

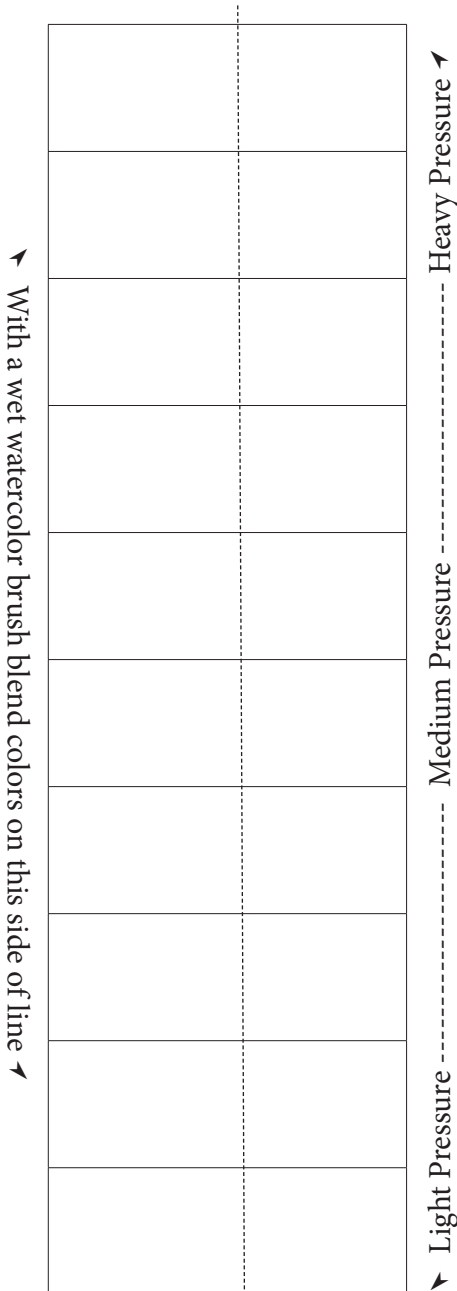
Watercolor Pencil Techniques

There are many techniques with using watercolor pencils. The color wheel and beyond are yours! Here are some technique exercises to help you and your creativity.

Pick out a few colors you like and complete the following exercises. You can then apply to these techniques you've practiced to your art. Pro-tip: Explore the different techniques with all the colors you have.

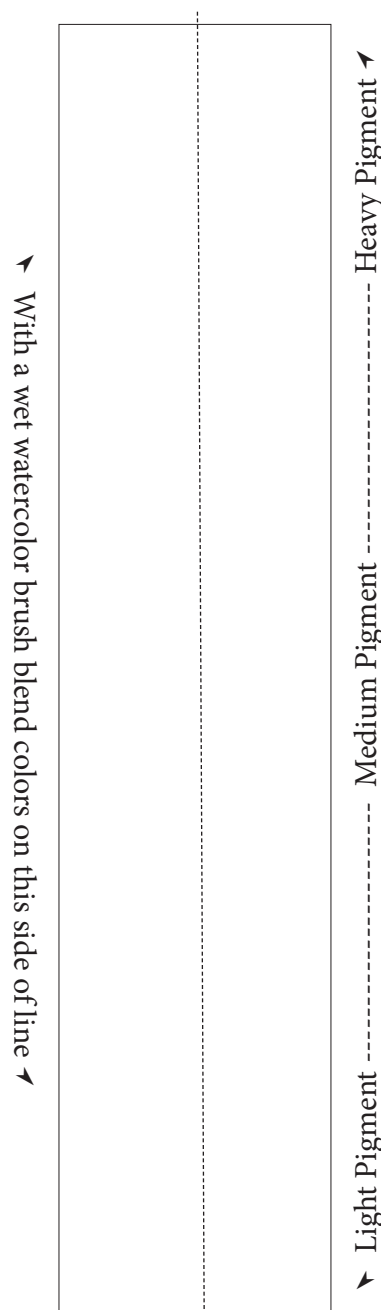
Pressure

Vary the degrees of pressure from hand through pencil to paper. This also creates degrees of Values. Make each square the same shade/pressure.



Shading

Vary the degrees of pressure from hand through pencil to paper, similar to the Pressure Exercise, but in 1 pass.



Layers

Build layers of color on top of each other to create new colors, add depth and blend colors.

