



Drawing birds with biro pen(Beginner)

Ever wanted to try drawing a bird but have limited art supplies? All you need for this project is a pen and printer paper. You will learn how to use an easy transfer technique used by some artists to draw up their artwork and how to use 4 elements of shading- highlight, light tone, mid tone and darkest tone (or shadows) to create a 3D drawing.

Materials

Biro pen

2B pencil

Paper eg piece of printer paper , newspaper etc

Eraser

A4 photocopy of an animal or bird(search google or take a photo of your pet or use an image from a newspaper/ magazine

Step 1

Drawing up the Image



Turn your photocopy image over and cover the page with shading by rubbing the pencil back and forward.



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Tape down your photocopy to your paper and trace around the image including the eye, beak and wing etc



Pull up the tape on the bottom to check if your image has transferred. If you have missed anything, place tape back down and draw over that area.



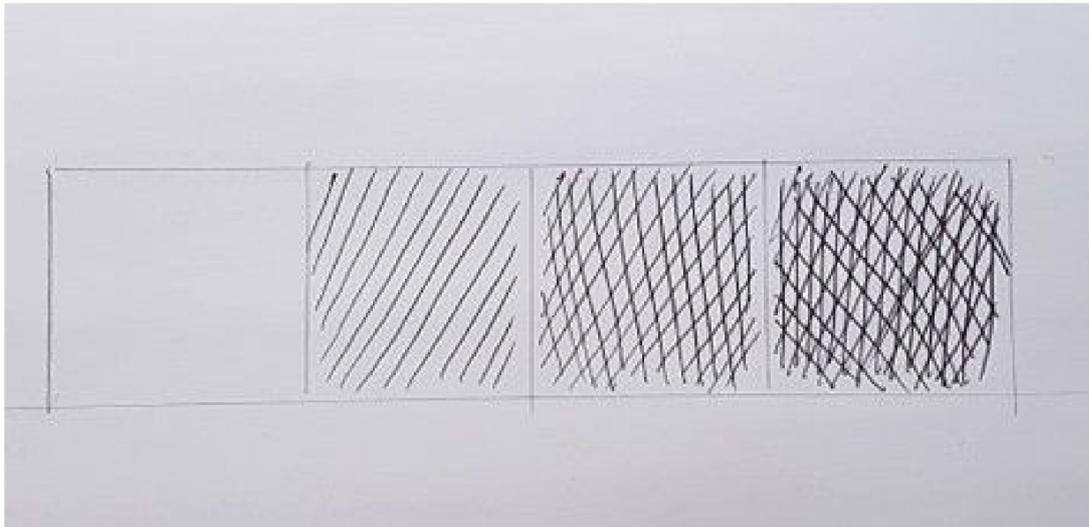
You should have a line drawing(or map) of your image. Make any adjustments by checking your reference image.



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Step 2- Tonal values



1)white(highlight) 2)hatching(light tone) 3)cross hatching(mid tone) 4) Multi hatching(Dark)
Most drawings have at least 4 or more tonal values. The white of the paper can be left for the highlights. Hatching is used for the next tonal value which is still light . Cross hatching is used for the next mid tone. Lastly, Multi hatching is used to create the darkest tones.

Step 2 Tonal values- added by hatching



Add a contour line around your bird but it should not be a continuous line but rather a broken series of lines, varying strokes and pressure in the direction of the feathers.
Leave the highlights, the white of the paper and add hatched lines in areas that are light to dark tones. Your pen lines should be in the direction of the feather growth.



Step 2 mid tone cross hatching

Add cross hatching to the areas that are a mid tone by changing the direction of your strokes. Be aware of the direction of the light source



Step 3 Dark tones and shadows- multi hatching

Add multi directional hatching to the darkest areas eg Beak, wing, shadow underneath the belly and on legs. The legs and claws are like cylinders. Bring the hatching curved lines around the legs and claws to build form.



Step 4 Add more layers of lines to build shadows. Suggest feathers in areas as you do not need to draw every individual feather. You are building up a sense of volume and texture.



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When you think you are finished try another image or draw from life.

Here are a few more examples. You can add coloured pencils, highlighters or textas to your drawing or draw on different collaged surfaces such as newspapers, cards, old tickets or envelopes. Or go outside and get some vitamin D and try drawing a flower from your garden or a landscape etc.

Most of all, have fun!!!!



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