



FABER-CASTELL  
*since 1761*

# Polychromos Artists' Colour Pencils



Finest Artists' Quality · Made in Germany

# Sustainable commitment

## Carbon-neutral production

Faber-Castell's forests in Prata, Southeast Brazil, absorb 900,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), according to a scientific study by TÜV-Rheinland in 2012. The 10,000 hectare forestry project not only secures stocks of sustainable wood but also protects the environment through photosynthesis, which converts the CO<sub>2</sub> into biomass. The pine trees and forests in Prata, one third of which have been left untouched, therefore neutralise the climate-relevant carbon footprint of Faber-Castell's global production facilities. Large parts of the forests have become a habitat for rare species of animals and plants, a respectful interaction with nature is key for Faber-Castell.



Carbon Neutral  
Regular  
Surveillance  
Corporate Carbon  
Footprint

www.tuv.com  
ID 000040930



Wood from certified sustainable forestry is the most important raw material for the Faber-Castell product range.



The Faber-Castell Group is working worldwide to reduce plastics or replace them with recycled materials.



Every product contains valuable raw materials. To extend their usability, many products can be refilled.



Further information can be found on our sustainability website:  
<https://www.faber-castell.com/corporate/sustainability>

## Faber-Castell stands for quality

Faber-Castell is one of the world's leading manufacturers and marketers of quality products for writing, drawing and creative design – the brand name is world-famous. In the core area of woodcased pencils, the group is the most important and oldest manufacturer in the world with a production capacity of more than two billion pencils and coloured pencils.

Its Art & Graphic range allows Faber-Castell to enjoy a great reputation among artists and hobby painters. Prestigious creative minds have recognised this expertise since time immemorial – from Vincent van Gogh to Karl Lagerfeld. High quality artists' pigments ensure light resistance and thus brilliance and colour intensity for decades. All products are based on the same colour system, enabling reliable mixing techniques of artists' pencils, whether water-soluble or indelible.



# *Artists' colour pencils*

## Polychromos

The term “Polychromos” derives from the Greek words ‘poly’ (many) and ‘chroma’ (colour). The 120 colours in the Polychromos product range and their infinite variations of mixed colours really make it live up to its Greek name.

Launched on the market in 1908, artists all over the world have been relying on the excellent quality of Polychromos artists’ colour pencils for more than 100 years. High-quality materials provide the highest break resistance, unmatched light resistance, excellent colour brilliance, wiping and water resistance and an optimal paintability.

Polychromos artists’ colour pencils are available individually and in colour-balanced box assortments.





# *The paper*

## Choosing the right paper

The choice of drawing paper depends on the artist's intention and drawing style. Various ranges of grain sizes and textures influence the brushstroke and thus the desired character of the picture.

High-quality drawing papers are usually characterised by a higher grammage and first-class raw material composition, which provide for the best usage properties, good ageing resistance and erasability.

Hot-pressed papers are very smooth, produce clearly defined strokes and homogeneous colour areas and are suitable for detailed, precise drawings.

Cold-pressed papers have fine to coarse-grained surfaces, break up lines and areas and give the drawing a looser brushstroke.

Colourful and particularly dark papers emphasise the luminosity of the Polychromos artists' colour pencil. Polychromos artists' colour pencils stick on drawing, water colour and pastel papers and on rough surfaces, like cardboard, wood, stone, leather and brushed metal.



## Holding the pencil

### **Holding the pencil**

As with handwriting, how you hold the pencil influences individual line handling. Hold the pencil nearer the tip, and you can draw more exactly and with more detail. Or hold the shaft more loosely to get sketch-like strokes better.



