



FABER-CASTELL®

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WATERCOLOR PENCIL

Art Instruction Book

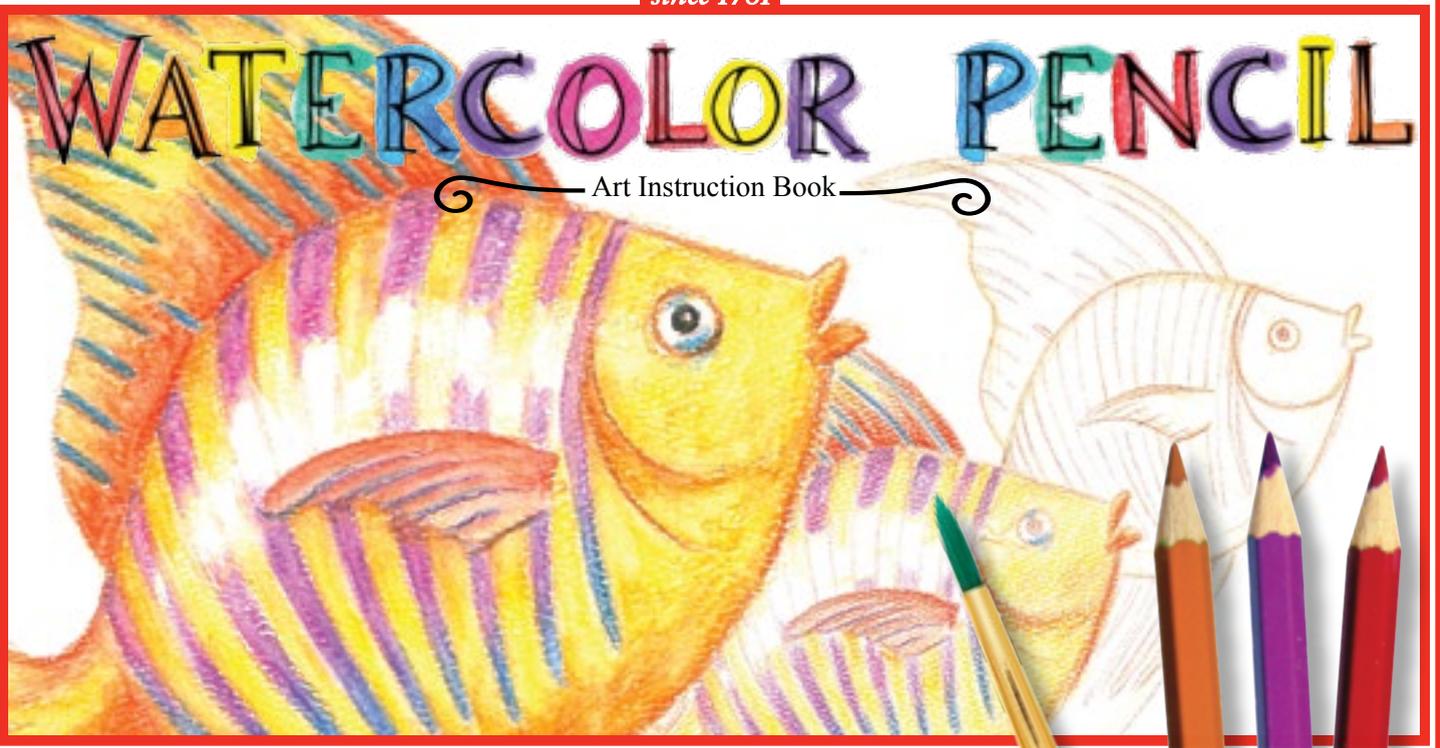


TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION
2	ABOUT THE MATERIALS
4	WET & DRY TECHNIQUES
5	COLOR MIXING
8	PAPER SELECTION
9	BASIC WATERCOLOR PENCIL TECHNIQUES
16	PAINTING STYLES
20	MIXED MEDIA

Watercolor Pencil Art

DRAW • COLOR • PAINT

Learn tips and techniques that show how to create original watercolor paintings

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INTRODUCTION

If you like to draw and paint, watercolor pencils are made for you.

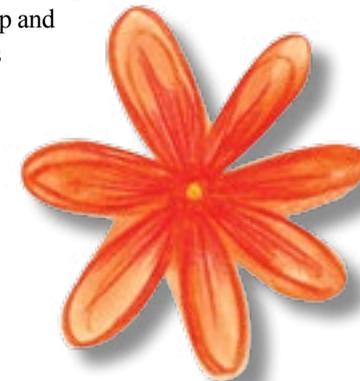
Brush the pencil strokes with a wet brush and your drawing turns into a watercolor painting.



Are there things that you like to draw or paint? Perhaps you enjoy sketching flowers or imagining dinosaurs. You might like dreaming up cool new fashions or inventing cars. Maybe you're into making patterns and designs or you like cartooning, landscapes or portraits.

Sometimes you might become frustrated because your art doesn't look exactly like the subject you are trying to capture. You have an idea in your mind and when it doesn't come close you might feel like giving up and saying, "I'm not good at art!" However, when you look at the work of many successful and famous artists you can see that their art is often very simple and it may even look like it was done by a child. Their art captures the spirit of what they are seeing or imagining.

