

# Soft Pastel Project by Ajay's Art ©

## Your will need:

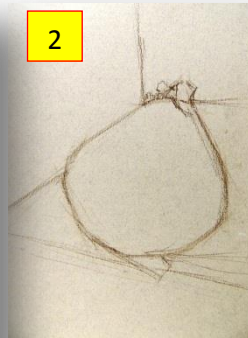
Pastel Set, 4 x A4 Fabriano  
Tiziano Pastel Paper, Sepia  
Conté Stick and Spray Fixative



Picture:  
I placed a very handsome onion into a box and moved the box until I had a pleasing image, light coming from the left side, casting the right into darker shades. You may also use artificial light.



1. Drawing:  
Take your time and draw light!! Start by using SINGLE and ANGLED strokes with your conté crayon and sketch the outline of the onion.



2. Refinement:

Be sure that your onion is not too wide or too tall. If you make mistakes, use your putty eraser to erase and redo some lines until you are satisfied.

Add extra details, like the onions' top end, extra skin pieces as well as the background proportions. Shape all these areas by curving lines where necessary.

3. Tone:

Observe your onion – Squint your eyes and establish the darks in their respective shapes, then DRAW those shapes in enclosed forms. Now loosely fill in those dark shades with your conté stick with some shading. Then smudge then into your paper. NOTE – Do not rush unless your last name is Da Vinci.



4. Open your box of pastels and select the colours that you want to use – I chose black, white, purple, red, light blue, dark blue, brown and grey.
5. Start by adding pastels to your darkest areas as indicated. I used blue, purple and black and a little red.
6. Add the rest of the colours in purple and reds. Then lightly blend your colours and re-apply detail and definition.
7. Start defining your lighter areas with light blue and add the highlight in white.



8. Add more DRAMA. More dark, more light, more contrast. **DON'T OVERBLEND!!** Focus on details like the top, and the outer skin pieces and roots. Drag the finer detail instead of blending them.
9. Start colouring the background with blue, brown and grey and shape the shadow areas as shown by blending carefully.
10. Recheck your lights and darks and definitions. Neaten everything.
11. Spray your artwork with fixative like you would use hairspray for your hair, but not too close, about 30 cm away from the pastel. Spray horizontally, wait 30 seconds then spray vertically.

