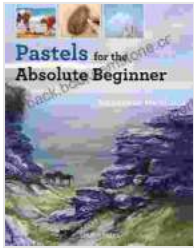# Pastels For The Absolute Beginner: A Comprehensive Guide For Beginners

Pastels for the Absolute Beginner (Absolute Beginner Craft) by Michael Wise

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 92659 KB
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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Print length	: 146 pages
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Pastels are a versatile and forgiving medium that can be used to create a wide range of effects, from soft and dreamy landscapes to bold and vibrant portraits. They're also relatively easy to learn, making them a great choice for beginners.

In this guide, we'll walk you through everything you need to know to get started with pastels, including choosing the right materials, creating basic shapes, and blending colors.

Choosing The Right Materials

The first step to getting started with pastels is choosing the right materials. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- **Type of pastel:** There are two main types of pastels: soft pastels and hard pastels. Soft pastels are more crumbly and blendable, while hard pastels are more durable and less likely to smudge. For beginners, soft pastels are a good choice.

- **Color:** Pastels come in a wide range of colors, so you can choose the ones that best suit your needs. If you're just starting out, it's a good idea to start with a basic set of colors that includes black, white, red, blue, yellow, and green.

- **Paper:** Pastels can be used on a variety of papers, but it's important to choose a paper that is smooth and has a slight tooth. This will help the pastels to adhere to the paper and prevent them from smudging.

Creating Basic Shapes

Once you have your materials, you can start creating basic shapes with pastels. Here are a few tips:
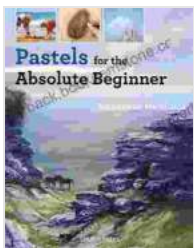
- **Start with simple shapes:** When you're first starting out, it's best to start with simple shapes like circles, squares, and triangles. This will help you to get a feel for the pastels and how they blend.

- **Use a light touch:** Pastels are very pigmented, so it's important to use a light touch when applying them to the paper. This will help you to avoid creating harsh lines or smudges.

- **Blend colors:** Pastels can be blended to create a variety of effects. To blend colors, simply overlap the pastels and use a light touch to blend them together.

Blending Colors

Blending colors is one of the most important techniques for creating realistic and beautiful pastel drawings. Here are a few tips for blending colors:

- **Use a light touch:** When blending colors, it's important to use a light touch to avoid smudging the pastels.

- **Overlap the pastels:** To blend colors, simply overlap the pastels and use a light touch to blend them together.

- **Use a blending tool:** You can also use a blending tool, such as a tortillon or a blending stump, to help you blend colors.

Pastels are a versatile and forgiving medium that can be used to create a wide range of effects. They're also relatively easy to learn, making them a great choice for beginners. With a little practice, you'll be able to create beautiful and realistic pastel drawings.
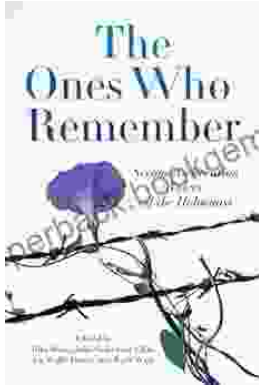
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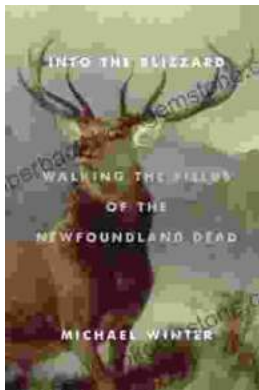
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