

Do You Know — Peter Kushner

Stippling is a colored pencil technique for creating light and dark areas using dots. Shadows can be created by drawing a large number of dots close together. Lighter areas will have fewer dots further apart to show the underlying painting. Stippling is the creation of a pattern simulating varying degrees of solidity or shading by using many small dots. Such a pattern may occur in nature such as the pebbled look of an elephant's skin, the wings of a bird, butterfly or dragonfly, or the small facial hairs of a jungle cat. A colored pencil painting may be created using nothing but stippling as shown in the dragonfly painting above. It may be used to augment other drawing techniques as shown in the painting below:



The size of the dots may be varied depending upon the angle of the pencil, and the dullness or sharpness of the pencil. Using a nice sharp tip will give a very small dot whereas a duller or angled pencil will give a slightly bigger or tapered dot. The stippling dots are made by jabbing the surface with the pencil tip. Try not to tear the

surface with too vigorous strikes. Note that a very sharp tip will be broken if too much force is used. Also be aware that continuous pounding of your pencil against the surface will tend to have a negative impact upon your surrounding artists. When using this technique it is best to constantly apologize for the rhythmic banging!

