

Chapter 1 : Colored Pencils - Art Supplies at BLICK art materials - Art Supply Store

Colored Pencils are pencils that have a core of colored pigment and protective casing made of wood. While standard pencils have a core of graphite and clay, a core of most of the colored pencils is made of wax, pigments, additives, and binding agents.

Discovery of graphite deposit As a technique for drawing, the closest predecessor to the pencil was Silverpoint until in some sources say as early as , a large deposit of graphite was discovered on the approach to Grey Knotts from the hamlet of Seathwaite in Borrowdale parish , Cumbria, England. It remains the only large-scale deposit of graphite ever found in this solid form. Consequently, it was called plumbago Latin for "lead ore ". The value of graphite would soon be realised to be enormous, mainly because it could be used to line the moulds for cannonballs ; the mines were taken over by the Crown and were guarded. When sufficient stores of graphite had been accumulated, the mines were flooded to prevent theft until more was required. The usefulness of graphite for pencils was discovered as well, but graphite for pencils had to be smuggled. The news of the usefulness of these early pencils spread far and wide, attracting the attention of artists all over the known world. Graphite sticks were initially wrapped in string or sheepskin for stability. England would enjoy a monopoly on the production of pencils until a method of reconstituting the graphite powder was found in Italy. However, the distinctively square English pencils continued to be made with sticks cut from natural graphite into the s. The town of Keswick , near the original findings of block graphite, still manufactures pencils, the factory also being the location of the Cumberland Pencil Museum. Their version was a flat, oval, more compact type of pencil. Their concept involved the hollowing out of a stick of juniper wood. Shortly thereafter, a superior technique was discovered: It used a mixture of graphite, sulphur , and antimony. France was also unable to import the inferior German graphite pencil substitute. By varying the ratio of graphite to clay, the hardness of the graphite rod could also be varied. This method of manufacture, which had been earlier discovered by the Austrian Joseph Hardtmuth , the founder of the Koh-I-Noor in , remains in use. The top sequence shows the old method that required pieces of graphite to be cut to size; the lower sequence is the new, current method using rods of graphite and clay. American colonists imported pencils from Europe until after the American Revolution. Benjamin Franklin advertised pencils for sale in his Pennsylvania Gazette in , and George Washington used a three-inch pencil when he surveyed the Ohio Territory in This was not the only pencil-making occurring in Concord. He used the first circular saw in pencil production. He constructed the first of the hexagon- and octagon-shaped wooden casings. Ebenezer did not patent his invention and shared his techniques with anyone. One of those was Eberhard Faber of New York, who became the leader in pencil production. The favoured timber for pencils was Red Cedar as it was aromatic and did not splinter when sharpened. In the early 20th century supplies of Red Cedar were dwindling so that pencil manufacturers were forced to recycle the wood from cedar fences and barns to maintain supply. One effect of this was that "during World War II rotary pencil sharpeners were outlawed in Britain because they wasted so much scarce lead and wood, and pencils had to be sharpened in the more conservative manner " with knives. Pencil extender Historian Henry Petroski notes that while ever more efficient means of mass production of pencils has driven the replacement cost of a pencil down, before this people would continue to use even the stub of a pencil. For those who "did not feel comfortable using a stub, pencil extenders were sold. These devices function something like a porte-crayon Extenders were especially common among engineers and draftsmen, whose favorite pencils were priced dearly. The use of an extender also has the advantage that the pencil does not appreciably change its heft as it wears down.

Chapter 2 : theinnatdunvilla.com: Colored Pencils: Toys & Games

A colored pencil (US-English), coloured pencil (UK-English, Canada-English), pencil crayon (UK-English, Canada-English), lead or coloured/colouring lead (Newfoundland-English) is an art medium constructed of a narrow, pigmented core encased in a wooden cylindrical case.

