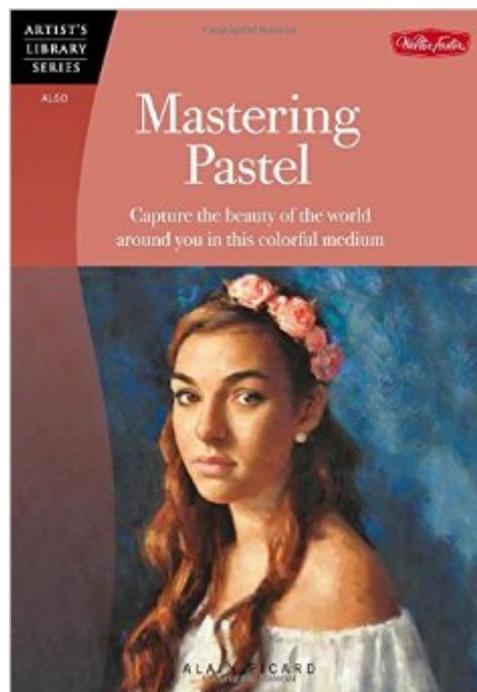


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# Mastering Pastel: Capture The Beauty Of The World Around You In This Colorful Medium (Artist's Library)



## Synopsis

In this new addition to the Artist's Library series, talented master artist, Alain Picard, guides the reader through an exploration of this unique medium and its myriad uses. After an introduction to tools and materials, readers will learn how to use various pastel techniques, including hatching, crosshatching, and stippling, to create depth and dimension in their artwork. Readers will also find basic information on color theory and how to use color to elicit emotion, portray mood or time of day, and suggest depth and distance. Throughout the course of the book, aspiring pastel artists will learn how to use soft and hard pastels to achieve art that is bold and intense or delicate and soft. Easy step-by-step lessons cover a variety of subject matter, including landscapes, portraits, and still lifes. Artist tips and tricks demonstrate how to blend and layer colors and create reflection, shadow, and soft and hard edges. With its breadth of professional instruction and variety of subjects to paint, *Mastering Pastel* is the perfect resource to start building artist proficiency in this enthralling and versatile medium.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

In very compact form, Alain Picard distills years of experience in clear approachable language with lots of helpful tips. Any artist looking to up their pastel game should check out this book, which packs a tremendous amount of information into its relatively brief space. Picard starts with an all-encompassing introduction to the medium, which will bring the beginner up to speed as simply as possible without being overwhelming. The section on pastel techniques, covering everything from

stroke direction to pressure to blending effects is the most specific and helpful that I have seen anywhere. Throughout the book, Picard excels at combining specific, clear explanations with images to illustrate his points. Mastering Pastel also has a lot to offer the more experienced artist: useful observations, hard-won tips and interesting approaches appear on every page. Following the beginning section, the book consists of a series of step by step demonstrations of one lovely painting after another: portrait, still life, landscape, using a variety of underpainting techniques (watercolor, toned paper, dark, etc.) Each demo is valuable not just for the developing progress with each image, but for the artistic journey the artist shares as he creates each painting. Picard takes us through his plans, improvisations, assessments and corrections as he moves through the painting process. As an experienced painter, this look into the creative process of another artist was most interesting to me.

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