

COMBINING COLOR PENCILS AND WATERCOLOR PENCILS - USING COLORLESS BLENDERS

A Step-by-Step Colored Pencil Tutorial by Carol Moore

Materials and Tools:

Reference photo
Ruler
X-Acto Knife
Makeup Brush (to brush away debris)
Small wooden stylus
Fixatif
Canson Mi Tientes paper (smooth side)
Tombow Colorless Blender markers
Prismacolor Clear Blender marker
Prismacolor Colorless Blender pencil
Eraser
Electric Sharpener
Graphic 4H pencil

Derwent Watercolor Pencils:

Deep Vermillion ▪ Cedar Green ▪ Ivory Black ▪
Black ▪ Chocolate ▪ Blue Grey ▪ Deep Cadmium ▪ Orange Chrome ▪ Raw Sienna ▪ Copper Beech ▪ Golden Brown

Prismacolor Colored Pencils:

White ▪ Dark Umber ▪ Indigo Blue ▪ Sienna Brown ▪ Light Cerulean Blue ▪ Yellow Ochre ▪ Sand ▪ Cloud Blue ▪ Olive Green ▪ Mineral Orange ▪ Black Grape ▪ Dark Brown ▪ Chartreuse ▪ Poppy Red ▪ Greyed Lavender ▪ Cream ▪ Dark Umber ▪ Light Umber ▪ Clay Rose ▪ Tuscan Red ▪ Pink Rose ▪ Goldenrod ▪ Beige ▪ Lt. Peach ▪ Warm Grey 10%, 20% and 90% ▪ Dark Green ▪ French Grey 20%, 30%, 50%, 70%, and 90% ▪ Sepia



STEP 1

The first step I do is select the subject, reference photos, props, etc. that I will need to create my portrait or composition. For this lesson, I chose this reference photo of a golden retriever puppy I found at Webshots. If given a choice, I would use my own reference photos, but being as I don't have a camera, I seek stock photos that I pay for or stock photos that are free to use. If I am unable to use my own photo, I notify the photographer and ask permission to use his or her photo and give proper credit. Unfortunately, I was unable to determine who the photographer was of this photo. I normally would not use it, but I



really liked the pose, and for what I had in mind for my composition, this puppy photo worked best, than from any of my own stock photos.

STEP 2

At this stage, I also make changes or any necessary adjustments to the composition.

There are 3 different methods I use to sketch out a composition:

1. Freehand.
2. Grid Method (a great way to achieve accurate results).
3. Trace Method (use clear acetate, graphite paper or tracing paper).

The first method is one I apply if I have lots of time on my hands. It is also the method I recommend most. The second method takes some time and knowledge to carry out. There are grid tools that are



available for purchase. In addition, there are several sites that give a step-by-step process on how to use this method. The third method is a method I only use if I am limited in time and have a deadline to meet. I have combined all 3 methods before when working on an art piece.

STEP 3

Next, I determine what color pencils, materials, and tools I will need to create the composition. Sometimes I seek the aid of a Photoshop program to determine colors I am unsure of in a photo.

Two important things to remember:

1. Always make sure your colored pencils are nice and sharp
2. Brush away debris periodically to keep your paper nice and clean. I use a large makeup brush, as it is small and easily portable.

STEP 4

Before I start applying any colors, I take my small sharp-pointed wooden stylus, or any blunt instrument will work, and mark areas where I want wispy hairs, whiskers, sparkles, highlights, etc. Later on, I will go back over these areas and take my X-Acto knife or a white pencil to brighten highlights where needed.

STEP 5

I started on the background first, layering slowly, with light to medium pressure the following Prismacolor colored pencils: chartreuse, light umber, sand, cream, yellow ochre, mineral orange, poppy red, cloud blue, indigo blue, and light cerulean blue. I also used the following Derwent Watercolors: ivory black, blue grey, chocolate, cedar green, and deep cadmium.



STEP 6

For the Christmas packages, I layered the following Prismacolor colored pencils: light umber, sand, cream, yellow ochre, mineral orange, poppy red, raw sienna, dark green, pink rose, indigo blue, dark brown, sepia, white and chartreuse. Derwent Watercolors used: deep vermillion, chocolate, cedar green, and deep cadmium.



STEP 7

For the open package, duck caller, floor and rug in the foreground I layered the following Prismacolor colored pencils: white, warm greys, French greys, light umber, clay rose, Tuscan red, sepia, midnight blue, poppy red, cloud blue, black grape, pink rose, cream, yellow ochre, and light cerulean blue. The Derwent Watercolors I used were cedar green, raw sienna, golden brown, copper beech, and chocolate.



STEP 8

After applying several layers of color, I apply the Tombow Colorless blender marker to the background and begin to blend the layered colors. Using a colorless blender marker is similar to using a paint brush, except you have more control. As you begin to blend the colors with a colorless blender marker, you will notice that the watercolor pencils have a noticeable darker pigment than the colored pencils. As a result, the colored pencil layer tends



to stand out well on top of the watercolor pencil layer. By using this technique, you can create some interesting effects and textures.

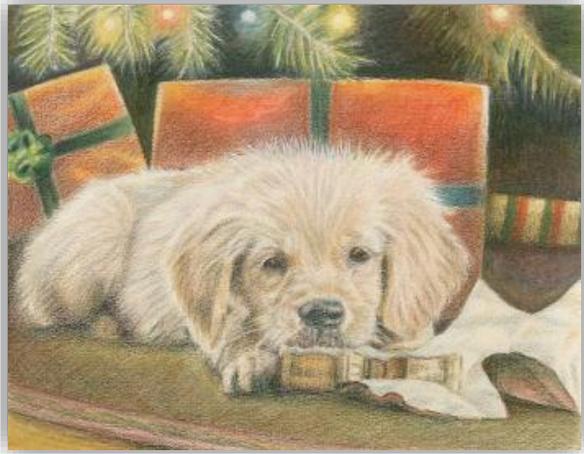
STEP 9

Next, I start on the puppy subject. I will be returning later to the background to make necessary refinements and adjustments. For the puppy's coat, eyes and nose I used the following Prismacolor colored pencils: warm greys, French greys, dark brown, sepia, sienna brown, yellow ochre, white, sand, dark umber, light umber, goldenrod, greyed lavender, pink rose, cloud blue, clay rose, light cerulean blue, black grape, beige, and cream. The following Derwent watercolor pencils were used: blue grey, raw sienna, and golden brown.



STEP 10

I darken up the shadows, using black grape, dark brown, indigo blue, and greys. I also work on the needles of the tree by adding more cedar green, black grape, yellow ochre and chartreuse.



STEP 11



After layering several colors on the puppy, I take a Prisma colorless blender pencil over the coat, eyes, and nose. I also apply it to the duck caller. I also start filling in more of the rug area with cedar green, yellow ochre, clay rose, clay rose and light umber. I also darken up and adjust the Christmas packages more.

FINAL STEPS

Now I take my white pencil over areas such as the whiskers and wispy hairs of fur to lighten them up a bit. I then spray the first coat of fixatif. I let that dry for about 30 minutes before I start to work on the portrait again. I then go in and darken the areas around the wispy fur hairs using black grape, poppy red, and cedar green. I also apply a light wispy stroke of light cerulean blue over the wispy hairs. I then add a light layer of light peach over areas on the face to tone down the orange, darken up a few more shadows. Last of all, I spray a second coat of fixatif to help prevent wax bloom.



Thanks so much for following along!

I hope you enjoyed the step-by-step demo.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at info@mooresartgallery.com

Keep on Creating!

CAROL MOORE



Bringing Visions to Life Through Art and Design

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