

# getting started with Pastels

## SOFT PASTELS

Often called chalks due to their dry & dusty characteristics, better quality pastels are much softer & more highly pigmented than regular chalk. These qualities allow rich layering of intense color.

some techniques:  
 cross hatch    hatch    stipple    Smear  


## OIL PASTELS

OIL pastels handle like crayons, but are much creamier & more highly pigmented, giving drawing a painterly quality.



mineral spirits dissolve oil pastels and can be used to blend colors or to remove unwanted areas of color.

## SURFACES

Soft Pastels require a toothy, or textured surface. Pastel paper & finely textured **SANDED PASTEL PAPER** are available in single sheets or in pads. **PASTELBOARD** is a hard masonite panel with a textured surface. **PASTELCLOTH** is highly textured canvas-like cloth and is available by the yard.

Oil Pastels work well on a variety of surfaces. Heavy Paper can be sized with **PVAGLUE SIZING** to keep oil from penetrating and subsequently damaging paper. **Primed Canvas, Masonite, & WOOD** also make suitable sturdy supports.



Soft Pastels are **DUSTY & SMUDGY**. **FIXATIVES** act as a light varnish and permit continued work.

available in aerosol or pump

Stomp



Stiff bristle brushes are good for "erasing" areas in soft pastel drawings.

Stomps, soft brushes, & sponge brushes are great for blending, softening & smudging drawings.