Try combining the Shading technique with Cross Hatching with the following colors:

Blue & Green

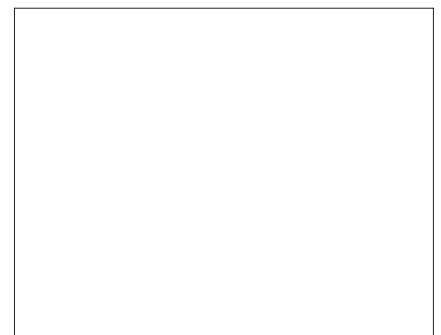


Red & Green



Scratching

Build layers of color on top of each other like the Layer technique, then use a brush with clean water to blend. Dry then use precision knife to scrape away pigment.



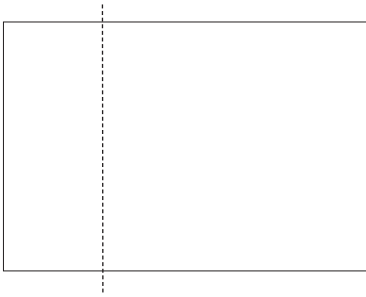
Pro-tip: Do for all of your colors and types of Pencils. Pressure/Value Chart doesn't need to be this large, after you get the technique down. Or keep it more simple, do a small Shading Chart to see all the variation of your pencil can make!

Basic Pencil Strokes

Pencil strokes on paper help make your art have dimension, shape, textures, and help make a foundation for additional steps. Additionally, makes for various effects when blending. Once you have watercolor pencil pigment down, use a clean watercolor brush to blend colors.

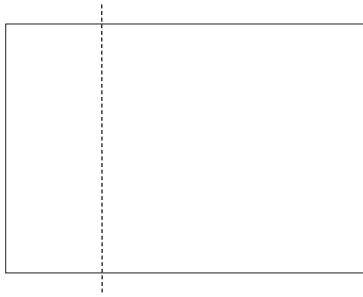
Horizontal

Using your pencil, moving horizontally across the area below, pressure can be same or variant.



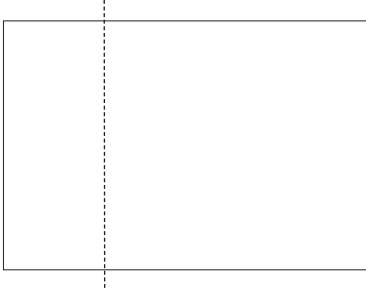
Vertical

Using your pencil, moving vertically across the area below, pressure can be same or variant.



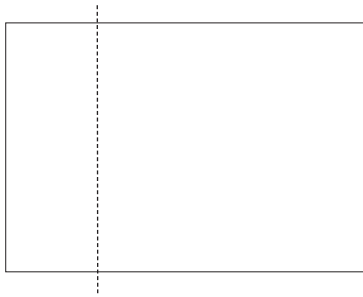
Circular

Using your pencil, moving in a circular motion in the area below, pressure can be same or variant.



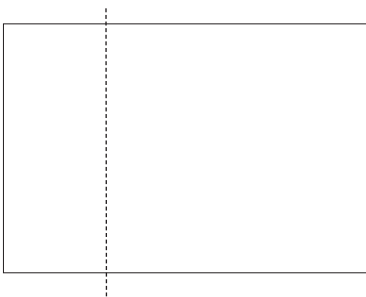
Hatching

Hatching is creating lines going in the same direction, & can vary in pressure as you build hatch marks.



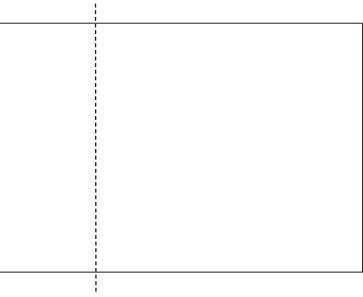
Cross Hatching

Same as Hatching, but crossing the directions or varying the degree of direction of hatching.



Two Color Cross Hatching

Same as Cross Hatching, but use two colors.



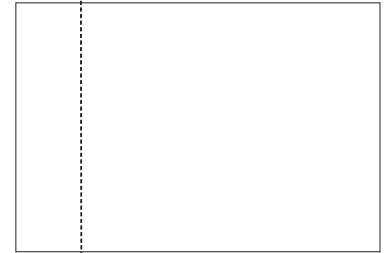
Pro-tip: Try using 1 color hatching, then cross over with another color. Try Complementary colors, such as Blue & Orange. Try colors next to the color you are using on the color wheel, such as Red & Yellow or Red and Orange?