The four drawer wooden pencil box will hold about colored pencils and is big enough to hold even the Prismacolor colored pencil pack , with some blending pencils. Both can hold both thin supplies like colored pencils and larger coloring supplies like pens and markers. The colored pencil carousel has 72 holes on three tiers and rotates like a Lazy Susan when spun. The three tiers have 24 openings each of increasingly smaller diameter, making the top level perfect for pencils, the middle level ideal for Sharpie pens or gel pens, and the bottom just the right size for thicker markers or Sharpies. The top has an opening where you can put scissors, and around the outside are sectioned cups for supplies like erasers, your sharpener, and more. The clear organizer does not rotate, but it has a whopping slots in a very compact space. The holes are half an inch in diameter, and the plastic divider in the center makes it easy to pick up the whole set and move it around. These plastic holders may not be the prettiest, but they are compact and great for giving you quick and easy access to your entire coloring collection. Fabric Roll-Up Colored Pencil Case Fabric colored pencil wraps are very popular, and all essentially work the same way: These roll up cases are great for taking to adult coloring clubs because they are much quicker to pack and transport than the tins Prismacolors come in, and less prone to disaster if you drop them. Their one major downside besides some potential tedium threading your entire set of colored pencils through all the loops the first time, which can be difficult, but you can make it easier by threading pointed end first is that unrolled, these cases can take up a lot of space. If you are shopping for a roll up pencil bag, the major features to look for are secure loops, and a flap for protecting the pointed ends of the pencils. Some also have a pocket or larger loop for a sharpener or eraser. These cases make it fun to organize your colored pencil collection in rainbow order. The first roll-up pencil case above holds 48 pencils, one per loop, and is available in pink, beige, or olive green. It is made of a light-weight canvas material, has a leather flap for protecting your pencils, and includes a spot for an eraser. The second canvas pencil wrap above is available in a variety of patterns, from floral, to bohemian, to patterned with images of notebooks, elephants, trees, or UK inspired items. There is also an option that is plain canvas. You can fit up to 72 pencils in this wrap. The pencils fit one per loop, with a spot for an eraser, and the case ties shut. Included are several styles of beads to thread onto the end of the ties if you desire. The third wrap is similar to the one above but holds 48 pencils instead of 72. The final wrap is configured a little differently, fitting 72 pencils, but you fold it in half before folding it up. Leather flaps protect the tips of the pencils and the case is trimmed in leather, with a leather strap closure that snaps shut. It is worth mentioning that any of the above cases would hold similarly sized gel pens or thin markers! Zipper Colored Pencil Case This fine leather case holds a whopping pencils and is available in brown or black. Versions are also available to hold sets of 24, 48, 72, or 144. It zips shut on three sides to completely encase your pencils, and the zipper pull snaps to the spine of the case to keep it locked shut while you are on the go, which is a really nice feature. It is worth noting that the straps of this case are pretty wide – expect to put three colored pencils per loop, as shown in the second photo above. Since there is a middle section to the case, it can stand upright while being used. Reviewers note the durability of this case , with its soft leather and fine stitching. Colored Pencil Carry Bag If you are constantly carrying your colored pencil collection with you, why not stow it safely away in a shoulder bag perfectly suited to your lifestyle. This case unzips all the way open, allowing you to lay it flat. Inside the front of the case is a mesh pocket to hide coloring accessories in. Again, the pencils fit at least two to a loop. This carry bag is an elegant solution to taking a lot of coloring supplies on the go, holding up to pencils and all the accessories you might need. Got a talent for woodwork? Here are some DIY solutions to organizing your colored pencil collection! I could really imagine this being a great gift too, maybe even for a writer or a stylish coworker. This thing would look gorgeous on a desk. DIY Pencil Wrap These instructions are for a homemade crayon wrap, not a colored pencil wrap, but you can still follow the same set of instructions and come out with a really great

