

Basic Conte Crayon Drawing Techniques

Dark to Light- Using your conte crayon, try pressing lighter and harder to vary the how dark and light your marks appear. *In the box below, create a value scale that goes from darkest to lightest.*

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Creating the Illusion of Texture- Make different kinds of marks in each box to suggest different natural surfaces. Make both rough (with some paper showing through) and softly blended marks. *Notice the differences between boxes. What do these textures remind you of?*

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Draw with your eraser- Color an entire page black-don't leave any blank white spots. Think of a simple object that you would like to draw. Take your eraser and erase out the outline of the object. Think about your object and start finding the areas that are lightest-take your eraser and erase those areas out. Apply less and less pressure as you go out of the lighted area. Now, take your finger and rub those areas. That blends the gradient and makes it more realistic. Erase the black background-take your eraser and erase everything besides the object. Then take the charcoal and fill in the outline that used to be white. Make the outline thin.