

Supply List for Realistic Drawing for Beginners - Drawing from a Grid with Kato D

Paper – Hot press (smooth), acid-free drawing paper for pencils or cold press (rough) for watercolor, 140lb if you'd like to paint over your drawing. A sketchbook or even a piece of typing paper will work for practice drawing.

I'll be using Windsor & Newton Medium Grain 70lb Drawing Paper A4 (8.3 x11.7 inches)

Pencils – A range of pencils (H=Hard, B=Soft 2H, HB, 2B, 4B, 8B and 14B is what I have) I like to mix and match pencils of different brands so they're easy to tell them apart. (One could also mark them in some way with tape or paint for easy softness identification.) Minimally, just one H and one B pencil will do.

Kneaded Eraser – This is the best eraser and will not damage your paper, smear the pencil or leave marks on your paper. It also gets very small and pointy for lifting the graphite in a precise area.

Pencil Sharpener – A good one and a ziplock bag to keep it in. I know from experience, a graphite explosion is bad news!

Straight Edge – A triangle can be helpful or any ruler.

Frame with pre-cut mat (optional, being optimistic our drawings will be frame-worthy!) - I will demo with an 8x10 inch frame with a 5x7 mat opening.

Value Scale (optional but recommended) - helpful to have because values can be deceiving

Frog Tape - even the "low-tack" artist's tape has damaged the surface of my paper, especially if left on too long. I switched to yellow delicate surfaces Frog tape and have so far not had the surface of the paper damaged by the tape. There is always concern that any tape or stickiness compound left behind could discolor in the future so we just do the best we can.

Reference Image – I have a reference photo if you'd like to draw-along, but you can use your own photo. I purchased my reference from Dreamstime stock images with a commercial use license and thought after looking at many that it was not AI, but now I am not sure, looking at the back eye... It is best to use your own reference photo. I recommend printing the reference in black and white using a color laser printer for best range of grays. Use a poly-pocket page protector and a very fine sharpie marker if you want to use an actual photo and draw a grid but not damage your photo.

It is really helpful when starting out with grid drawing to have the squares on the reference be the same size as the squares on your paper. After some practice it becomes easier to envision the squares scaling up.

Template from a mat - will demo this so you can make your own in the future

Scissors - **optional** if you want to use the template I provide.

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