

How-To

Visual Art

Introduction

In art, there is no right or wrong, there is only 'how can I do better?' First you get an idea, next you draw it out on paper; an example would be drawing a cat. Then you pick a media that you want to do the cat in, be it watercolour, graphite, or pencil crayon.

When you first start, everyone is not perfect, it takes multiple times to get the form and structure of the cat how you want it. From there, after you are satisfied with the structure of the cat, you then are able to draw a cat in different genres such as cubist, an abstract, or a surrealism piece.

Supplies

Media

Classic

- Graphite
- Acrylic/Oil Paint
- Oil/Chalk Pastel
- Watercolour
- Pen and Ink
- Water Soluble Oil Pastel
- Pencil Crayon
- Felt Pen
- Crayon
- Pen/Sharpie

Different

- Spray Paint
 - Bees Wax
 - Tissue Paper and Glue
 - Papers
 - Water Based Graphite
-

Tools

In every media, there are many different techniques to use. With each tool that is used on one media, there are many different looks that you are able to get. Some examples of regular tools to use on each classic medium are:

Media	Drawing Tools	Tools
Acrylic Paint	Brushes, Sponges	Water, Extra Paintbrushes, Paper Towel
Oil Paint	Brushes, Plait Knife	Extra Paintbrushes, Paper Towel
Ink	Nibs, Brushes	Extra Paintbrushes, Water, Paper Towel
Watercolour	Brushes, Sponges	Water, Paper Towel, Extra Paintbrushes
Oil/Chalk Pastel	Fingers, Paper Towel	Smudge Sheet, Kneaded Eraser
Graphite	Blending Sticks, Fingers	Smudge Sheet, Kneaded Eraser

When picking out paper to use, you also have to think about what media you are going to be working in. There are certain types of paper for each media. Also, there are different kinds of paper, example; if you want to see the texture of the paper, or if you want it to have a wax coating.

When using a wet media, depending on the look you want to get, it is best to get a paper that the media can soak into. The best kind of paper for that job would be watercolour paper. With this watercolour paper, you can use ink, watercolour, and wax, along with some other kinds of media.

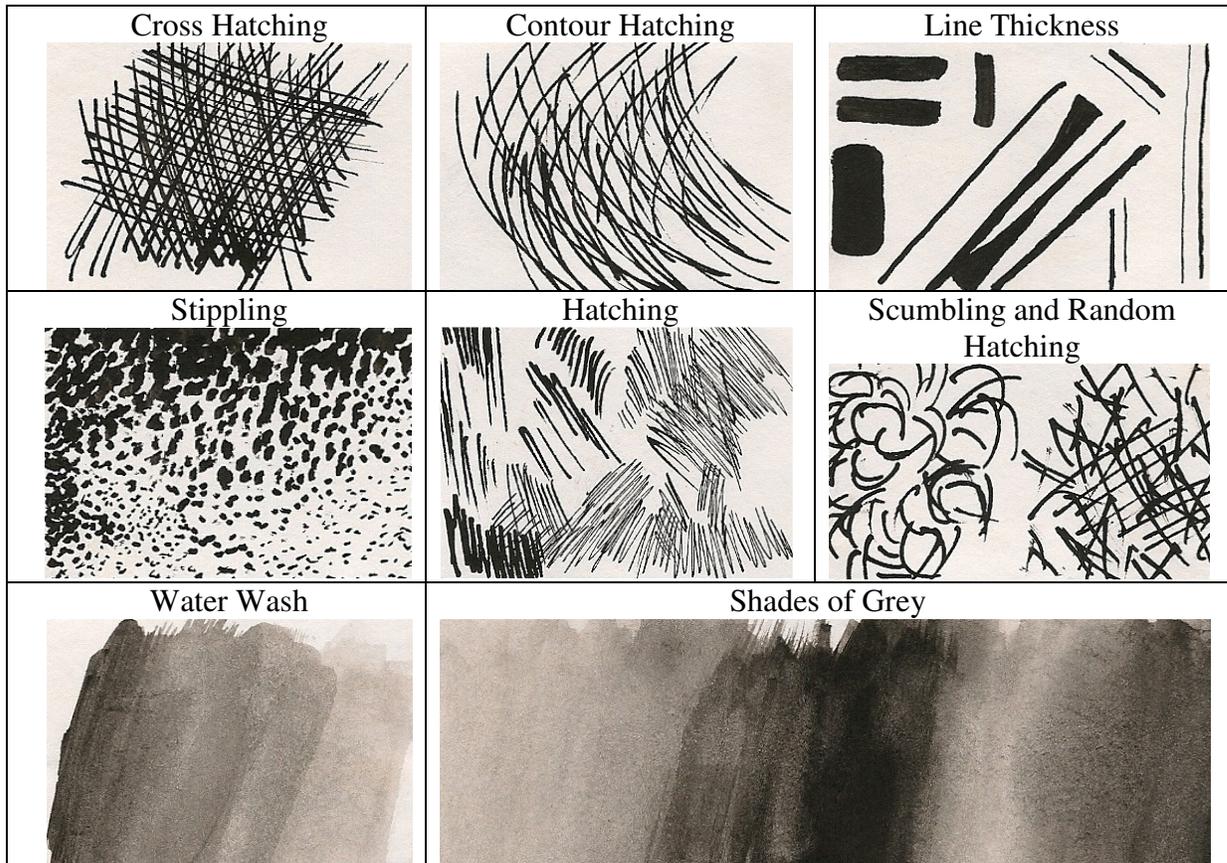
Watercolour paper is expensive, and the reason behind that is the paper is made from cotton pulp, not wood pulp. Alternatives to watercolour paper are other high quality papers that can be found in art stores.