Have you noticed that your art has a look that makes it different from the things your friends create? Just like your handwriting, your art is your signature and a unique expression of your individual style and personality. In this kit you will find tips and techniques to develop your skills and learn how to create beautiful paintings, using watercolor pencils.



ABOUT THE MATERIALS

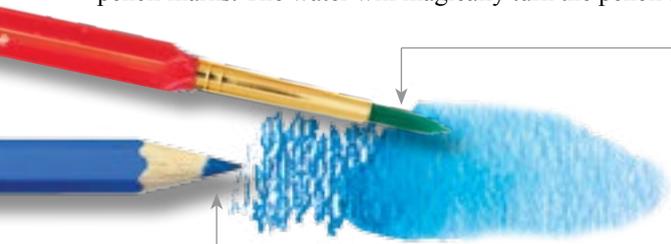
The Watercolor Pencil

The 10 Faber-Castell Watercolor EcoPencils have been color selected to produce many different hues by mixing and layering. Before you start painting pictures it will be helpful if you experiment with the pencils and learn the basics. You'll find that you have more control than with regular watercolor paints, you can easily add details and mixing colors is simple. The pencils never dry out, aren't messy, and take up very little space, all of which makes them perfect for doing art wherever and whenever you wish.



Using Watercolor Pencils

The most basic way to use watercolor pencils is to start by coloring an area with a pencil, then using a clean wet brush to stroke over your pencil marks. The water will magically turn the pencil into paint.



Experiment with different ways to dissolve the pigment.

- Use the brush included with this kit.
- Paint with a cotton swab, sponge or cloth.
- Use your dampened fingers.
- Spray the watercolor pencil with a spray bottle.



Don't plunge the pencil into the water as it will cause the wood to swell and weaken.

Tip

Keep pencils sharpened. Use the pointed tip for details and the side of the lead for coloring large areas.



Three step process for painting with watercolor pencils:

1. Lightly draw the outline of the object you wish to paint.



2. Color the object, using single colors as well as overlapping and mixing colors. (This step is described in more detail in the "Basic Watercolor Pencil Techniques" section beginning on page 9)

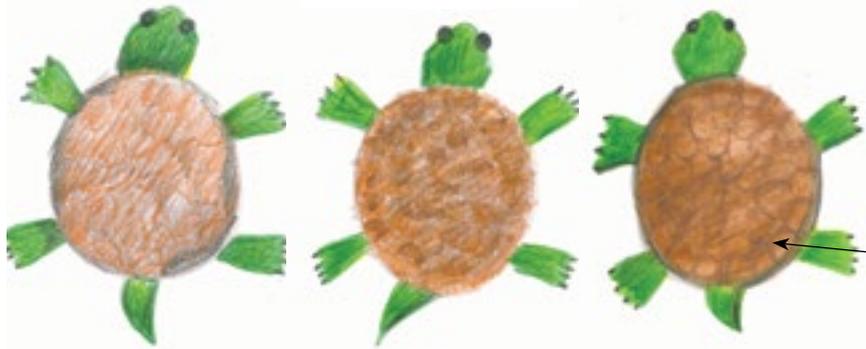


3. Use a wet brush to blend and mix colors. When the painting is dry, you can go back in and add highlights and details.



WET & DRY TECHNIQUES

You can combine wet and dry marks or turn all of it into a watercolor painting. You can also lift color directly from the pencil tip. Touch the tip of a sharpened pencil with a wet brush. Apply the paint to paper. This is a good way to get more detail and to layer color.



The marks on the turtle's back were done with the dry technique.

Hold On

Try various grips and placements with the pencil. Hold the pencil perpendicular to the paper or at an angle. For more control, grip the pencil close to the tip. This is good for details and for applying intense color.

For a freer stroke, move back along the pencil and draw loosely.



Color with the side of the lead by holding the pencil almost parallel to the paper. This method is good for laying down several coats of color which can then be blended and mixed.



COLOR MIXING

Color Basics

The Color Wheel illustrates the basic colors: 3 Primary - Red, Yellow, Blue and 3 Secondary colors - Orange, Green and Violet

The results of mixing the primary colors are:

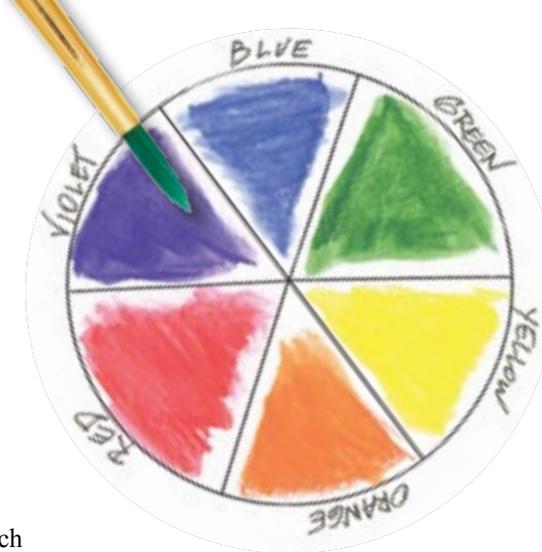
Red + Yellow = Orange



Blue + Red = Violet

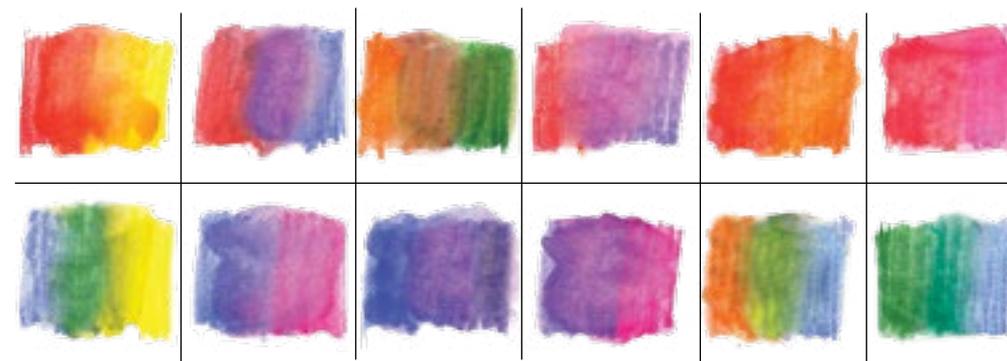


Blue + Yellow = Green



In this kit, in addition to the primaries, you have pencils with the secondary colors as well as additional colors of pink, magenta, black and brown all of which can be blended to create new colors.

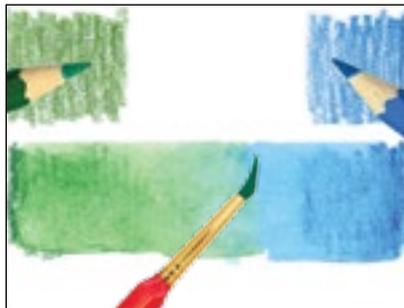
Create a chart to experiment with mixing and blending colors. If you make notes of the colors you are combining, when you want to use that particular color in a painting, you can refer back to your color chart.



Divide a page into small squares and start experimenting. Lightly fill the squares with different colors. Experiment by layering colors over each other and then brushing them with water to blend them. Layering is an important technique in watercolor pencil art. Through this method you can achieve subtle color variation, mix colors and create the illusion of dimension.

Grading Color

Lay down one color about 1" (2.5 cm) wide, skip 1" (2.5 cm) leaving it blank, and lay down another color. Brush the color on the left with water, rinse the brush, then paint the one on the right, moving the color into the blank area and slightly into the color on the left. This creates a graded effect that works well for skies, flower and leaf petals and other areas where you want to retain some of the original color that has been blended into the new one.



Tip

Keep your brush clean when you are painting by rinsing it thoroughly between colors. Use a cloth to wipe off excess color and to control the amount of wetness.

Color Intensity

Lay down some color using a light touch. Gradually increase the pressure to apply more color. Brush with water and see how the intensity of a color varies by the amount of pigment you have put down.

The more pigment you put down... the more intense the color will be when brushed



Tip

Since colors lighten when you add water, test the color before applying it to your finished painting.

Making a Paper Palette

On a separate piece of paper scribble different color swatches, applying lots of color. Use these color "pools" as if they were a watercolor palette and pull color to apply to your painting. This is a good way to get layered color and detail. When the first coat of color is dry, lift more color from the palette with a damp brush and paint it onto the painting. Add details, outlines, shadows and accents.



PAPER SELECTION

The type of paper you use will have a big effect on how your art looks. The paper in the Watercolor Pencil Pad has a smooth surface. Other papers may have more texture with “hills and valleys” on the surface and when you apply color, pigment will be lighter on the hills and pool in the valleys.



Another great surface for watercolor pencils is artist canvas, either in sheets or on boards. The texture of the canvas holds the pigment and you can add many layers of color to the sturdy fabric.



Try different types of paper. Thinner paper makes your art look delicate. Lightly tinted and color papers can also be used. Since watercolor pencil is transparent, the background hue of the paper will influence the overall coloration and mood of your art.

Sandpaper Shavings -
Wet a piece of paper. Scrape the tip of the pencil across some sandpaper and let the color shavings sprinkle onto the wet paper.

Try coloring and painting on wood, cloth and other porous surfaces.

