



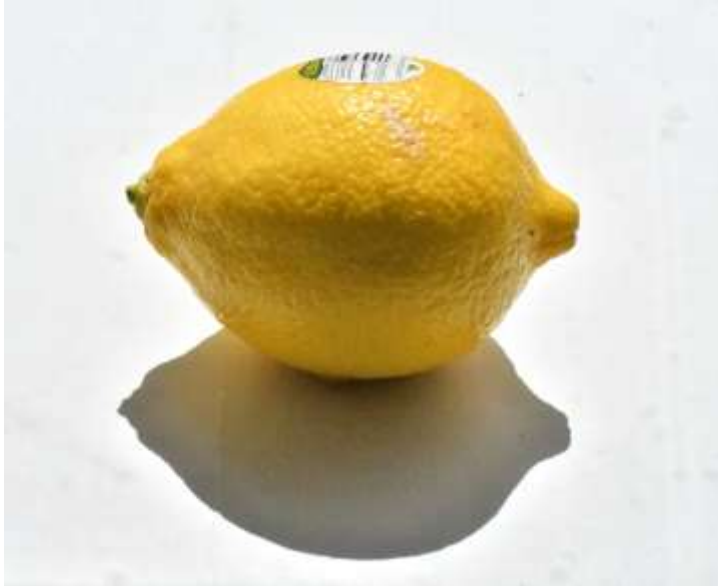
3 COMMON MISTAKES IN COLORED PENCIL DRAWING & HOW TO FIX THEM FOR GOOD

VERONICA WINTERS ART SCHOOL

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#1 Not using light and setups to take good pictures | not paying attention to light to pick pictures



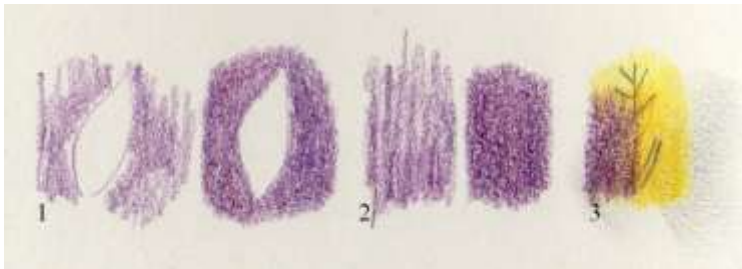
Your goal of shooting in the “right lighting conditions” is to beautify your subject and to bring the best out in it. Ask yourself what attracts you to this object. It could be a specific texture, transparency, color, or an abstract pattern of light and shade that you see. You need to figure out what you love about your subject and how you can highlight its most attractive qualities in a specific light. If your subject looks boring in a picture, chances are that the lighting conditions were boring at the time it was shot.

1. Shoot pictures in natural light one to two hours before the sunset or early in the morning on a clear day to capture the most gorgeous colors and contrasts on your subject.
2. Look for strong highlights and shadows on your subject that helps drawing it realistically.
3. Keep it simple by removing busy backgrounds and limiting depth of field.
4. Zoom in to capture close-ups.

Photo examples:



#2 Not shading to the very edge of your outlines.



This is the most common shading mistake among students! Shade to the very edge of your outlines for clarity and definition. There is a difference between not shading to the edge and 'losing the edge'. When you don't shade to the edge of your lines, even the correct outlines

get lost and make the object uneven and unclear. Losing the edge means shading evenly, leaving a very soft edge that often transitions into another area in the drawing.

In this picture the #1 example shows not shading to the edge. #2 shows uneven shading #3 shows leaving too much graphite on paper that makes it look dirty.

#3 Not analyzing values vs. colors.



Beginners have a very hard time analyzing values and picking colored pencils in accordance with the tones. A value scale consists of 10 tones ranging from a pure black to white. To fix this problem, convert your images to black-and-white copies to judge the values at all times of your drawing process. Most students don't have the shadows dark enough, while shading over the highlights on white paper (that must stay uncolored).



Notice how this bright, yellow light that we see in a color image is not as white in greyscale as it seems to be.



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