Layers

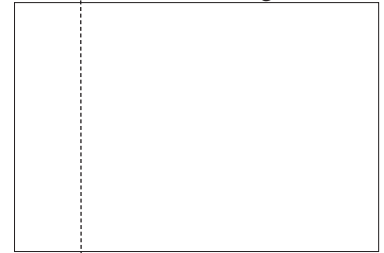
Build layers of color on top of each other to create new colors, add depth and blend colors.

Try combining the Shading technique with Cross Hatching with the following colors, then blend with water with brush:

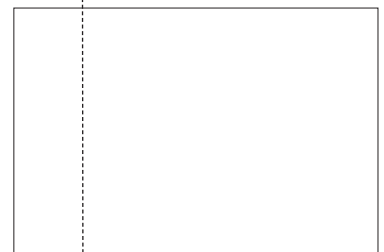
Blue & Green



Red & Orange

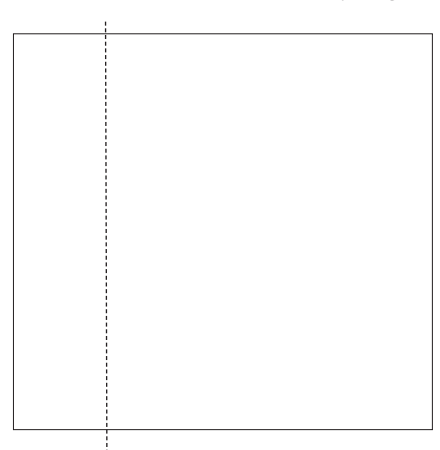


Red & Green



Scratching

Build layers of color on top of each other like the Layer technique. Use precision knife to scrape away pigment.



With a wet watercolor brush blend colors on this side of line →

With a wet watercolor brush blend colors on this side of line →

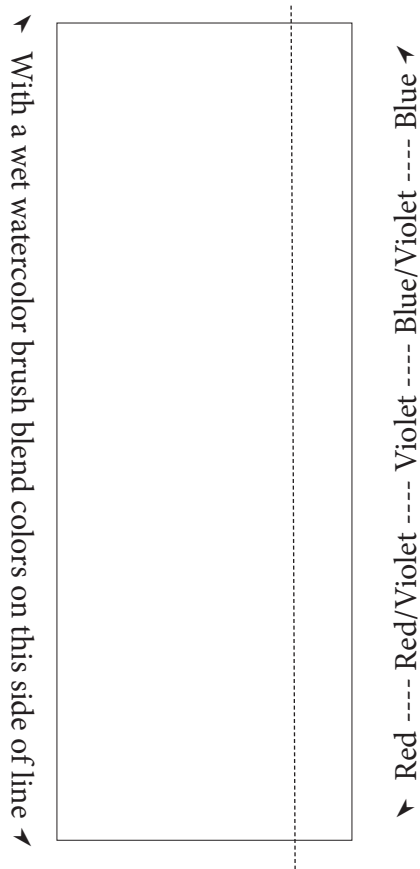
Blending

Watercolor pencils are thrilling to blend. There are some examples various types of blending techniques.

Just Pencils

To make a smooth transition from one to color to another, pull colors out that are in between those colors. You will combine the Pressure & Shading Techniques to create a seamless transition from one color to another, then use water with brush to blend.

Try going from Blue to Red.



Pro-tip: Watercolor pencils can be used like Color Pencil too. You can use the various types of blending tools for watercolor pencils. It isn't economical or recommended to use the solvents as a blender since you can simply use water.

General Information

Art Materials vary in quality and therefore price. You get what you pay for. It is best practice to get the highest quality you can afford, including getting a couple here and there over time.

By sticking to well known and high quality products you provide yourself with an advantage. Your colors will be more lightfast (not fading over time as fast), more brilliant since they are made with a higher quality pigments, you can more easily obtain replacements, and your work flow will be strong.

Don't sell yourself short.

If you become frustrated, take a step back. Ask yourself, why you are frustrated? Is it the pencils? The paper? The colors? The additional tools? Are you not moving your hands and practicing?

BeauxArts Fine Art Materials is here for you! Always feel free to contact us for information, suggestions, advise, inspiration and more!

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