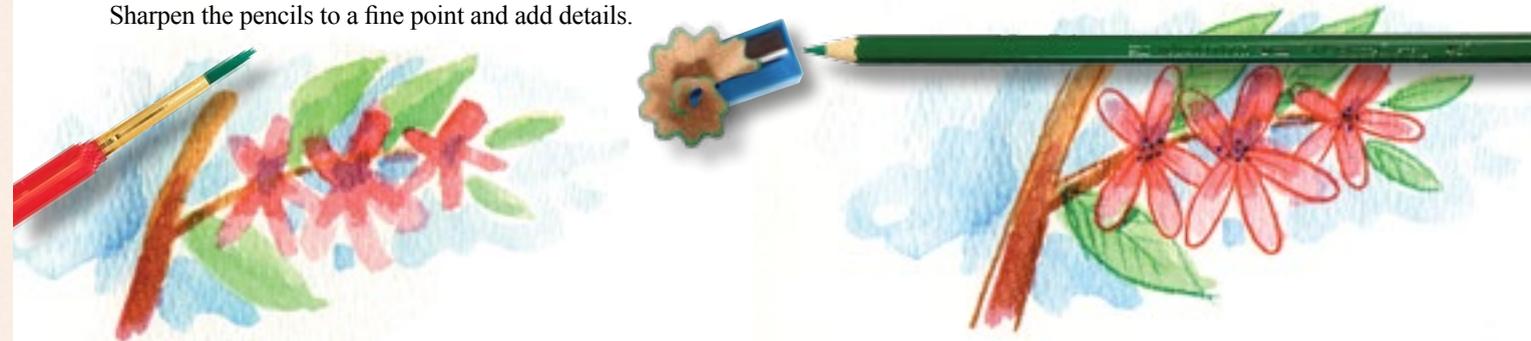


BASIC WATERCOLOR PENCIL TECHNIQUES

Blocking

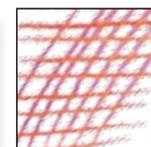
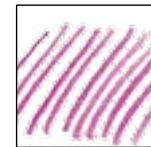
Study the object you wish to paint. Do not look for lines that define shapes, but instead look for values (lights and darks) and colors. Roughly paint blocks of color that allow each shape and object to emerge.

When you are satisfied that you have captured the essence of your object allow the painting to dry. Sharpen the pencils to a fine point and add details.



Cross Hatching

Layer one color over another by “cross hatching.” Draw a set of parallel lines very close together with one pencil and then overlap at an angle with another one. Blend with a brush. Try this with different color combinations.

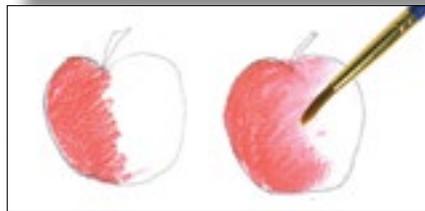
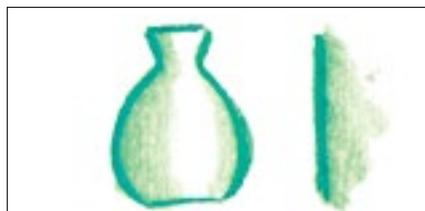


Line and Wash

Draw the outline of an image with a heavy pencil stroke. With the tip of a wet brush, pull the color away from the line and into the shape.

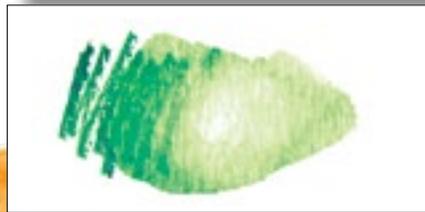
Pulling Color

Color just one side of a shape with watercolor pencil. Using a wet brush, pull the color into adjacent areas to complete the shape.



Erase with Water

If an area becomes too intense with color, brush over it with a clean wet brush. Then dab it loosely with a rag to lighten the color.



Wet and Dry

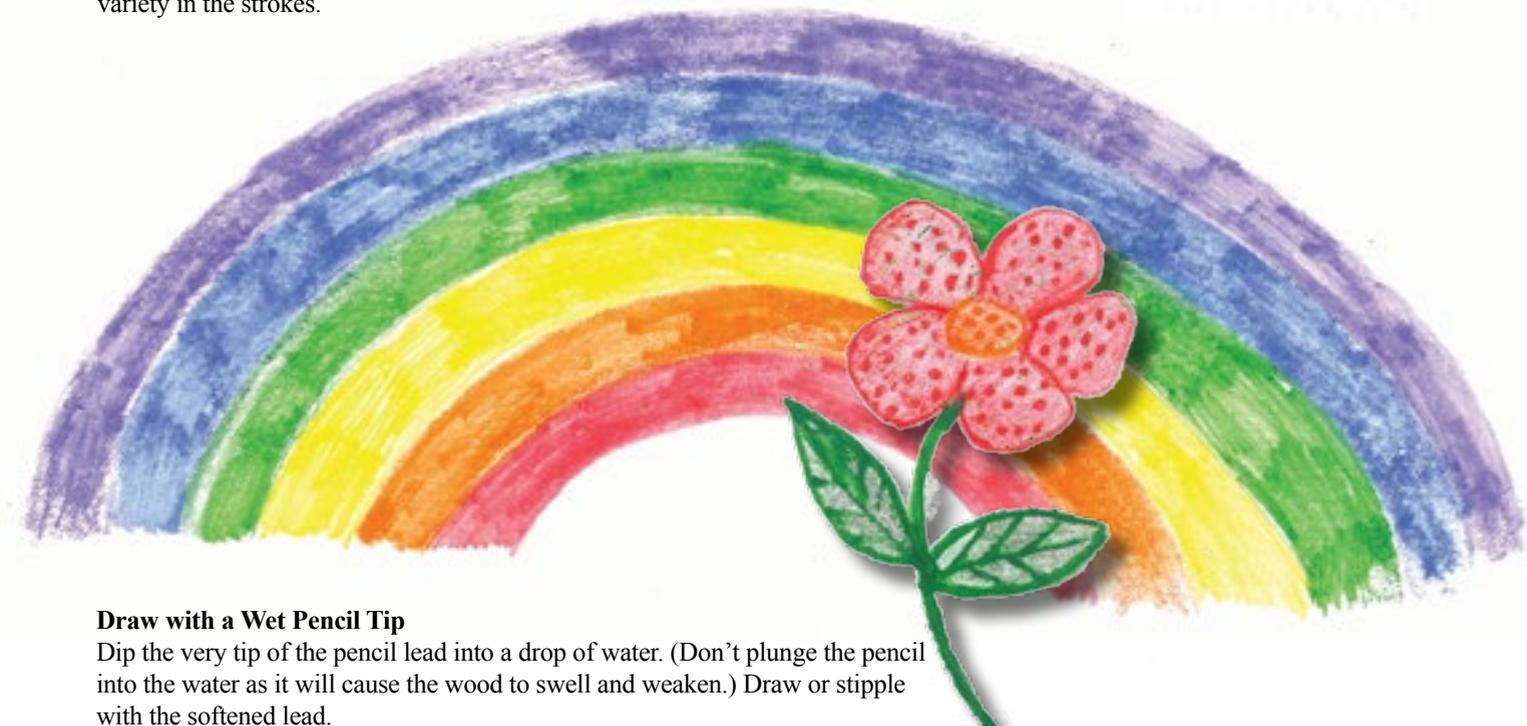
Create a wash of color on your paper by coloring it with the side of the pencil and brushing it with water. Wait for the paper to dry before drawing over it with the dry watercolor pencils to add details and layers of color. You can leave the lines as is or brush over them. This technique is a way to harmonize and unify the painting with a background color.



