



Rose

Family: Rosaceae, Genus: Rosa,

❖ Drawing:

- Start by doing some quick loose sketches from different viewpoints. This helps to loosen up and get over the blank page problem.
- If you look at the rose from the side, you can see the **teacup shape**. Start with that cup and then add each new petal in relationship



to the previous ones.

- If you are looking at a fully open rose face-on, start by measuring and drawing an outer **circle or oval** the size of your rose. Start in the middle and work out from there again adding one petal at a time.
- Try to stay loose with your drawing and keep the gesture and delicacy of the flower. Roses can get stiff looking if you are not careful.
- Do not forget that your stem and petals must meet up with the center of the flower.

❖ Color:

- Remove off one petal to work on color.
- Roses often have a wonderful blend of different colors and shadings. Find two or more pencils that will make your rose (local) color. Then find a dark and a light. **Test your colors to make sure they work together in a pleasing way.**
- When doing the full rose, start by putting in your **darkest tones first** using a **light touch** and gently feathering out. Note how the veins define the shape of the petal.
- Add your local color(s) on top of the darks.
- Work back and forth to build up color and create form.
- Blend and burnish as you go with a blending brush.
- Clean up edges from the inside-out with a very sharp local color.



*"This little space which scented box encloses
Is blue with lupins and sweet with thyme
My garden all is overblown with roses
My spirit is all overblown with rhyme." ...Vita Sackville-West*