



Drawing Leaves and Berries, Rose Hips- Working with red and green

Rose Hips and Holly and the other berries of early winter, late fall give us the opportunity to work with a range of colors from bright reds, yellows, and oranges, to the green of leaves and the grays and browns of winter.

Toyon, also known as Christmas berry and California holly, provided food for local Native American tribes. Hawthorns along with many berries provide food and shelter for many species of birds and mammals, and the flowers are important for many nectar-feeding insects.

Leaves:

- ❖ Sketch or do a rubbing of one leaf to really understand the shape, edges, venation.
- ❖ Do some judicious pruning if necessary to simplify your drawing.
- ❖ Carefully measure when dealing with foreshortening.

Berries:

- ❖ Follow each branching and look at the way the berries connect to the branch.
- ❖ Keep white paper for the little highlight to show shine. Check the position of the highlight on each berry. It will not always be in the same place.
- ❖ Use several different pencils to vary the color of your berries and give life to your drawing.
- ❖ Try using your brightest or lightest color in the mix to polish your berries if they are shiny.

Stems:

- ❖ Use your reds and greens to create a lively brown for your stem. Get in all that nice detail.



Berries © Mary Woodin
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"Give me a spark of Nature's fire

That's all the learning I desire." ... Robert Burns (1759-1796)