Wet on Wet

Wet a section of the paper using a clean paint brush and water. Draw into the wet paper with a watercolor pencil. Notice how the pencil marks bleed to create interesting effects.

You can also use this technique over a painting that has several colors already on the paper. While some areas are wet, go back in with the pencils and mark over them to create more variety in the strokes.

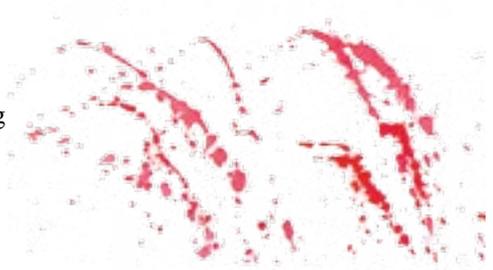


Draw with a Wet Pencil Tip

Dip the very tip of the pencil lead into a drop of water. (Don't plunge the pencil into the water as it will cause the wood to swell and weaken.) Draw or stipple with the softened lead.

Spatter

On a separate sheet of paper lay down a lot of color and moisten it with water to create a pool of pigment. Use this pigment to load your brush with color and holding it over your artwork, tap the brush with a pencil to release random spatters.



Brush Strokes

Use the tip of the brush to achieve fine, controlled details and strokes. Apply more pressure to fan out the brush tip and pull it across the paper creating deep, broad strokes.



fine brush stroke

fan brush stroke

Scraping

Color an area with a watercolor pencil. Wet the color. While it's still wet, take the end of the brush handle and pull paint across the paper. To create grass, make upward strokes as shown.

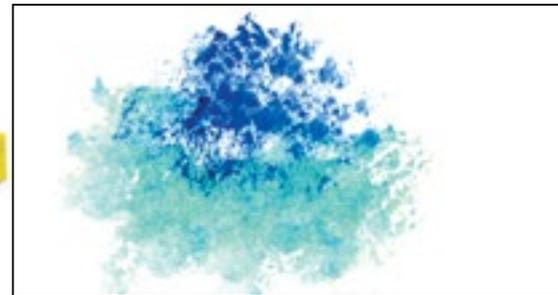


Creating Texture

Use textural effects to make your paintings come alive and be more dynamic.

Creating Texture With Sponges

In a separate area, make a palette. Use a wet sponge to pick up the color and transfer it to your art paper.



Creating Texture With Salt

For a subtle background texture, paint an area with intense color. Sprinkle salt over the wet pigment. Let the paint dry completely before brushing away the salt.



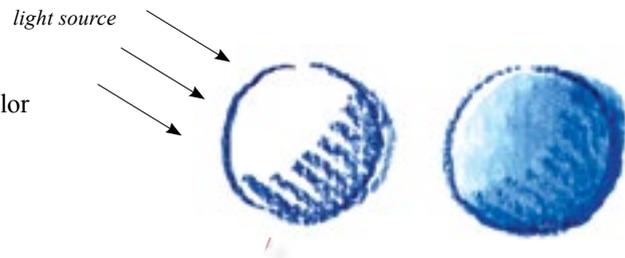
Creating Texture by Stippling

Color and paint an area and while it is still wet, use the sharp tip of a pencil to make tiny marks (or stipples).



Shadows

Lightly draw an object. Draw intense color in the darker areas and leave the lighter areas blank. Use a wet brush to pull the color across the object and create a soft wash from shadow to light.

