

## Burnish vs. Layering vs Turpinoid vs. Colorless Blender

Do you know the difference between Burnish vs. Layering vs Turpinoid vs. Colorless Blender?

These various types of “medium” are often used with colored pencil art work to create specific effects to the pencil colors. The basic effect is to “compress” the many layers of pencil you have added, and to make the pencil coloring “Darker” or “Brighter color”.

Depending on which effect you might want - you will choose which of these to use.

**BURNISH** = means to push the pigment of color into the paper to create a more solid “Opaque” color the looks more like acrylic paint. It is good for shiny, glossy objects.

Colored Pencils uses a light layering techniques to build a surface that has areas of paper showing to create a soft textured appearance. For a darker appearance you begin with the same layering process to build up a good amount of pencil. The more layers, the darker the color will appear. After you have completed all of the layers of color in the area, then use the final color to burnish all of the others by adding pressure as you color. This will push the layers down into the tooth of the paper surface, blending them all together. This burnishing technique will make a “glossy” appearance as well as the “darker/brighter” color. You can add more pencil on top of a burnished you should start with a light color and then resume your layering (I use white to make a “clean” beginning then continue my layers to correct my final color appearance)

To experiment with **burnishing** - try making a small oval for a purple grape. This has a glossy look so good for burnishing. Add yellow, light blues, purples to build several layers. Then use the purple pencil or red pencil to push a bit firmer, pressing the colors together. After, if you want more the white highlight -add it on top of the burnishing.

**TURPENOID** = a colorless, odorless, **liquid oil** that dissolves the wax pencils.

Any oil-based liquid will compress your wax pencil layers and make the colors appear brighter and darker. **GAMSOL** is less expensive but does the same. Also good to use is Baby oil, Mineral Spirits, or Vaseline to help spread the color. It will leave a stain on the paper but gone after fully dried. The drying process takes 24 hours at least but you can still work your colored pencils in the oil when not dry completely. You can also dip the tip of the pencil into this oil to color an area darker, but you need to **wipe** the tip with a cloth to remove the oil otherwise it will continue to eat you pencil! You can use a makeup foam triangle to blend or a paint brush to spread the coloring around a larger area to cover the surface. Q-tips work or use your fingers to dip!

**COLORLESS BLENDER** = a clear, gray solid oil that is inside the pencil.

This pencil has Turpinoid oil medium in a **solid form** and will have the same effects as the oil mediums listed above.

- Compress the layers as in burnishing.
- 2. Brighten colors by adding oil

The colorless pencil is best used in **small areas** with a circle/oval motion. **DO NOT** use this pencil by coloring back and forth because it will leave lines in the wax, If you were to have a large area that required a dark, shiny appearance - this colorless blender would leave large streaks of the darker color and not have a smoother look. Try experimenting with the added oils to see the effects!