looking wrap after some magic on the sewing machine. Colored Pencil Wall Holder Tonya Staab created this picture-perfect solution to organizing the colored pencils in her craft room: You need a lot of wall space to pull something like this off, but the end result is pretty and artistic! Paper Tube Colored Pencil Holder Believe it or not, this colored pencil holder is made entirely out of paper and glue, which you probably already have lying around! The video below shows you how to make paper tubes for your pencils to sit in, and then the paper holder that wraps around them, which gives you a place to color to show which pencil sits there. Every color will finally have its place. She discovered the original directions for it in an old and well-loved colored pencil techniques book. There is a beautiful handmade wooden version available on Etsy! Prove it, by building this homemade pencil cabinet. I love the plexiglass windows at the front of the trays, so you can see all your pencils lined up inside the shallow shelves. All of the organizers above will serve to house, organize, and control your colored pencil collection, big or small. Some are perfect for making your colored pencils portable, while others will minimize the footprint of keeping your colored pencils right there on your desk. They make great gifts for the colorists in your life, or are a great coloring tool to get for yourself! I hope you enjoyed this list! If you have any other great colored pencil organization tips or tools, please share them in the comments! Subscribe below to see more stuff like this, or pin the image below to save this list for later! Amazing new adult coloring books come out every day. Let me find them for you! Just enter your email address in the box below to join my free email newsletter and be the first to know about new coloring book releases, giveaways, and other stress-busting advice for creatives. PLUS get access to over 40 free high quality coloring pages, just for signing up! For more information, please visit our [Privacy Policy](#). Like us on Facebook to see more of our coloring guides!

Chapter 3 : Pencil - Wikipedia

-A single tree can produce the wood necessary for up to , colored pencil barrels. That equates to over 8, average-sized sets.-The first usage of colored wax mediums goes back as far as the Greek Golden Age.

Artist grade[edit] Artist-grade pencils are filled with higher concentrations of high-quality pigments than student-grade colored pencils. Their lightfastness – resistance to UV rays in sunlight – is also measured and documented. Core durability, break and water resistance, and brand popularity are also notable features of artist-grade colored pencils. They are also typically available as individual pencils. Student and scholastic grade[edit] Colored pencils manufactured by Schwan-Stabilo Many of the same companies that produce artist-grade colored pencils also offer student-grade materials and scholastic-level colored pencils. Lightfastness rating is usually not included in student- and scholastic-grade colored pencils. Core composition and pigment-binder ratio vary among artist- and student-grade colored pencils even when the same company produces them. As they are intended for different users, student- and scholastic-grade colored pencils lack the high quality pigments and lightfastness standards that hold artist-grade products true to their name. Also their color range is smaller, often limited to 24 or 36 colors. Using lower grade colored pencils does have its advantages, however. Some companies offer erasable colored pencils for beginning artists to experiment with. Colored pencil manufactures tailor their products – and prices – to different age and skill groups. Mechanical colored pencils[edit] Although not as common as graphite mechanical pencils , some companies also offer colored refill leads. Currently, a very limited color range exists for colored refill leads. Watercolor painting Watercolor pencils, otherwise known as water-soluble pencils, are a versatile art medium. The pencils can be used dry – like normal colored pencils – or they can be applied "wet" to get the desired watercolor effect. In wet application, the artist first lays down the dry pigment and then follows up with a damp paintbrush to intensify and spread the colors. This technique can also be used to blend colors together, and many artists will apply both techniques in one art piece. Pastel pencils[edit] Pastel pencils are similar to hard pastels. Their advantage is that they can be sharpened to a fine point and so they are useful for adding details on pastel drawings. When used by themselves, there are two main rendering techniques colored pencil artists use. Layering is usually used in the beginning stages of a colored pencil drawing, but can also be used for entire pieces. In layering, tones are gradually built up using several layers of primary colors. Layered drawings usually expose the tooth of the paper and are characterized by a grainy, fuzzy finish. This produces a shiny surface of blended colors that gets deep into the grain of the paper.

Chapter 4 : Colored Pencil Quotes. QuotesGram

The largest colored pencil (or coloured pencil, as it resides in England) is located at the Cumberland Pencil Museum in Cumbria. According to the museum, the pencil has been on display since It weighs pounds and is almost 26 ft. long.