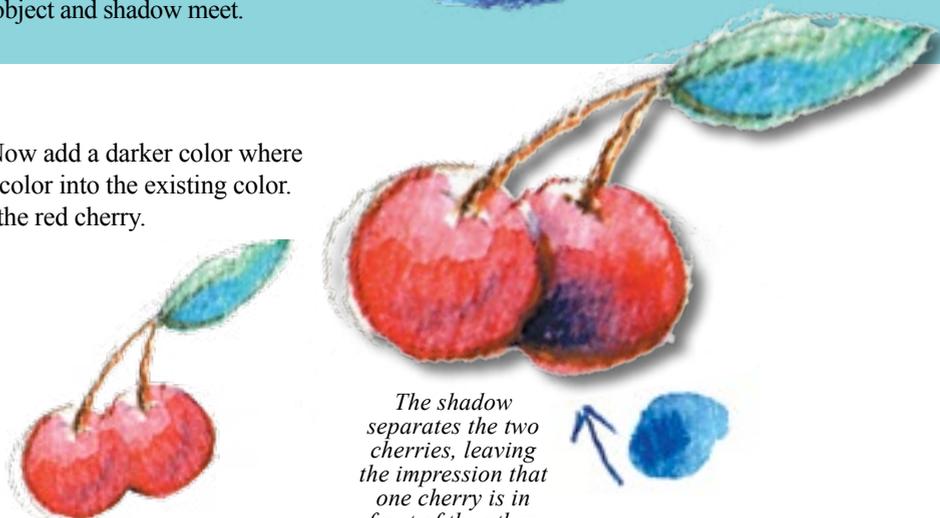


Here's an easy trick to make a shadow. Scribble a dark bit of color just below the object where the shadow begins. Use a wet brush to pull the color away from the object and into the shadow area. The shadow will fall away from the light source and will lighten the further away it gets from the object. The darkest place is where the object and shadow meet.



Create Dimension with Color

Paint an object and allow the image to dry. Now add a darker color where the object is most in shadow. Blend the new color into the existing color. In this example, we added a blue shadow to the red cherry.



The shadow separates the two cherries, leaving the impression that one cherry is in front of the other.

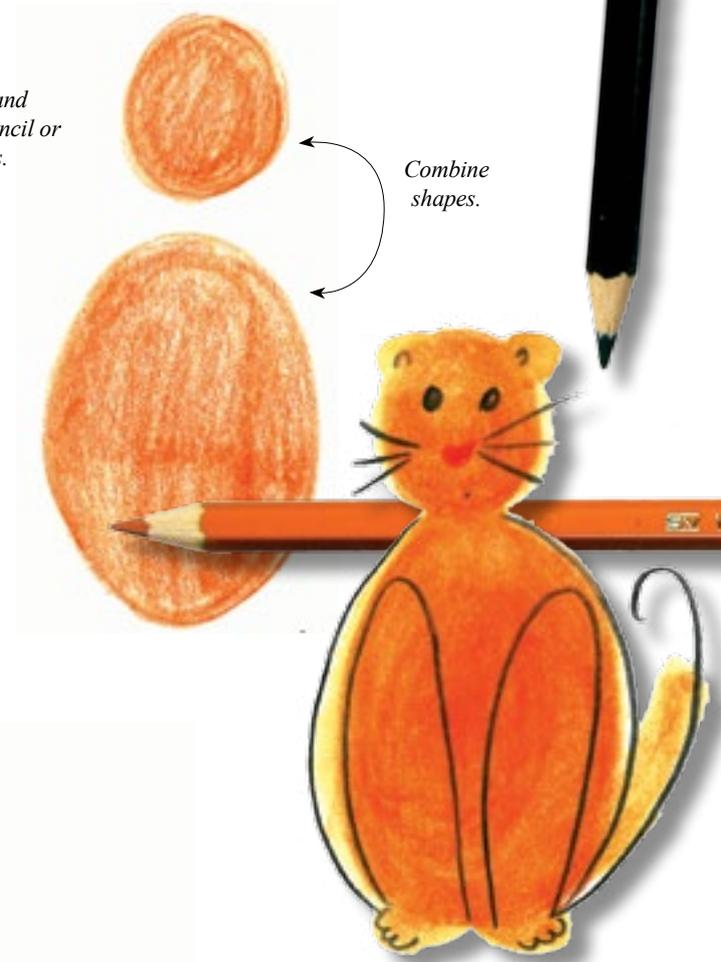
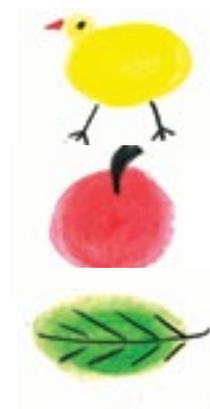
Let Your Fingers Do the Painting

Have some fun with basic shapes.

Scribble a patch of color.

Wet your finger and spread the color into a shape.

Let the color dry and then with a dry pencil or a pen add features.



Combine shapes.

Try this with ovals, hearts and any other shapes.



PAINTING STYLES

Easy Landscapes

Not everything we view around us is perfectly clear and defined. This is especially true in nature with objects we view from afar. By combining the techniques shown in this book you can learn to paint beautiful landscapes.

Sky

Use the “Wet on Wet” technique.

Create a palette of blue and red. Wet the area of your drawing that will be the sky. Pull color from your palette and swish it around the wet area. Make some areas light and some dark.



Sand and Rock

Use a combination of red, yellow and black to lay down a field of paint. Spatter and stipple red, blue or black dots over the wet paint. Cover the rest of your painting before doing this to protect other areas from spatter marks.

Grass

Use the scraping technique mentioned previously. Create upward strokes in a wet pool of green and yellow paint using the end of your brush handle.

