In the Style of REALISM

Artists using the realistic style attempt to recreate an image exactly as it exists in the world around us. Often the image is made of scenes or moments from everyday life. Still-life images of flowers, portraits and landscapes are often portrayed in the realistic style. The realistic style was popular in the 19th century and can be seen in the artwork of Jacques-Louis David or Gustave Courbet, and in the American artists of the Hudson River School.

To create realistic drawings, try using Crayola® coloured pencils and using different tonal values. Begin your drawing by carefully observing the subject matter that you intend to draw. Sketch with short, pencil-like lines first so you can erase and refine as you go. You could also trace existing photographs first and then add colour enhancements later to get a realistic look.

In the Style of IMPRESSIONISM

This style of art was created in the late 1800s by a group of French artists living in Paris. The impressionistic style was the artists’ attempt to capture the effects of light as it appeared on the forms of nature. The artists used individual brush strokes of contrasting colours so that their paintings seemed to shimmer or vibrate with light, and they tried to recreate the multicoloured effects of the sky and the sea. Some famous Impressionist painters you could look up to learn more are Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Edgar Degas.

Try using Crayola® watercolour-coloured pencils to make an impressionistic image. The blending of the colours when water is applied will give you the “blurry” or “shimmering” look of an impressionistic painting. Also try layering colours and building up unique textures in the surface of your artwork to show the effects of light and shadow.

There’s More Than One Way to Create a Picture.

In the Style of CUBISM

Cubist artists of the early 20th century worked to represent several views of their subject in one artwork. Cubism was a radical art form during its time because artists broke the rules of realistic painting and created flat, geometrical shapes and presented fragmented, angular views on the canvas. You can see the influence of cubism in today’s graphic design, advertising and modern architecture. You can learn more about cubism by looking at the art of the great Spanish painter Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque.

You might want to start with a ruler to achieve the straight lines and right angles that are found in cubist-style artwork. Plan out your artwork carefully, creating the shapes first and then filling them in with colour and design. Use the tip of your Crayola® marker to get sharp-edged lines of the cubist style and then a variety of shades to show the different shapes.

In the Style of SURREALISM

Surrealism, simply put, means “beyond realism.” It is another radical art style from the early to mid 20th century in which artists created surprising images and new visual ideas that were not found in the real world. Surrealistic artwork is often inspired by dreams or the artist’s imaginings, and the images can amaze or astound. Popular Surrealist artists include Rene Magritte, Salvador Dali and Joan Miro.

Surrealistic images are thought out and planned by the artist long before they’re drawn on the page. Take some time to imagine an image in a surprising location or sketch an image you remember from a dream. You might write down your idea first, then develop your sketchbook and, finally, begin your artwork. Since surrealism is extremely personal, you should pick out your own favourite Crayola® products to create a surrealistic artwork.

The Power of Creativity

It starts here.