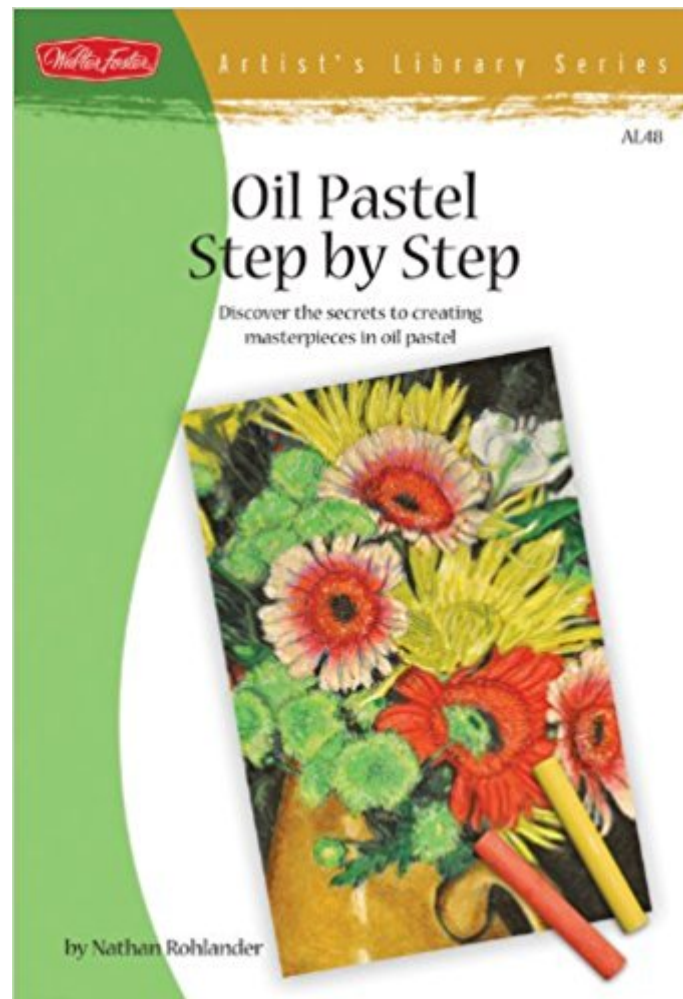


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# Oil Pastel Step By Step: Discover The Secrets To Creating Masterpieces In Oil Pastel (Artist's Library)



## Synopsis

This comprehensive, 64-page book offers in-depth instruction on creating vibrant paintings with the often overlooked but versatile medium, oil pastel. A relatively new fine-art medium, oil pastel is inexpensive and may be used directly in dry form with minimal setup and easy clean up, so beginners can get started right away! The book opens with a thorough introduction to basic oil pastel tools and techniques. Then, artist-author Nathan Rohlander shows aspiring artists how to render a wide range of subjectsâfrom flowers and animals to landscapes and portraitsâwith simple, step-by-step demonstrations and stunning illustrations.

## Book Information

Series: Artist's Library

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Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂÂ See all reviewsÂ (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #339,276 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Arts &

Photography > Drawing > Pastel

## Customer Reviews

This is a short but welcomed addition to an almost non-existent literature on this medium. Unlike most "How-to" publications Mr Rohlander dispenses with pages on materials, brands, color charts, etc. and gets right to the process of making marks. From a very limited palette he walks the reader through his process of drawing, layering and blending. He includes a variety of subject matter which I found to be refreshing. The author's style is grounded in good drawing technique. Along with this I was inspired mostly by the the author's direct methods, choice of subject matter and choice of a simple palette using oil pastels that are readily available and reasonably priced. My only regret is that the book wasn't much longer but I guess that was a limitation of the Walter Foster series itself.

I hadn't drawn since art school, 28 years ago when I decided to give it a go again. This book provided the basics in getting acquainted with oil pastel. I was surprised at how nice my oil pastel

drawings looked while just beginning to use them. This book was very helpful.

I have most of the available texts on oil pastel painting and I think this very useful. There is not a great deal of space devoted to what oil pastel is and specific techniques, but you can find that information easily online. What is useful is the step by step progressions of paintings including a seascape, portrait and glass bottles. I would not follow all the procedures mentioned and have other approaches that I use, but this is definitely valuable for those learning the medium. Not a complete guide but none of the books are.

I thought I was buying a basic book since I am novice but this is not a basic book and the step-by-step instructions and diagrams jump too quickly. If you already know how to use oil pastels, then this might work for you. It didn't work for me.

Nice small booklet with some decent instruction that anyone can use as a primer on oil pastels. If you know nothing about oil pastels, not a bad book to start with. Please note that it is only what I would call booklet length.

I guess I shouldn't blame the book for failing to make an artist out of someone who doesn't have even one gene for Art!! It just seemed to me that the information in the book was far too advanced for someone who had never picked up an oil pastel in her life. The reason I gave it 3 stars is that it didn't seem to be for brand new beginners.

As an introduction, I think this book is okay, and it shows what can be done with an art medium that many look down on (as they used to do with coloured pencil, and especially water-soluble pencil). This book does suggest some marks to make with oil pastels, but it doesn't give any advice for actually APPLYING the pastel. The author provides some examples of paintings that take you through his stages, in that you can see the paintings as they develop -- but he does not, and this is key -- share his actual PROCESS of creating them. This is a how-to book that should do more in terms of showing \*how\*, especially since oil pastels come in thick and clumsy sticks or rounds (I'm thinking in particular of Senneliers but Holbeins aren't much easier to create small areas of colour with). How does one achieve fine lines and precise detail with such a medium? It seems to me that this is absolutely essential, and the author doesn't address it. Where I also wish the editor had intervened is in the matter of defining categories. We are told that needed materials include 'matte

medium' and 'gesso'. I am not new to art and yet I don't know what either material is, how to use it, or how it is useful to the oil pastel artist. A brief discussion of each material, rather than a mere listing, would have been more helpful.

Good book for beginners and intermediate artists wanting to further explore the medium. Good pointers on technique, good instructions and illustrations.

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