

Learn to draw your favourite animal.

Ready to draw your favourite animal?

We've collaborated with Melbourne-based illustrator Ashley Ronning to share her tips for perfecting your furry friend.

If you're starting out, use the practice sheets from the in-store class and follow her simple tips:

- Start with basic shapes to draw all kinds of subjects, including people, buildings and plants – almost anything! Making sure you have the shapes and proportions right at the beginning of your drawing creates a strong foundation.
- Graphite pencils vary in hardness, from very hard and light 9H to very soft and dark 9B. HB pencils are right in the middle – soft enough to see what you are drawing but light enough to erase easily. Choose a pencil that suits the work you are doing.
- If you are having trouble drawing a circle freehand, use a round object like a glass or bowl and trace around it. Use a ruler if you're not confident with straight lines. You can even use another pencil as a small ruler if you don't have a ruler on hand.
- Outlining your work with a fineliner gives it a professional, neat finish. Fineliner tips come in various widths, from less than a millimetre to a few millimetres. Practise with a variety of sizes to find a size that suits your style.
- Wait a minute before you erase the pencil from underneath your fineliner so you don't smudge the lines. The fineliner ink will remain wet for a few moments, but won't take long to dry.
- Once you've had practice drawing your animal from one side, try some other angles. Draw the animal from the front, side-on, from the back, even from above if you're feeling confident.
- Animals often have really interesting colours on their fur, feathers or skin. You may want to try blending different coloured pencils to get the colour and shading just right.
- A large part of successful drawing is observation. Make sure you take in as much detail as possible with your eyes and translate that information onto the paper.



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Find everything you need to get started.



- A. Faber-Castell Graphite Sketch Set FA1811400
- B. Derwent Academy 24 Pack Coloured Pencils AC2301938
- C. Staedtler 10 Pack Triplus Fineliners ST334SB10
- D. Canson 25 Sheet 220gsm A4 Drawing Pad CA10683284
- E. Staedtler Triplus 0.3mm Fineliners Available in assorted colours. ST3349BK



Inspired by the work of Ashley Ronning.

Ashley Ronning is a Melbourne-based illustrator. After studying graphic design, Ashley found her way into freelance design, set dressing and prop making, and now spends her time in her studio illustrating and risograph printing.

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