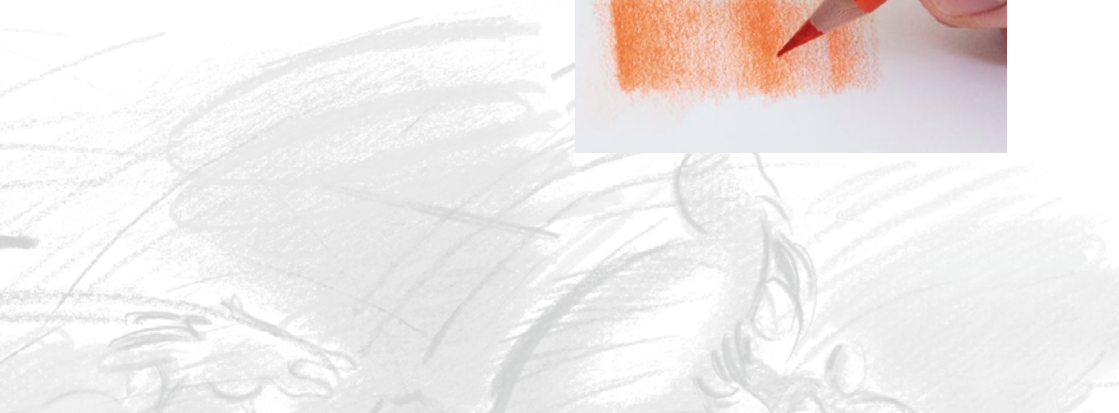
### **Angle of inclination**

The angle of inclination when drawing determines whether a stroke will be narrow or wide. A steep angle creates a clearly defined line, while a flat angle provides wider lines up to a colour area. Particularly large areas can be created quickly by shading. To do this, the angle of inclination of the colour pencil has to be extremely flat.



### **Varying pressure**

Fine, wide, light or dark lines: just one color pencil can produce different lines by varying pressure intensity.



# Colour wheel

## Brighten and darken colours

Colours can be brightened up with a white or light colour pencil.

As for darkening a colour, not just black or grey can be used, but also the respective complementary colour. Complementary colours are opposite each other on the wheel of colour. The layering of complementary colours creates broken or grey colour mixtures.



Tip:  
Complementary colours put next to each other enhance each other's colour effect. So, for example, orange makes blue shine when placed next to it.







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# Mixing colours

## Light colours are transparent, dark colours are opaque

By overlapping and compacting colours, you can create a variety of colour nuances. Layering light and dark colours increases the brightness and vitality of the colour.

Depending on the order in which the colours are overlapped, various mixed colours can be produced. Thus, yellow over blue produces something different than blue over yellow.

Colour gradients can be created by increasing the pressure during drawing, by covering a colour with a white or light colour pencil, or by lightening specific areas with an eraser pencil.



phthalo blue 110 on cadmium yellow 107



cadmium yellow 107 on phthalo blue 110





# Techniques

## Hatchings

Seen from a distance, hatchings merge visually into colour areas. The closer the lines are to each other, the more intense and dark the colour effect is.

### Parallel hatchings

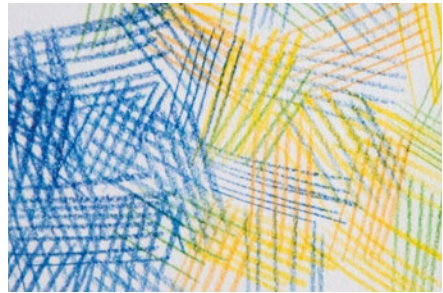
In parallel hatching, the strokes run in the same direction. Stroke length and distance vary the optical result. Overlapping and compacting influences the tonal value and mixed tones.

### Cross hatchings

For cross hatching, hatchings are overlapped at different angles. Various mixed tones and shadings define the thickness, colour and chromacity of the cross hatchings.

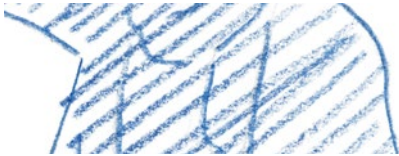
### Formative hatchings

Formative hatchings take on the individual contour of the object; i.e. the lines run parallel to it.

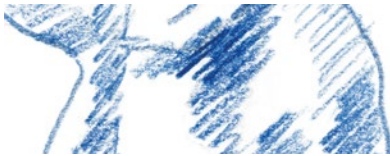


## Hatchings give a different effect

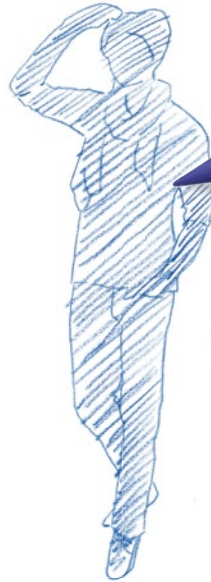
An aligned hatching with long strokes laid over the object results in a smooth look without depth.



Short strokes in the same direction create light and shaded areas through overlapping, and give the object vividness.



Hatchings in the same direction with a heavy overlap provide stark contrasts, but the detail is less precise.



