

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT WATERCOLOUR PENCIL: COMPARISON CHART

	BASE	CORE SIZE & SHAPE	COLOUR RANGE	TEXTURE	LIGHT FASTNESS	VEGAN	BLENDING	ERASING	COLOUR Intensity	LAYERING	POINT STRENGTH
DERWENT INKTENSE Create vibrant, permanent washes of colour on paper, fabric and more.	Wax	4mm Round	71 + 1 non water soluble outliner	Firm	88%	✓	★★★ Good	★ Poor	★★★★ Excellent	★★★★ Excellent	★★★ Very Good
DERWENT WATERCOLOUR Subtle colours that reproduce the feel of traditional watercolour paint.	Wax	3.5mm Hexagonal	72	Soft	49%	✓	★★★ Very Good	★★ Moderate	★★★ Good	★★★ Good	★★★ Good
CARAN D'ACHE MUSEUM AQUARELLE Professional grade pencil with exceptionally high pigmentation.	Wax	3.8mm Hexagonal	76	Smooth	92%	* *	★★★ Very Good	★★ Moderate	**** Excellent	* * * * * Excellent	**** Excellent

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CARAN D'ACHE SUPRACOLOR Intermediate grade pencil with a soft core for easy application.	Wax	3.8mm Hexagonal	120	Soft	95%	√	★★★ Very Good	★ Poor	★★★ Very Good	★★★ Very Good	★★★ Good
CARAN D'ACHE PRISMALO Hobby grade watercolour pencil with a firm nib great for precision work.	Wax	2.95mm Hexagonal	80	Firm	83%	√	*** Very Good	★ Poor	★★★ Good	★★★ Good	★★★ Very Good
FABER-CASTELL ALBRECHT DURER Professional pencil with smooth application and high pigmentation.	Wax	3.8mm Hexagonal	120	Smooth	92%	√	* * * * * Excellent	★★ Moderate	* * * * * Excellent	**** Excellent	★★★ Very Good
FABER-CASTELL ALBRECHT DURER MAGNUS Same professional performance but with a chunkier colour strip.	Wax	5.3mm Hexagonal	30	Soft	100%	✓	**** Excellent	★★★ Good	* * * * * Excellent	**** Excellent	★★★ Good
FABER-CASTELL GOLDFABER AQUA Hobby grade pencil that offers great colour for the price.	Wax	3.3mm Hexagonal	48	Soft	N/A [†]	✓	*** Good	★★★ Good	★★★ Very Good	★★★ Good	★★★ Very Good

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WINSOR & NEWTON STUDIO WATERCOLOUR Smooth textured, soft pencil for easy colour laydown and dilution.	Wax	3.8mm Round	48	Smooth	56%	✓	**** Excellent	★★ Moderate	*** Very Good	*** Very Good	**** Excellent

All pencils are rated for Lightfastness using the Blue Wool Scale (ISO 105) or ASTM D-6901. Lightfastness Percentage is calculated from the percentage of colours rated Very Good (6 ISO 105 / I, II ASTM D-6901) or Excellent (7, 8 ISO 105 / I, II ASTM D-6901) in each pencil range. Lightfast colours remain the same for 100 years under museum conditions.

Measurements are given for core sizes, but these can vary up to 10%. Layering performance is rated over 12 layers of colour

^{*} Caran d'Ache Museum Aquarelle Watercolour Pencils Non-Vegan Colours: Brown Ochre, Light Blue and Light Malachite Green.

[†] Faber-Castell Goldfaber Aqua Watercolour Pencils are hobby grade pencils so colours aren't individually rated for lightfastness, although the range as a whole is considered to have good lightfastness.