Not all colored pencils are made equal, however – which is why we brought in Brandon, a colored pencil expert, to give us the inside scoop on the best colored pencils for coloring books! To save this post to your coloring board on Pinterest, hover over the image below and click the Pinterest icon! His detailed overview below delves into different kinds of colored pencils – there are lots of different kinds! Looking for colored pencil techniques to improve your coloring skills? Look no further than this other post of mine: [Get Free Coloring Pages!](#) Subscribe today and get access to the coloring page library, with over 40 pages contributed by the artists! Just enter your email address in the box below to join my free email newsletter and be the first to know about new coloring book releases, giveaways, and other stress-busting advice for creatives. For more information, please visit our [Privacy Policy](#). While there are plenty of great artistic media out there to bring your favorite coloring books to life, colored pencils are usually near the top of the list. However, figuring out the best colored pencils for coloring books can be an overwhelming task. A quick search on any online marketplace or a stroll through your local art store will reveal dozens of different types of colored pencils in all shapes, sizes, materials, and price points. What should you choose? In this post, we will break down some of the factors that go into what makes up colored pencils. We will also provide some of our top choices for the best colored pencils for coloring books.

The core of the colored pencil is its most important feature and the thickness, materials, and consistency can have a huge effect on how color is applied to your coloring books.

Colored Pencil Core Materials There are many different types of material that are used in the core of a colored pencil. The traditional definition of a colored pencil is a medium that contains a wax-based or oil-based binder. A binder is an ingredient that is added to hold the color together and allow it to be applied and spread on a drawing surface such as a coloring book page. There are many increasingly popular colored pencil brands that utilize non-traditional binders. There are also brands that take a hybrid approach, basing their binder on a traditional ingredient but adding a unique twist. An example of this is Holbein Artist colored pencils, which include various oils and fats in their wax binder. To keep things simple, we are going to focus on wax and oil-based colored pencils as they are easily the most popular. So why are wax cores so much more commonplace in the art world? Wax cores tend to be softer which greatly assists in layering and blending without relying on burnishing agents. Having a pencil that is better at blending is a great way to expand the capabilities of your colored pencil set as you can create new colors by blending two or more pencils. Also, they are erasable. Second, wax cores are typically much more affordable. After speaking to various colored pencil manufacturers, the process of creating a wax core is much cheaper than using oils. These cost savings are reflected in the retail price and there is a huge range of wax-based colored pencils in the budget price tiers. However, wax colored pencils do have some negatives. Being a softer core, they are more prone to breaking and are also more difficult to sharpen to a fine tip. This can make them challenging to use on highly-detailed areas of your coloring book pages. Also, they suffer from what is called wax bloom. Wax bloom is a process where the wax binder actually evaporates to the surface of the coloring book page. This can create a waxy sheen over the surface of your work which most people find takes away from the final product. You can see an example of wax bloom on the right side of the image below: [Empty Easel](#) Furthermore, wax colored pencils are more notorious for fading over time poor lightfastness and may require a fixative to help protect the color. If you happen to have a set of colored pencils that would benefit from using a fixative, one of our favorite products is Krylon Workable Fixatif. It provides a great protective coat yet is still gentle enough to be able to be applied to thin coloring book paper. Finally, wax colored pencils may produce lower color output compared to oil colored pencils. It is important to note that this issue is mostly on the budget lines of colored pencils and most of your higher-end wax sets will still produce fantastic color.

Oil Colored Pencils for Coloring Books Lyra Rembrandt Aquarell Oil-based colored pencils take up a much smaller sector of the colored pencil industry but they do offer some unique benefits. Being a harder core, you are able to achieve a much sharper

