

# Sketching Tips & Tricks for Beginners

with

**Cheryl Knowles-Harrigan**

(cknowles@atlantic.edu - always put “student” in  
subject line!)

Visit and “like” my Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Ckharts>

**Website: ckharts.com**

This is a workshop to gain speed,  
confidence, and techniques in different  
media, when sketching from observation  
or planning a sustained work of art!

*“Sketching is the most  
beneficial act of brevity in art!” – Cheryl KH*

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# **Glossary**

**Achromatic** – Black, white and gray (lacking any color).

**Bimorphic** – Relating natural forms to simple geometric shapes.

**Chiaroscuro** – In drawing and painting the use of light and dark to create the illusion of three dimensional forms on a 2-dimensional surface.

**Composition** – The organization of objects or the formal elements (line, shape, color, value, texture, space) in a work of art. (The thumbnail is a small version of a compositional sketch.)

**Ellipses** – any circular form of an object that becomes compressed due to perspective (oval shaped).

**Gestural Drawing** – A loose, spontaneous drawing in line that explores the spirit of what you see. Fast!

**Grayscale** – Lights and darks made from black and white.

**Hatching** – Parallel lines that when placed closely together darken in value.

**Crosshatching** – lines that move perpendicular to that form.

**Light Source** – The direction of the light, which is critical to the direction and length of shadows.

**Local Color** – The natural color of an object.

**Observational Drawing** – Drawing strictly from observation. (No pictures of 2 dimensional references.)

**Picture plane** – The actual surface (flat) on which the art occurs.

**Rendering** – Creating a drawing that is highly refined and very representational.

**Rule of Thirds** – Based on the Golden Section, the division of the picture plane to find ideal areas for a focal point.

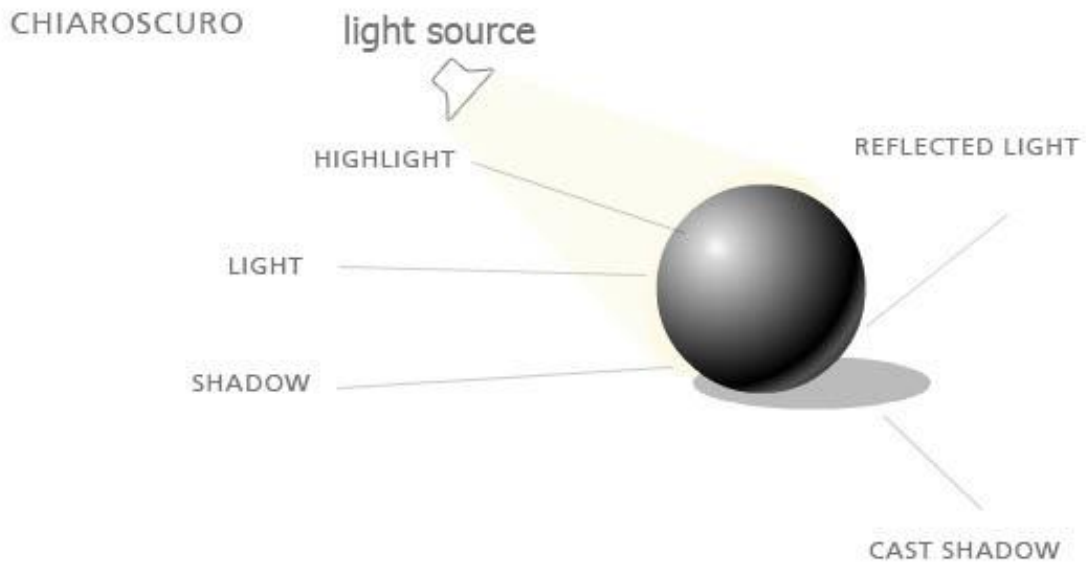
**Two dimensional** – A flat plane surface.

**Three dimensional** – A form that has mass, width, volume and depth. It occupies space.

**Value Pattern** – A pattern of lights and darks that relates directly to the source of light.

**Value** – Light and darks in a work of art.

**Wash Drawing** – any pigment that is diluted and brushed to create a value in a drawing in liquid form.



## **Materials**

**Pencils (types to consider)** – B's soft (the higher the number the softer the pencil) and H's hard (use rarely, score the paper – the higher the number the harder the graphite)

**Pen and Ink** – Best crow quill; to “cheat” Uniball waterproof marker

**Plastic Eraser** – A white, hard, eraser that will not damage paper.

**Pink Erasers** – Very bad. Should be outlawed.

**Brushes** – Round (round and come to a point, details), Flat (flat and good for large washes) and Filberts, (rounded corners, not sure what they are good for.)

**Watercolors** – Tubes are best, good pans of good quality are easier to use. Example: Yreka brand pan watercolors (always moist, intense but many are opaque) Limited palette – blue and brown

**Paper** – Papers vary greatly. For sketching 90 pounds or better is best. The higher the pound the better the paper (usually). Best watercolor paper is Arches (recommended is 140 cold press).

**Sketchbooks** – Consider a good quality sketchbook. If you are going to always use wet media consider getting sketchbook with Arches watercolor paper. I recommend Chanson XL Mixed Media for sketching – very durable.

### **Itinerary\*:**

- Preliminary drawing (no instruction)
- Sketching overview and types of sketchbooks
- Negative space drawing – positive and negative
- Making the most of gesture - getting to the spine!
- Geometric Shapes and the context of value
- Value and Value patterns
- Ellipses and how to measure their success
- Rendering and scumble
- How far can a ball point pen get me?
- Wash Drawing
- Composition tips and tricks – Thumbnails (if time)
- Wash drawing in tones
- Limited palette and washes with pencil under drawing
- Figures in notation in watercolor
- Discussion
  - \*subject to change due to time constraints of needs of participants.

## **Places to Get Your Art Stuff**

Ratings: 1-5 dogs (5 dogs = best "overall" rating) 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

### ***Cheap Joes Art Stuff***

1-800-227-2788

[www.cheapjoes.com](http://www.cheapjoes.com)

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Shop the sales. Shipping can be expensive. Usually very, very nice too!  
Sign up for email promotions.

### ***Daniel Smith***

Sales: (800) 426-6740

[www.danielsmith.com](http://www.danielsmith.com)

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Good products, well stocked. Watch for sales.  
Sign up for email promotions. Great for pigments - that is their new focus!

### ***Dick Black***

1330 Chestnut St in Philadelphia

[www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

(215) 545-3214

Rating: Have not been there.

Advice: Have shopped through the catalogue. Compare prices! They seem to have EVERYTHING! Like using their Website due to bulk rates and availability being updated.

### ***Jerry's Artarama***

[www.jerrysartarama.com/](http://www.jerrysartarama.com/)

**800-827-8478**

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶 🐶

Advice: Shop the sales. Shipping can be cheap if you shop the sales. Usually very, very helpful! Sign up for email promotions to take the most advantage of their discounts. My personal favorite online vendor for watercolor AND oil and anything drawing.

### ***Utrecht Art Supply is now owned by Dick Blick***

[www.UtrechtArt.com](http://www.UtrechtArt.com)

215-546-7798

Rating: 🐶 🐶 🐶 Great for beginning oil and acrylic painters!  
I would not purchase their gesso or acrylics once selling work.