

BONNY SNOWDON  
FINE ART

*Pet Portrait & Equine Artist*

# Shiny Hair

focus tutorial - coloured pencils on pastemat board



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PASTELMAT®



Clairefontaine

# Materials

## Photo Credit:

Pixabay

## Support

White Clairefontaine Pastelmat Board. If you're using the pastelmat sheet, try to find one that has a smoother softer surface as some sheets are quite gritty. You can use a smooth paper like a Bristol Vellum or Hot Press for this tutorial using the same techniques.

## Size

The size of the image I drew was around 2.5x4" so choose a piece of board that will fit that size. I like to use masking tape to tape off the area as it gives me a clean feel when I've finished and peel off the tape.

## Pencils\*

**Faber Castell Polychromos** White, Terracotta, Cinnamon, Burnt Sienna, Indian Red, Burnt Ochre, Caput Mortuum Violet

**Derwent Lightfast** Persian Orange, Flame, Raisin, Sandstone, Mars Violet, Mars Black, Flesh Pink

**Caran D'Ache Museum Aquarell:** White

## Other tools

Slice Manual Pen cutter, Kneadable Eraser

## Transferring your image

Honestly, I would create this focus freehand

## Introduction

This tutorial is all about layering really, and creating realistic looking highlights using mostly a kneadable eraser.

It's about using colour and looks at the relationships with certain colours - orange and purple work so well together.

It's also about patience - this small area took around 5 hours - which equates to 1/2 an hour per inch which isn't bad going!

## Clairefontaine Pastelmat

Pastelmat is fast becoming a very popular surface for coloured pencils. It's unique surface lends itself to multiple layers and it's ability to handle different techniques means it's incredibly versatile.

For this piece I've used polychromos and lightfast pencils, together with my kneadable eraser and a white museum aquarell. I've used the slice tool a tiny bit, but just for some really small areas.

## Pencils

I chose the polychromos purely for the colour and the way they can lay down quite an even layer of colour in the initial layers. I've chosen some lightfast colours as they were just perfect for this piece. If you don't have the lightfasts don't panic, just use the polychromos listed throughout.

## My Techniques

My techniques on pastelmat vary depending on what I'm drawing. For this piece it's all about the layers, but we're not creating hundreds of layers, we're starting slowly with light pressure and building up. I'm guessing maybe 20 layers total in places, 2/3 max in other areas.

I also do a lot of lifting out of pigment which helps to create lovely soft highlights - my aim is always for subtlety and lightness.