point. This is great for very intricate areas of your coloring book where large, heavy strokes are not needed. The point is also much more resilient, requiring less sharpening. This can make the pencil last longer as well. Finally, the color output of nearly every oil-based colored pencil is awesome. Almost every set we have ever tested has produced fantastic color. And this color tends to last longer without requiring a fixative. ArtistsNetwork As for the negatives of oil colored pencils, the most noticeable issue is the higher asking price. Generally, all oil-based pencils will fall into the premium price tier. They can also be a bit more challenging to use. While they can still blend and layer with ease, they may require the help of a burnishing agent to achieve the same buttery feel of wax pencils. Also, a soft application may be a bit more of a challenge as oil-based pencils are notorious for being heavier with color, even on gentle passes. Oil colored pencils may also have a higher likelihood of smudging when pages are rubbing against each other such as in a closed coloring book. If this becomes an issue you can either separate the pages or spray some fixative. Colored Pencil Core Thickness The core thickness of a colored pencil can also vary. Traditionally, cores are measured by their diameter and in metric units millimeters. For nearly every brand, you can expect thicknesses between 2. While this may not sound like a big fluctuation, going with a thicker or thinner! If you enjoy coloring books with large, open areas where you plan on implementing a single color then going with a thicker core can allow for much greater control and consistency. Prismacolor Art Stix If you prefer more detailed coloring books with many intricate areas then going with a finer core may be better-suited for you. A good example of this is the Prismacolor Verithin. Coming in with a diameter of just 2mm, they can be sharpened to an extremely fine point and are perfect for highly detailed areas. Prismacolor Verithin Colored Pencils vs. Watercolor Pencils Next to core material, the most common source of confusion is with the differences between colored pencils and watercolor pencils. And, more importantly, which one of these is better for coloring books. Colored Pencils If you pick up a random set of colored pencils from the store, it most likely falls under this category. These are pencils that are able to blend without the inclusion of water. Their blending ability comes from the various agents that are built into the core. You will generally have greater control of small areas while using traditional colored pencils. However, they will typically be limited in how much area they can cover with a given stroke although adding blenders or solvents can increase this. Also, it is more difficult to lighten the color intensity outside of blending in lighter colors. Watercolor Pencils Watercolor pencils are sets that are designed to be used with water in order to spread color. Blending and layering will be much more challenging. However, when you apply water to the canvas, things will come alive! You will feel like you are working with a totally different medium. Color will spread freely. This is great for large areas of a coloring book where you want consistent color. But you may struggle with keeping control of areas with small sections. Also, watercolor pencils have the ability to be easily lightened by adding water and spreading over a larger area. The important thing to remember with watercolor pencils is that you are literally applying water to a page. If your coloring book uses thin pages, this may result in warping of the paper. If you are downloading coloring book pages and printing them onto your own media, but sure to use a thicker paper that is more capable of handling water. Also, start off slow with applying water to the canvas. A little water can go a long way! Many watercolor pencil sets will come with a small brush included in the case. There are several ways to use this brush and it will really depend on what sort of color intensity and texture you are after. Peta Hewitt Some people prefer to wet the brush and dab the tip of the watercolor pencil to extract some color. Then they apply the brush to the canvas in a way similar to how a traditional set of watercolors are used. Another method is to apply color to the page first and then use the wet brush to spread the color across the page. Both approaches can have very different effects. We recommend testing both out and seeing which way works the best for you and your coloring book. Some people have had success incorporating both traditional colored pencils and watercolor pencils into various areas on a coloring book page. We encourage you to explore different approaches and figure out what works best and is the most enjoyable for you. The Top Choices for Every Colorist As you can see, there are many factors that go into determining the best colored pencils to use in your coloring books. Finding the perfect combination of blending ability, color output, ease of use, and price point will vary from person to person. We have listed some of our top choices for various needs below:

Chapter 5 : The Best Colored Pencils for Reviews by Wirecutter | A New York Times Company

Not all colored pencils are created the same. There is different wood, wax, and finishings that can make one colored pencil to the next produce dramatically different results. Just like everything else we make at ColorIt, we set out to make the best possible colored pencils for adult coloring books on the market.