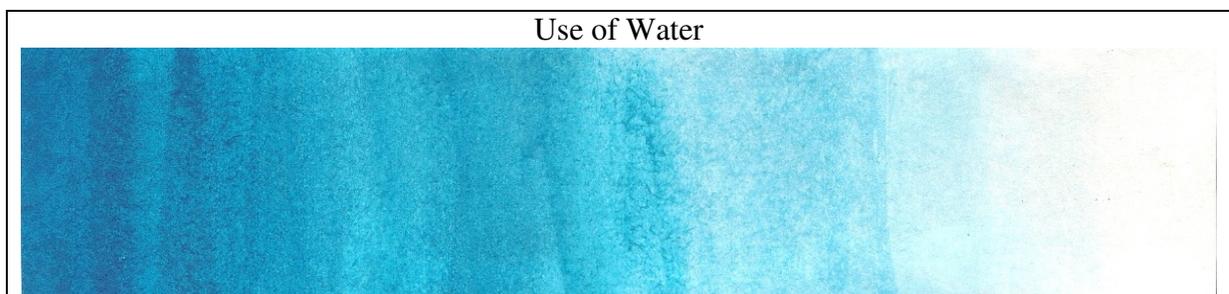
Instructions

Techniques

Ink and nib



Watercolour



NOTE: Professional artist who use water colour, never use white. If they want the colour lightened, they use water to dilute the colour.

Conclusion

Art Tips

Here are some things to have on hand when working with almost every classic media: smudge sticks, a needed eraser, smudge sheet, extra paintbrushes, paper towel and water. It is also good to put newspaper down before setting up your work place; this is just in case water goes through the paper, if you spill ink, or if you go off the page with paint on your brush.

When using graphite or any other kind of dry media (chalk pastel) be careful that your hand does not smudge and rub over the graphite covered paper, this can lead to the white spaces turning a light grey. Have a smudge sheet, or extra piece of paper, to go over finished areas on the picture, this makes sure your hand does not rub the graphite on the paper. If grey smudges arise on the places that are supposed to be white, a way to clean the white places is a needed eraser. This eraser picks up any kind of dry media, instead of pushing the media around on the page. Needed erasers can also be used to draw with, an example of this is drawing a piece with positive and negative areas.

A water bucket is one of the most important tools when using a wet media. The water can lighten up watercolours, turn black ink into shades of grey, and thins out acrylic paints. When using wet media, (watercolour, paints, and ink) it is good to have paper towel on hand, so if you get some of the media in a place that you don't want, it is easy to wipe most of it away. Extra paintbrushes can do the same thing as the paper towel; with paintbrushes it is easy to wipe away smaller areas.

