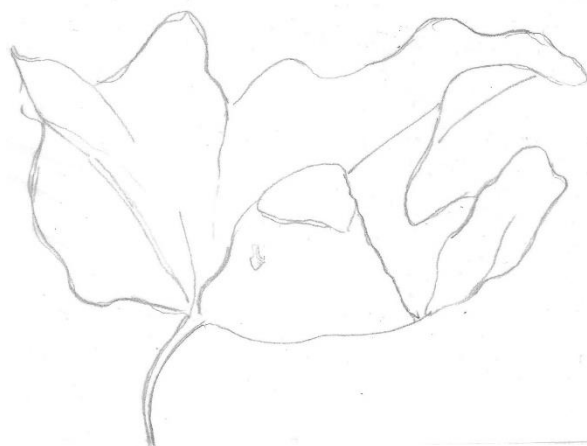


Working with Tone and Shadows

We need to shade object to create form (roundness) but sometimes it is hard to see the shadows, to find the darks and lights. Rather than practicing tonal strips, try toning a leaf or a flower or a tree this week. This work if done carefully and slowly can be very meditative. You may copy my leaf or choose a subject of your own. I had great fun doing my tea cozy.



Set up good left or right-hand light, no backlighting or straight on lighting. This leaf was actually done in very poor light with an overhead on the right with an H or HB pencil.

- ❖ Start with the largest general shadow forms that you see.
- ❖ See if you can find three general tones- medium shadow, a darker area, and an area with no shadow at all.
- ❖ Gently and slowly shade the medium and dark areas in, slowly building up the dark.
- ❖ Keep looking back and forth at your object or picture and your drawing paper.
- ❖ Start carving out shapes that you see.
- ❖ The more you look back and forth and the slower you go the more changes in tone and nuances you will see.
- ❖ Use your kneaded eraser when necessary to lighten.
- ❖ Think about how you would do this in color.



"Take care that the shadows and lights be united, or lost in each other; without any hard strokes or lines; as smoke loses itself in the air, so are your lights and shadows to pass from the one to the other, without any apparent separation."... Leonardo da Vinci