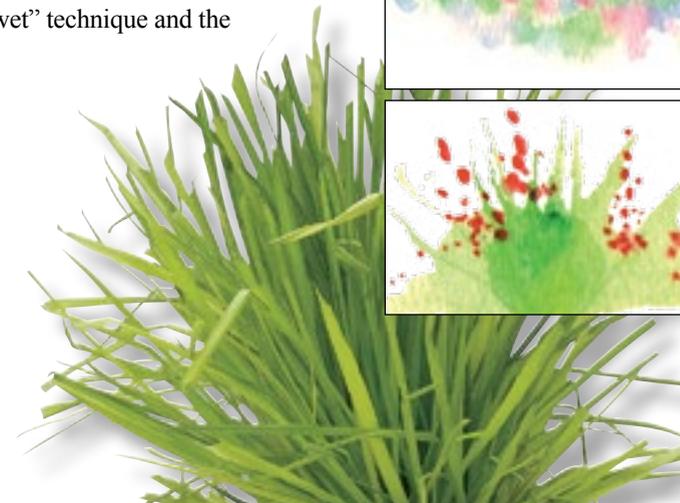
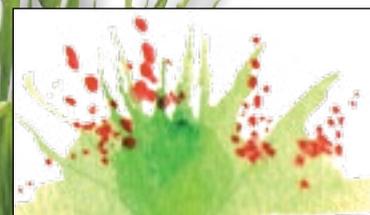
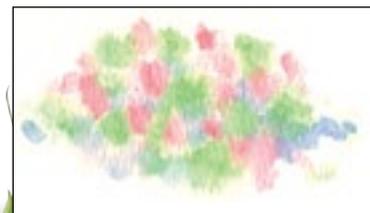
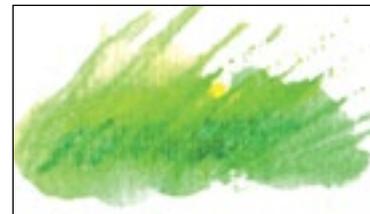
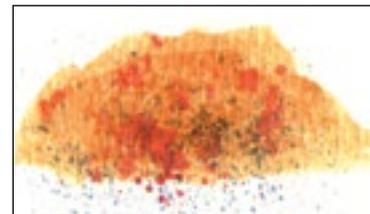
Flowers

Several techniques are useful for making a field of flowers. Use the “Wet on Wet” technique combined with Stippling, Spatters or a Palette in soft floral colors.

Dip a pencil tip in water and stipple random flower petals over a green patch of grass.

Or draw dots, and brush water over them. Go back later to swish in a few green stems.

To make a group or bouquet of flowers, use the “wet on wet” technique and the tip of a sponge as noted previously.

