

## About Icarus Boards

There is another method for blending your colored pencil layers besides the ones we all know: layering multiple colors, colorless blender, burnishing with a similar color, blending with cotton pads, blending with odorless mineral spirits and even blending with Vaseline.

The Icarus Drawing Board was invented by Ester Roi. It is a heated drawing board made in the United States and can be used with wax-based mediums like colored pencils, crayons, and pastels. The board has a warm zone that can reach 100-120°F. The Icarus board can be used with a variety of papers and boards. It can be secured vertically on an easel or used horizontally on a desk. The drawing board has a warm zone and a cool zone. When colored pencils are used in a warm zone, the waxy core becomes warm and softer. This allows easier blending, mixing, and covering larger areas more quickly. When the drawing is moved to the cool zone, the pencil medium returns to its original hardness.

Icarus drawing boards are available commercially for between \$370 and \$420. This is financially out of reach for most colored pencil artists. However, if you own a heating pad with a temperature controller, you can try the technique easily.

You can try these steps to make your own heated drawing board: Use a heated pad that can reach 100-120°F (38-49°C). Place a piece of thin plexiglass on top of the heated pad. Place your usual paper or board medium on the plexiglass and enjoy layering multiple colors on a heated surface! Be aware that you will use the pencil medium more quickly.

### Icarus Drawing Board

Two Models to choose from!