# Techniques

## Textures and pattern

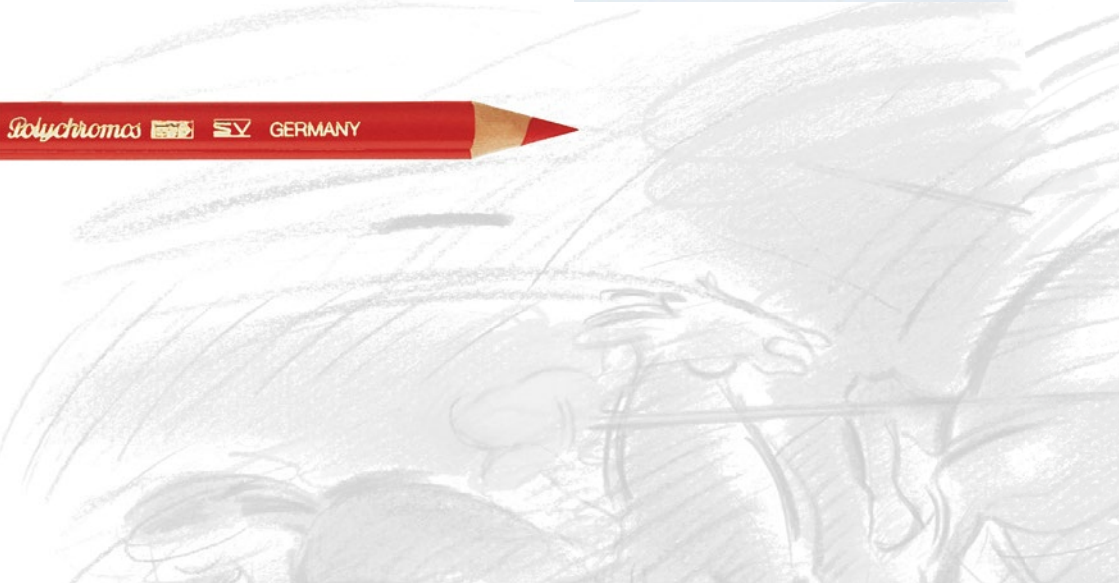
### **Frottage**

In frottage, the texture of a material underneath the paper is used. When drawing, the texture pushes through the paper. Textured materials include wood, grained glass plates, metal plates and rough textiles, to name just a few.



### **Sgraffito**

Known to many people from utilisation with oil pastels, Sgraffito is also an interesting alternative with colour pencils. In this technique, two colours are first laid on top of each other. Then, using a knife, you carefully scratch out lines and areas from the top layer.



## Break new ground

### Paper edges and stencils

It is worth making use of paper for drawing textures. Stubble fields, grasses or abstract textures can be created with short lines going over the edge of the paper.



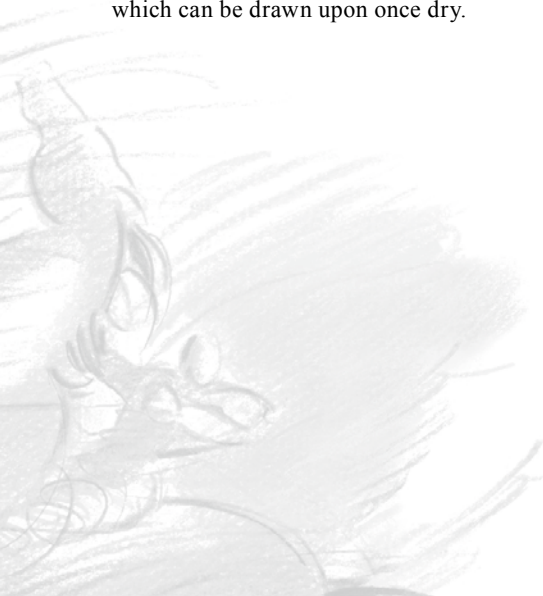
### Embossed paper

Embossing paper is a charming technique. Random textures or exact contours can be embossed onto the paper surface with a suitable embossing pen or a blunt needle before you start drawing. Then, when you start drawing, the deeper lines in the paper are not touched by the drawing.



### Paint colours

Polychromos colours can be dissolved with paraffin oil (baby oil) and used for painting. This creates extravagant backgrounds which can be drawn upon once dry.



