

Title:

Introduction to Pencil Drawing Supplies and Techniques

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Summary:

Drawing is a wonderful art form in itself, but it is also an excellent exercise for other forms of art.

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Article Body:

Drawing is a wonderful art form in itself, but it is also an excellent exercise for other forms of art.

Choosing your drawing supplies

There are a variety of different drawing tools available for today's artists and what you choose to use will depend on your style and the type of drawing you are doing.

Don't go out and spend a ton of money on your drawing supplies in the beginning. You can really get a lot of practice out of a few good tools.

Graphite pencils - Graphite pencils range in hardness and are labeled from 9H to 9B. The H pencils are the hardest and the B pencils are the softest.

Charcoal Pencils - Charcoal pencils also come in a range of hardness and are labeled either from 9H to 9B or from 1 to 6.

Blending Tortillions - Tightly wound stumps of paper with a point used to blend in your drawing.

Erasers - You may want to have a few different types of erasers on hand to fit every occasion.

Kneaded Eraser - A soft pliable eraser that can be kneaded into any shape to pick up and remove excess pencil or charcoal.

Eraser Pencil - These are wonderful for getting into small areas of your drawings. They can also be used as a pencil.

Fixatives - Fixatives protect your drawings from being smudged or ruined. There are two types: water-based and solvent-based.

Paper - In the beginning, for the purpose of practice, you may want to consider purchasing some cheap paper.

Horse Hair Drafting Brush - You should be able to purchase a horse hair drafting brush at any art store.

Basic Drawing Techniques:

There are two basic ways to approach a drawing: linear and tonal. The linear approach to a drawing is to use lines to define the form of the subject.

You should try to avoid smudging and blending in the beginning so that you force yourself to use lines to define the form.

Avoid looking at your drawing too often. Make sure you are constantly focusing on the subject and not on the drawing itself.

Never throw out any of your drawings. Keep a neat portfolio of everything you draw. This is an important part of the learning process.

Holding the pencil - Hold your pencil in a way that is most comfortable for you. Some hold the pencil like a hammer, some like a pencil, and some like a pen.

Contour Drawing - This very basic technique is simply drawing the outline of your subject with a pencil or charcoal.

Blind Contour Drawing - Similar to contour drawing, only you do not look at the paper. The point is to draw the outline of the subject without looking at the drawing.

Hatching - This drawing technique uses a series of parallel lines drawn close together, in the direction of the subject's form.

Crosshatching - Similar to hatching only you draw multiple layers of hatch lines at different angles to create a range of tones.

Tonal or Value Drawing - In this approach to drawing we are indicating the various changes of
Upside Down Drawing - Drawing upside down is a wonderful exercise to awaken the right side of
Negative Drawing Technique - This technique teaches you how to properly see the "white" or "ne
Dry Wash Technique - This technique works quite well if you want to cover large areas of your

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