



DERWENT

DRAWN TO PERFECTION

TEN TOP TIPS USING PASTEL PENCILS

by Carole Massey

TEN TOP TIPS:

- 1 Use the side of the pencil for broader areas of colour and the tip for drawing and detailed work.
- 2 To blend pastels you can use a paper stump, a rubber shaper or your finger.
- 3 Blend several similar colours together to enhance or heighten a colour e.g. two or three blues or greens.
- 4 Apply diagonal lines (hatching and cross hatching) of pure colour without blending, this also helps prevent colours becoming 'muddy'.
- 5 Always work with sharp pencils. Use a pastel pencil sharpener or sharpening stand and craft knife to sharpen and a sandpaper block to hone the tip to a fine point.
- 6 Hatch large areas with one colour to create an overall harmony or to bring several areas together.
- 7 Create interest by varying the marks you make. Use both smooth blended areas as well as directional hatching marks.
- 8 Follow the maxim 'light against dark, dark against light' to increase tonal contrast and bring life to your drawings.
- 9 Dab with a kneadable eraser to remove excess pastel or shape it to a point to lift out highlights.
- 10 White is more effective used directly on the paper, not over other layers of pastel.

