

Papers for Colored Pencils

Here are some suggested papers to use with Colored Pencils. Even though I have listed my favorites, I encourage you to do your own experimenting! There are many different papers out there so this list is definitely not complete!

- The paper suggestions presented here are for traditional wax-based colored pencils such as **Tombow Irojiten Colored Pencils** and **Tombow Recycled Colored Pencils**.
- Choose an 'acid-free' or 'PH Neutral' paper for a lasting piece that will not yellow or go brittle over time.
- Choose a paper that is compatible with your style. For example, if you like to blend with the Colorless Dual Brush Pen, or erase and blend with the Tombow Sand Eraser, you will need a paper that will hold up to these techniques.
- The tooth of a paper is important when choosing a paper. You want a medium tooth that accepts layers of color, but not too rough as it will eat up your pencils faster. A very smooth, slick surface will not accept multiple layers of color. Generally, a 'hot press' paper has a smooth surface with little tooth, and a 'cold press' paper has rougher texture with medium to heavy tooth.

Classic Fine Arts Papers

These papers are high quality and designed for more detailed color pencil drawings that can take layers of color, blending pencils and blending markers. They have a smooth surface with just the right amount of 'tooth' that accepts multiple layers and techniques beautifully.



Stonehenge from Legion Paper - 100% cotton, PH Neutral. Comes in a variety of classic colors such as black, white, warm white, tan, grey and cream. This paper is what many professional color pencil artists use.

1557 Drawing paper from Canson - A 90 lb., medium tooth paper that is beautiful for color pencil work and stands up to multiple color layers, blending and erasing.

Colored Pencil Paper from Strathmore - 100 lb., medium tooth surface designed especially for colored pencils. This new paper comes in a clean white color and stands up to color layers and erasing.

Colored Papers



Mi Tientes from Canson - many colors to choose from when you want a colored paper to work on. (Butterfly sample)

Decorative Scrapbook papers - Many have too slick of a surface to work on, but some have a nice tooth so you can use them for different effects. (Rosebud sample)

Explore other drawing and watercolor papers to discover what work best for you! Many times I use a 90 lb., smooth watercolor paper for smaller drawings and even work on wooden canvases (Parrot sample) with success!

