

## Black Outlines

An outlined drawing pattern with black outlines around shapes is your assignment, should NOT be filled in, colored in, with the black outline lines left in place.

WHY?

Because if you color, blend, layer the image with colored pencils, and LEAVE the black outlines, thinking this will define the shapes and show the image ....it is just like

“Coloring in a Coloring Book” ! The image is flat, no “dimensional Form”.....yes....i knew that.....but if people just color inside those lines, using them as a border to separate color then it is a coloring book assignment.

When you begin your colored pencil work, it is a drawing outline that you begin with ....then you blend, layers and develop the values to create the "line" areas-- which was put there with a pencil outline to let you know where the edges of the shapes are. Interpreting the outline edges as a shaded area, is what a "painter" does. A Painter does not add paint inside the lines and leave it as a black outline. (yes, of course modern artists, cartoonists, French Fauvism) use thick black outlines in their painting as a specific style) however, this is a colored pencil organization trying to maintain its painting artist status which is different than coloring in a coloring book. Therefore, I disagree with keeping the black outline on the Christmas card.

Think of this as a drawing of a still life. The statue of a Gnome is the subject, just as an apple or orange, then you "paint" it like any other still life with layers, blending and shading the value of light/dark and contrast. I feel that this is an important discussion for this CPPG group that is teaching new members about using this tool/medium working it as a painter. There are no black lines for edges in real life. That is how an artist "sees" their world and that is how a painter interprets their world, thru light and dark color shading.

If I was painting this subject, I would not use a lot of colors for the color "red" but, I would add the darker red on the edges of the hat, and lighter in the middle, and perhaps add some orange to change up the lighted side which I would have to select because there is no light or dark on the pencil outline. That is what artists do. They solve problems of light and dark. Where is the shading going to be to make the object rounded and not flat like a paper doll? By the way, there only needs to be a small area of darker color on the hat and not going all down the side. Another

way to think about this is if the subject was a Snowman. Of course, the drawing would be outlined in black pencil, but you would not make a black outline on your colored pencil card.

I just wanted to have people realize that making a painting means to follow the color, shape, values, form, and all the Art Elements whether it is a card or not. By keeping it to only two or three different colors, you are painting. You need to include changes of light as the Gnome is standing on the table, to make him appear dimensional.

Over the years, I have heard many people who see the colored pencil say "oh that is like coloring book pictures" and no - it is not.