint what CAN BE, not just what you THINK is. Explore the unique joys of pastel painting with: • An exploration of the basics: You'll expand your artist's vocabulary learning to use the elements and fundamentals of design to create beautiful, balanced paintings. • 20 simple exercises build off each other and help you grow as an artist, little by little, building confidence. • 40+ innovative pastel painting techniques: Feel inspired as you learn new approaches to using pastel to build up and reveal layers, incorporate monotypes as underpaintings, create texture that cannot be duplicated by drawing or painting, and more. • Thoughtful self critique: Questions, approaches and checklists that will result in better art, while at the same time making you a better artist. Leave your expectations behind and engage in the process of pastel painting with a newfound freedom to play and explore!

how to draw with pastels: *How to Paint Figures in Pastel* Joe Singer, 1976

how to draw with pastels: *The Pastel School* Hazel Harrison, 1996

how to draw with pastels: *Start to Paint with Pastels* Keal, 2019

how to draw with pastels: Mastering Pastel Alain Picard, 2015-04-29 In this new addition to the Artist's Library series, talented master artist, Alain Picard, guides the reader through an exploration of this unique medium and its myriad uses. After an introduction to tools and materials, readers will learn how to use various pastel techniques, including hatching, crosshatching, and stippling, to create depth and dimension in their artwork. Readers will also find basic information on color theory and how to use color to elicit emotion, portray mood or time of day, and suggest depth and distance. Throughout the course of the book, aspiring pastel artists will learn how to use soft and hard pastels to achieve art that is bold and intense or delicate and soft. Easy step-by-step lessons cover a variety of subject matter, including landscapes, portraits, and still lifes. Artist tips and tricks demonstrate how to blend and layer colors and create reflection, shadow, and soft and hard edges. With its breadth of professional instruction and variety of subjects to paint, *Mastering Pastel* is the perfect resource to start building artist proficiency in this enthralling and versatile medium.

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