

## 2025 Holiday Card Step by Step Instructions

Transfer outline onto cardstock or drawing paper using graphite transfer paper. Outline and card are 4x6. Use half sheet of card stock or paper. Fold the card in half so you know where the front of the card is! You can make the bird fit on the paper as either landscape or portrait orientation. NOTE THAT YOU DRAW ONLY ON WHAT WILL BE THE FRONT OF THE CARD!! Note that the outline is slightly larger than cardstock. Don't transfer extra outline to back of card!

Make a transfer sandwich, with cardstock taped to board, then graphite paper with dark side down, then outline lightly taped on top. Use a red pen to outline (and to keep track of your work). Remove graphite transfer paper and outline. Save for later use.

EYE: We always recommend starting with the eyes first! Use Indigo 935 and/or Black 901 but leave small white highlight(s) to make eye look rounded.

Extend the Black OR 90% Grey behind the eye and in front towards its beak.

BEAK: Note that the top of the beak is light—use one of your light greys 1060 Then Black or 90% grey on rest of beak. Add some feathery strokes on shoulder. Like a necklace

BACK FEATHERS: Use Black or 90% Grey and/or Indigo to indicate feathers using linear strokes. Leave white horizontal stripes. Note that the feathers extend down below the branch. Add White 938 to horizontal stripes. HEAD and CHEST and BELLY: Base light layer of Yellow 916 and/or Yellowed Orange 1002 on head and chest feathers.

(And scumble Cream 914 on belly area.)

Then add Orange 918 and a good layer of Poppy Red 922 to head and chest. Crimson Red 924 and Carmine Red 926 in feathery/random strokes. Finally, add some Tuscan Red 937 for dimension to the feathers, and under beak.

BELLY: If didn't do it earlier, scumble Cream 914 on belly area. Add some Light grey 1060 or even True Blue 903 (or Blue Slate) to the underside of his belly and to differentiate it from background. (Keep in mind your background may be this blue too) Use feathery /linear/random strokes.

WINGS again: And some Orange 918 and Yellowed Orange 1002 to indicate feathers alongside wings. Top with Poppy Red.

Use Cream or White to blend the colors on bird if you want! Avoid Black wings.

LEAVES: Chartreuse 989 base layer on all leaves, Grass Green 909 as mid-value, and Dark Green 908 for dark values/shadows and veins.

BERRIES: Leave a light highlight on each berry. Orange base layer, then Crimson and/or Carmine Reds, with Tuscan Red on bottom of each berry as shadow. And as a small dot on each berry. Add white 938 to highlights. BRANCH: Use the two browns 941 and 946 to create the branches. Can add Black as well for dimension.

BACKGROUND: The backgrounds on all of the examples are stylized! You can see them as stars or snow or garland. I don't recommend using the Metallic Silver as it does not photocopy well...too light. Sparkles are NOT provided!



True Blue background for sky (linear horizontal), then circles and random lines in Blue Indigo or Dark Grey.



\*For the red-orange bird, you will need:  
Black 935 or 90% Cool Grey 1067 or 90% Warm Grey 1058  
Blue Indigo 901  
A light gray such as 20% Cool Grey 1060  
Orange 918  
Canary Yellow 916  
Yellowed Orange 1002  
Crimson Red 924  
Carmine Red 926  
Poppy Red 922  
Tuscan Red 937  
Cream 914  
White 938  
Colorless blender (any brand)

\*Leaves, Branch and Berries:  
Chartreuse 989  
Grass Green 909  
Dark Green 908  
*Crimson Red 924*  
*Tuscan Red 937*  
*White 938*  
Dark Brown 946  
*Black 935*  
Light Umber 941  
\*Background/Snow or Stars  
True Blue 903  
*Indigo Blue 901 or 90% Cool Grey 1067*  
(Please note that Metallic Silver does NOT photocopy well! It is too light.)