# Tools

## Tools used stylishly

Tools can also be used specifically as a stylistic means: colour which has already been applied can, for example, be removed from the sheet with an eraser. This allows you to create white space or less intensive colour areas.

A knife, sandpaper board or scalpel can be used to precisely place colour pigment on a drawing which can then be effectively rubbed in with a blending stump or your finger. This technique is ideal for fashioning textures or larger colour areas with little effort.







# Mixed media

## Combining is fun

Colour pencil drawings can be very effectively combined with artist's ink or watercolour pencils.

The lightfast India ink pen Pitt Artist Pen is perfect for preparatory drawing or for setting clear lines and accents on drawings.

The Albrecht Dürer artists' watercolour pencils create watercolour painted substrates and give the drawing which is placed on top an expressive character.

The various degrees of hardness of the Castell 9000 pencils can easily be combined with the Polychromos artists' colour pencils.





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# Accessories

## Useful tools in Faber-Castell quality

Perfect sharpening with the metal sharpener or with the double hole sharpener with container



Handmade multipurpose knife for finest graphical corrections and sharpening artists' pencils



Sleeve eraser and dust-free eraser removes pencil and colour lines cleanly



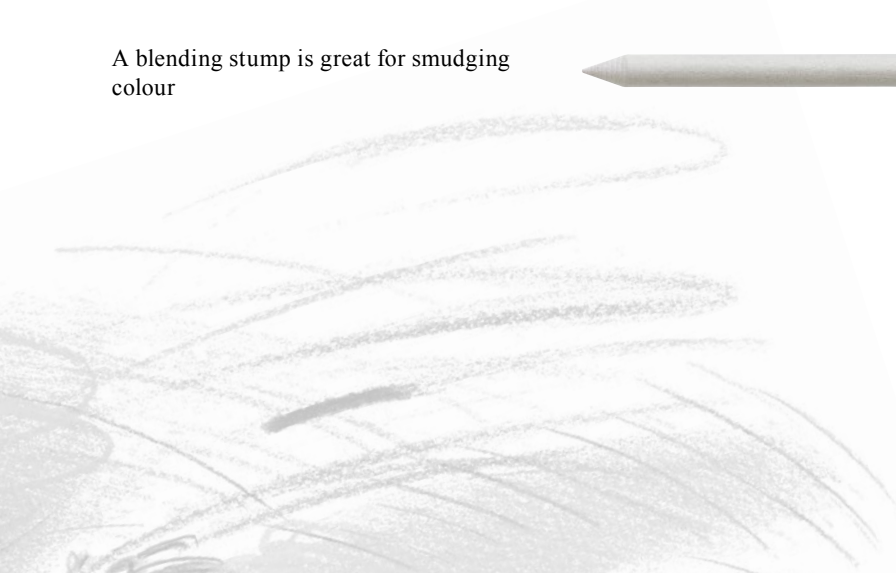
Pencil with rubber for rubbing out and brightening up colours



Sandpaper board: one fine and one coarse-grained paper stripe for producing pigment powder



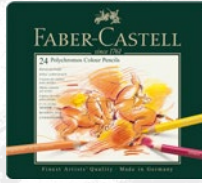
A blending stump is great for smudging colour



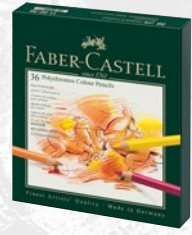
## Assortment



11 00 12 (12 colours)



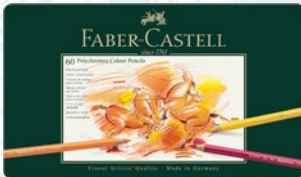
11 00 24 (24 colours)



11 00 38 (36 colours)



11 00 36 (36 colours)



11 00 60 (60 colours)



11 00 11 (120 colours)



11 00 06  
(48 colours)



11 00 72 (72 colours)



11 00 13 (120 colours)



## The colour number system

Faber-Castell uses a standard colour number system for its Art & Graphic products. For example, a particular colour of a Polychromos artists' colour pencil can easily be used with the same colour Albrecht Dürer pencil, Pitt Artist Pen or the Polychromos pastel.



Polychromos artists' colour pencil  
deep scarlet red -219



Albrecht Dürer artists' watercolour pencil  
deep scarlet red -219



Polychromos artists' pastel  
deep scarlet red -219



Pitt pastel pencil  
deep scarlet red -219



Pitt Artist Pen  
deep scarlet red -219