Artists use colored pencils, too, though the quality and price are different. This is one medium that is accessible to young children and adults, though they may not know much about this simple art tool. Function There are two main categories that most colored pencils fit into, wax-based and non wax-based. The difference is in function. Wax-based colored pencils deliver great color and work great for layering color on color, though the wax buildup may be a problem. This buildup causes a white haze called wax bloom. Non wax-based colored pencils require harder pressure, though there will be no wax buildup. Price Different functions create different prices. These are the wax-based pencils that children use. Artist pencils are much more expensive because of their ability to blend and shade. They report over 1, members in the US and other countries. Their mission is education about the "fine art of the colored pencil. The organization offers its members the opportunity to attend workshops, receive product information, and attend the annual CPSA exhibitions. Longest Pencil Drawing The longest color pencil drawing is 20 inches wide and yards long. Jainthan Francis set this world record by creating his drawing in Sayreville, New Jersey in According to the World Record Academy, the artwork took Francis three months and includes tiles and footprints in colors. Francis took inspiration from a local homeless man and used cardboard cutouts of his own feet for the job. Biggest Pencil The largest colored pencil or coloured pencil, as it resides in England is located at the Cumberland Pencil Museum in Cumbria. According to the museum, the pencil has been on display since It is a legitimate pencil, with lead running through the entire core, so it would actually write if anyone were strong enough to hold it. References Cumberland Pencil Museum: Her writing has been published in eHow, and she specializes in writing about children and education.

Chapter 6 : | Inspiration for the passionate colored pencil artist!

Polychromos colored pencils are part of a unique color-matching system that defines Faber-Castell Art and Graphic Products. Barrels are premium California cedar wood and the mm leads are break-resistant, water-resistant, smudgeproof, and provide permanent rich color.

By Cheryl Trowbridge When it comes to buying art supplies for your classroom, how much does your budget influence your buying decisions? The next time you buy colored pencils, you could be better off spending a little more. Colored pencil is rarely the medium we choose for big projects – students would quickly lose patience filling in large areas with pencil, and the quality of their work would reflect that! So, we tend to use colored pencils for smaller, more detailed drawings – and therefore they last longer. Should you let price alone determine your purchase? And how can you tell what the quality is anyway? Anyone can get frustrated when their work is limited by the quality of their supplies – using a better quality product will usually translate into better quality work and more enjoyment in the process. I recently tested six common brands of student grade colored pencils: Most people would probably guess Crayola, thanks to their massive advertising presence. But for quality and color, I actually chose Prang. Colored pencil colors should be rich and vibrant. The basic 12 color set should contain the range of basic colors that are used most often: Also, a quality colored pencil will have a creamy texture not waxy or scratchy and should be easy to apply in a smooth, even layer. Having color names on the pencils may not be mandatory, but I know that as a kid, this was really important to me! Not too much to ask, right?? And they even have the color names printed on the pencils in English, Spanish and French –. Someone should tell them that you really do need pink in a basic set. But they have a great website, so they get points for that! The blue was more of a teal. You may be able to get by without the white, so this could be an acceptable choice if price is an issue. What were they thinking??! Rather than buying this set, you may want to consider waiting and saving up for something a little better. My husband and his brothers have a business that delivers supplies to school districts in our area, so I occasionally get to test art supply products for their catalog. Just a fun perk to our family business, and I thought my findings might be of interest to you! Student Grade Colored Pencil Comparison Test When buying art supplies for your class, is price or quality more important to you? Have you found a different brand of colored pencils that you recommend? You may also like

Chapter 7 : How to Organize Your Colored Pencil Collection - Cleverpedia

Colored pencil is most easily defined by its very name. The proliferation of new art materials, however, can make it difficult to determine exactly which products are truly colored pencils.

