

Product Review: Staedtler Double-hole Tub Pencil Sharpener

by Jan Jones

I recently “bit the bullet” and ordered a set of Caran d’Ache Luminance pencils. For those of you who aren’t familiar with them, they are top of the line colored pencils and they don’t come cheap (I paid \$4.09 per pencil on sale). The first thing I discovered when I used them is that they don’t fit into my favorite new electric sharpener because they are too big. **###!!@#!.

Thus began my search for a manual sharpener which I figured would remove less of my expensive pencils each time I sharpened them. Here is a photo of my new collection of manual sharpeners.....



My favorite of these for the Luminance pencils is the Staedtler. Although the point it makes isn’t as long as what I usually prefer for Prismacolor pencils, it works well for me with Luminance. I also think the sharpener is well-designed. It has two sharpening holes, so it will also sharpen regular size pencils. I like the fact that it has a cover for the holes that fits snugly on the side of the sharpener when it is open and closes easily when you want to carry it to workshop and not leave a mess in your carrier. The shavings container removes easily to empty and is easy to reattach. If you knew how frequently I have difficulty with things like that, you would realize that it is very well-engineered. I’m surprised that I don’t feel slowed down by using a manual sharpener but, it could be that I don’t need to sharpen the Luminance pencils as frequently as Prismacolor. I also enjoy the quiet! You don’t need to rush out and buy the Staedtler sharpener, but if you have Luminance pencils, it’s worth a try.

