

BONNY SNOWDON FINE ART

Pet Portrait & Equine Artist

coloured pencil hints and tips **dog noses**

Dog noses - daunting, challenging, all the detail! Well actually once you get the idea in your head that you're drawing shapes, and that you don't have to draw every single tiny little detail, then they are far less challenging.



As with everything, ensuring you have the right shape and angles is key. Measure, measure and measure again - because it's now that you want to be able to correct anything if you need to.



I start with a basic outline of the nose, putting in all the dark areas like the nostrils and any dark creases. I'll then add in the highlights gently, using light pressure. I'm not going into any detail at all just yet, just adding values.



I don't draw every single little lump and bump, but I find using small circles on the top of the nose helps to create that texture really nicely.



Once all the basic tonal values are in, I'll then start to increase the intensity. Really dark darks, and again using small circles and adding sketchy marks I can create the texture of the dogs nose without having to add loads of details.



I find using pablos really useful combined with polychromos for noses. They are softer and blend really nicely.



Even though this is a black nose, there is still colour - either from a reflection or just the pigment. Adding in the subtle colour in between layers of the darker colours helps to give a realistic feel to the finished drawing.



Keep increasing the intensity of the darkest colours - using blacks, greys, dark blues.



Once you have a few layers down it's easier to start adding in details and to blend the colours together.



Using small circles with the darker colour - black in this case, I pull out a few of the highlight areas on the top of the nose - less is more really, if you tried to pick out every little detail it would just be too much



Using a sharp white pencil - polychromos is a good one at this stage as you won't be layering over the top of it, enhance any of the highlight areas. Using pastelmat you can go light over dark which is a huge advantage.



Increase the intensity of some of the highlights on the top of the nose with a sharp white polychromos. Don't go over board though...



Final edits to the highlights



Final edits to the dark areas, sharpen up details like the crease in the middle of the nose, the nostrils and any dark areas around the nose.