Click here to see our 1 pick Artist-grade colored pencil sets can feature up to shades, displayed in a consecutive array like swatches. Consider, as an example, that the point of a colored pencil allows for greater precision than almost any other handheld implement. This is unfortunate, especially considering that colored pencils can offer an entire litany of advantages, even if an artist is only using this medium to create an early mock-up of his work. Colored pencils also feature UV-resistant pigment, meaning that while a sheet of paper may fade due to sunlight, the pigment that is left there by a colored pencil will not. Artist-grade colored pencil sets can feature up to shades, displayed in a consecutive array like swatches. This way you can preserve most of your primary colors, while getting use out of some of your secondary colors at the same time. The first way to avoid this is by designating secondary colors for everyday use. Mechanical and electrical sharpeners tend to shave off a lot of unnecessary wood. On top of which, wax-based pencils can cause a pencil sharpener to jam. That began to change, however, during the 16th Century, after British prospectors discovered graphite while excavating a series of mines beneath Grey Knotts. The British Government immediately seized these mines, intent on using graphite as a resource for building armaments. Civilian use of graphite was strictly prohibited, a fact which did not stop British artists from breaking in and stripping the mines. These bandits soon found that there was an issue with using graphite for artistic purposes in that the composition was soft, and it would often break if grasped too hard. Inspired by draftsmen who had taken to wrapping graphite between sheepskin, this couple experimented with encasing graphite inside an oval piece of wood. That problem was solved by an Italian couple in 1790. The result gave birth to what affectionately became known as the graphite pencil - an industry that England lorded over as a result of owning the only supply. As it turned out, powdered graphite was abundant across any number of continents. And during the 1800s, several entrepreneurs began refining powdered graphite into a hardened form. One of these entrepreneurs, an American named Joseph Dixon, came up with a process for mass producing graphite pencils at a meager cost. Dixon died in 1845, but the company that he founded, Dixon Ticonderoga, was already on the verge of becoming the largest pencil manufacturer in the world. The first colored pencils were introduced by a German company named Faber-Castell in 1817. Today, colored pencils remain popular. These pencils are largely sold to artists, fashion designers, graphic designers, and advertisers, but they are also marketed to college students, along with families with young kids.

Chapter 8 : History of Colored Pencils - Types and Facts

Colored pencil art can easily rival paintings in luminosity and depth of color! As you can see from my colored pencil art that lines the left and right columns of this page, colored pencils can be used to create artwork in a variety of styles, such as photorealism, abstraction, whimsical, and composite (combination of styles).

History of Colored Pencils Invention and History of Colored Pencils Colored Pencils are pencils that have a core of colored pigment and protective casing made of wood. While standard pencils have a core of graphite and clay, a core of most of the colored pencils is made of wax, pigments, additives, and binding agents. Other colored pencils oil-based, water-soluble and some are even mechanical. An Early History of colored pencils is not too well documented. It is known that Ancient Greeks used wax-based crayons and Pliny the Elder recorded that Romans also used colored crayons based on wax. Staedtler, German company owned by Johann Sebastian Staedtler invented colored oil pastel pencil in Production of colored pencils for art purposes started in early 20th century. Berol started making its color pencils in Other manufacturers that also made color pencils during the late 30s and early 40s were Derwent, Progresso, Lyra Rembrandt, and Blick Studio. Few manufacturers claim that they invented the first art watercolor pencil. There are different types of color pencils depending on their intended use. Artist-grade pencils have higher concentrations of high-quality pigments than student-grade colored pencils. Student and scholastic grade color pencils are of lower quality than artistic ones. Mechanical colored pencils are basically colored lead refill for standard mechanical pencils. They are produced in much narrower range than standard colored pencils but still they exist. Watercolor pencils or water-soluble pencils are pencils that can behave as watercolors if treated with damp brushes. They can also be used dry and then work as standard colored pencils. The first method is used to blend colors together. If used by themselves, colored pencils are used in two techniques - layering and burnishing. Layering is technique usually used at the beginning of drawing. Its idea is to use primary colors in layers and with that to get different tones. Burnishing is done on layers and for that is used a colorless blender or a light-colored pencil. The result is a shiny surface of blended colors. History of colored pencils in not long and it is a bit fuzzy at places but that does not make all the different colored pencils any less fascinating as historical objects and as an art medium.

Chapter 9 : Prismacolor Colored Pencils and Sets - BLICK art materials

The Prismacolor Premier set (about 47\$ per pencil) is a little more expensive than the third set, Prismacolor's Scholar Colored Pencils (roughly 41\$ per pencil), but we think the extra couple of dollars is a worthwhile investment in a higher-quality drawing experience.