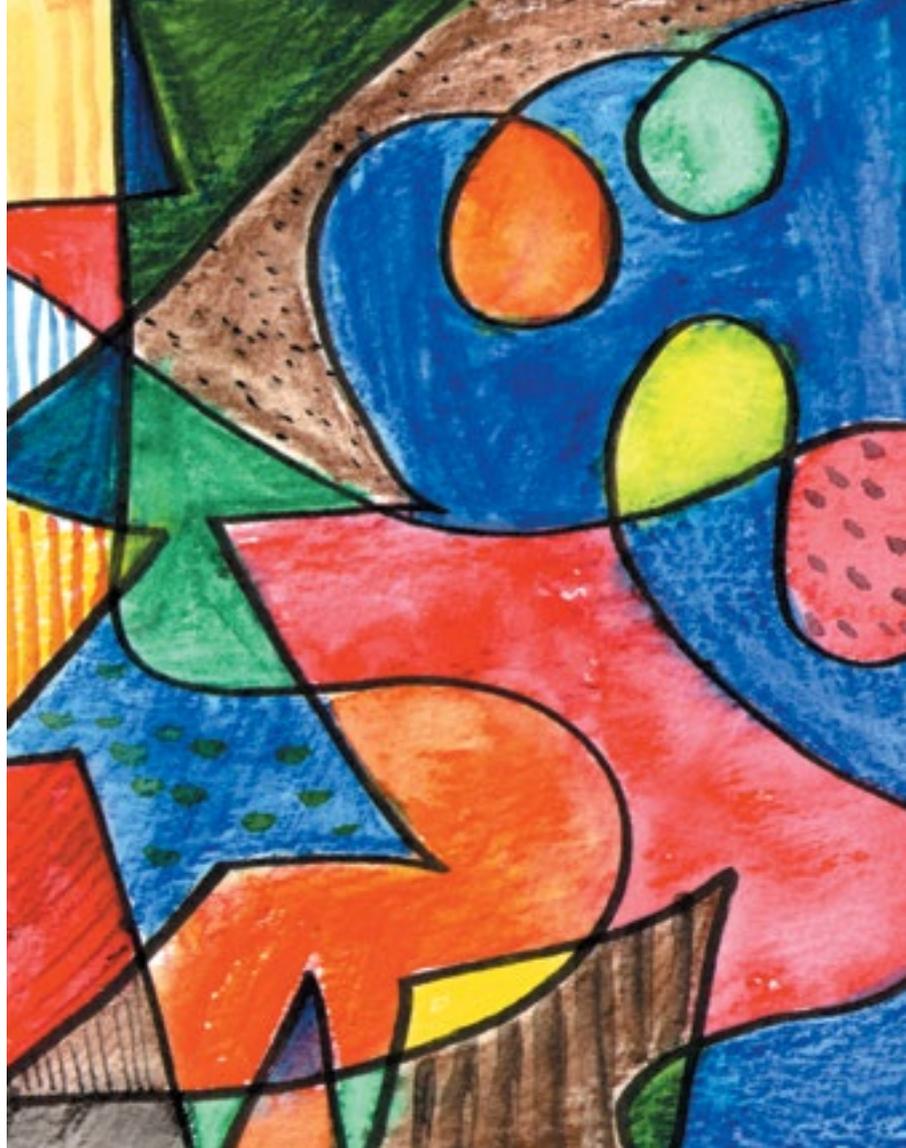


Abstract Paintings

Use a permanent pen or graphite pencil to draw a continuous line on your paper. Loop and zigzag and just let your hand move freely. Try closing your eyes.

When the outline is complete, use the watercolor pencils to fill in the shapes that were created.

Or scribble color randomly around your paper. Experiment with colors and techniques and have fun. When your painting is dry turn it or crop it or add collage or ink details until you find the final composition you like.



Still Life Paintings

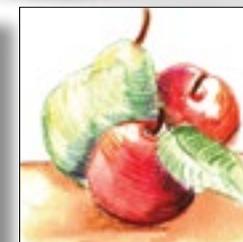
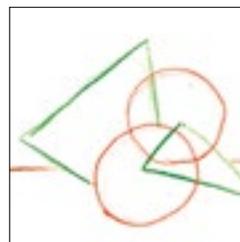
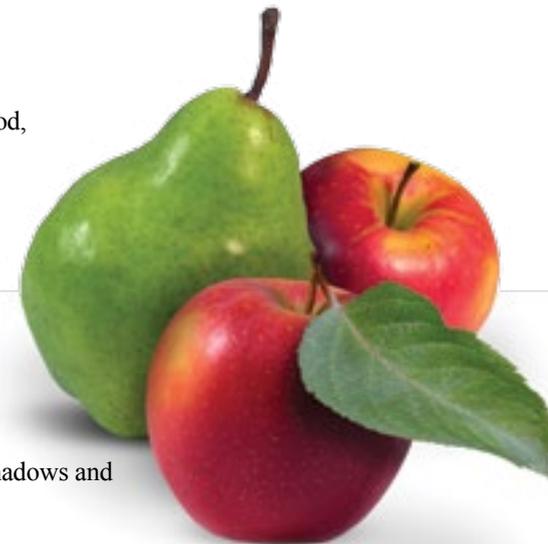
A still life is a work of art depicting a collection of common, inanimate objects, like food, dishes, books etc.

Using Shapes

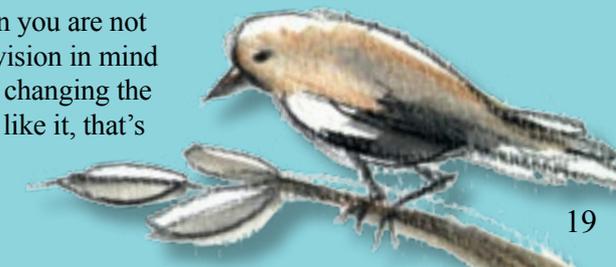
Objects are made up of basic shapes. You will start by sketching in the underlying shapes and then adding the details.

Set up a simple “still life” arrangement like the fruit. Forget what the objects are called and just think of them purely as shapes: circle, triangle, square, oval, etc. Lightly sketch the basic shapes that represent these objects.

After each shape is drawn begin to draw the contours of each object. Now add the shadows and details that define the objects and make them familiar.



Creating art is about the process and is always more enriching when you are not attached to a preconceived notion of the outcome. If you have a vision in mind and the outcome is not what you expected, try drawing over it, changing the color, or covering it with a collage element. If you still don't like it, that's okay; it's just part of the process.



MIXED MEDIA

It's fun to experiment using watercolor pencils with other mediums.

Try drawing with wax-based colors, like crayons. Color over the drawing with the watercolor pencils. Brush with water. The waxy lines will resist the water and stay visible.

Draw an object or scene using a permanent ink pen. Allow the ink to dry, then add washes of color and combine the different techniques you have learned. If you use a permanent ink pen, the lines will stay intact and be visible through the paint. Allow the paint to dry and add additional details with the ink.

Combine regular color pencil with watercolor pencils in one drawing. You will notice that the color pencil lines and strokes remain under the watercolor washes.



Now that you have tried watercolor pencils, experiment and continue to discover your own unique style.

If you have enjoyed this adventure with Watercolor Pencil Art you may be interested in other



products.

Drawing & Sketching



Color Pencil Art



Growing 215 square feet of wood...every hour

Our 25,000 acres of pine forest in Brazil produce 215 square feet of wood every hour! This natural reforestation, certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), provides the wood for over 80% of the pencils Faber-Castell produces. This conserves our natural resources and ensures the consistent quality of Faber-Castell pencils.

Faber-Castell is the winner of numerous international awards for commitment to sustainability and global responsibility.

Learn more about the 250 year company history at:

www.GreatArtStartsHere.com





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