

DERWENT

DRAWN TO PERFECTION

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

Creating a portrait on white cartridge paper

DERWENT ARTISTS BLACK AND WHITE
BY DAVID SANDELL

Select an Artists Black pencil which best complements your paper colour or subject in this case I used Raven Black 8120. The black colours from the Artists Black and White 6 Tin are ideal for drawings where you wish to show the high contrast of white against deep blacks.



STEP 1

With the Raven Black 8120 pencil lightly draw the basic shape of the marble bust indicating the shape of the shoulder armour and side of the head, paying attention to mark the position of the darkest areas.

Then faintly indicate the areas of the half tones where the Raven Black 8120 will be about 50% or less. The basic structure and accuracy of the drawing should be clear at this point. Step back and check your faint drawing for accuracy before progressing with detailed shading.



STEP 2

The next stage is about building a faint version of the whole drawing working up the darks and halftones with shading in whichever direction suits you (e.g. from upper right to lower left in this example); this is best achieved by holding the pencil lightly between forefinger and thumb and stroking at a shallow angle to control coverage of maximum area with the Raven Black 8120 pencil.

When shading try and ensure that you retain defined edges between light and dark particularly around the focal points. This will also help create dimension and form to your drawing.



STEP 3

If you wish you could soften the areas of half tone by blending with a paper stub or similar to create a subtle gradation to render the marble surface.

As the light from daylight has a cool hue, for these cool tones, using the Midnight Black 8100, define the graduated cool mid tones produced by daylight from the left, then start to build up the darkest dark with the same pencil (e.g. corner of mouth, nostril and eye recess) without pressing too hard onto the paper. Keeping in mind that the white of the paper defines the lightest parts of the image (e.g. the side of the neck, ear and hair).

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Creating a portrait on black cartridge paper

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Select an Artists white pencil which best complements your paper colour or subject, in this case I used Pure White 8020 as I am drawing on black cartridge paper.



STEP 1

Holding your Pure White 8020 pencil very lightly, faintly indicate the principal shapes such as the profile edges of the neck and shoulder; the outline of the ear etc.

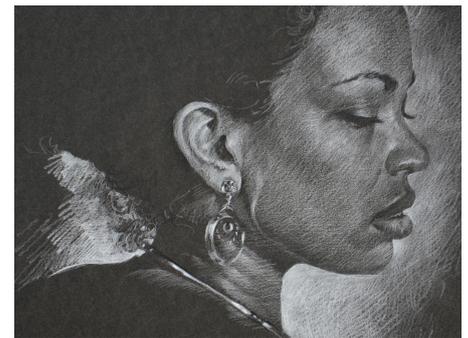
Once you have a basic drawing, again faintly indicate where the highlights are with Pure White.



STEP 2

Step back and check your drawing, then start developing the half tone areas with cross hatching using Pure White 8020. (i.e. the areas which appear 50% strength of the lightest areas). This is best achieved hold the pencil lightly and stroking at a shallow angle to cover maximum area.

When shading try and ensure that you retain defined edges between light and dark particularly around the focal point. This will also help create dimension and form to your drawing.



STEP 3

If you wish you could use a paper stub or similar to blend these areas to achieve a graduation between mid tones and the rest of your drawing. At any stage you can introduce the other White tints, in this case Oyster White 8010 for warm flesh tones. This can also be enhanced with accents of the Artists pencil range, colours listed below such as Artists Madder Carmine and Pink Madder Lake. As the light from daylight has a cool hue, for these cool flesh tones you could use the Arctic White 8000 and add accents of an Artists colour such as Light Violet and French Grey.

Keeping a keen eye on the accuracy of your drawing, start to build up the lightest areas with Pure White 8020. (e.g. highlight on the nostril, ear etc.) without pressing too hard onto the paper. Keeping in mind that the black of the paper defines the darkest parts of the image (e.g. eyelashes, hair etc.).