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Drawing Trees

[Image: The cover of a book titled "Drawing Trees" showing a tree drawing.]
Synopsis

In this book, William F. Powell invites you into his artistic world as he shows you how to render a variety of beautiful trees in pencil. The author explains a number of basic drawing techniques before exploring basic tree shapes and leaf types. As you learn how to draw branches, bark, and ground foliage, step by step, you'll also discover important tips about shading, creating textures, setting up compositions, and applying perspective—helping you develop your own tree drawings to their fullest potential. Helpful examples and essential information make this comprehensive guide a valuable addition to any artist’s drawing library!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Of the two "how to draw trees" I purchased, this book is superior. I thought it might be rather generic, because it's part of a series of dozens of drawing books, yet it turns out to be rather useful, especially for the beginner. The author starts out with the usual information about supplies and equipment, how to make different marks for shading and making textures, then a page about values (light and dark), one about "trees in perspective", and another showing how to manage trees within the composition. It is good that the author does touch on this important topic, but the student or artist will need more information and practice than one page, so a book about drawing landscapes, such as Jack Hamm's "Drawing Scenery..." will be beneficial to complete the process. Mr. Powell shows you how to make quick sketches or notes, then to begin drawing a tree with simple shapes, and follows up with four pages about shapes of specific trees. These are not elaborate drawings, but very useful for general knowledge and as a starting point for further study. There are two pages
about bough and foliage shapes. Again, these are simple drawings, not elaborate, finished ones. A scant six line drawings of leaves are found, four of which are types of maple. Too bad there are not more leaf studies, along with stems and the floral and seed aspects. Powell shows how to draw trunks, roots, branches, boughs, and foliage at the base of the trees. He does not draw the individual leaves growing on the trees, but rather demonstrates how to "suggest" foliage en masse with pencil marks, which is something I wanted to learn how to do anyway. Overall, the simplified drawings within this book are effective, though less so for those of tree roots.

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