

Coloring Clothing

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The image is the Magnolia stamp #204 Skating Tilda. You can apply this lesson to any object you might want to color.

- Pick out patterned paper first (this is Imagination's "Snowy Jo" line and Doodlebug's glitter card stock).
- Pick Copic colors. You will find a link to Sharon Harnists Copic Color Chart in the Tutorial section. Color to correspond with the colors you have.
- Pick 3-4 colors to use for each part of the image. You will usually need a light, middle and darker tone most often but not always in the same color family. The color family refers to the letters BV is Blue Violet, RV is Red Violet and so on.
- Use these colors to make stripes onto a piece of scrap card stock (same type of card stock you are going to use for your image). Ensure they blend & look well together.
- Try to pick colors so they have a strong contrast to one another. If you use colors that are too similar (in most cases too close together in number like BG 01, BG 02 you won't get the effect you need to have your images "pop"? It is often trial and error but this is why it is important to test your colors first to figure out what works for you.



Sweater:

A) I chose 4 colors to use on her sweater; E07 Light Mahogany, R32 Peach, R20 Blush and R00 Pinkish White. I start with my darkest color E07 and color the shadowed areas and edges of her sweater. Remember my light source/sunlight is shining down towards her, so the center of her sweater and skirt will be lighter in the middle.



B) The next darkest color is R32; color over the E07 working out towards the center a bit. Remember to pay extra attention to the edges of the previous color; really saturate your paper each time and work in small circles, over the edges, to blend. Work quickly.



C) Use R20 to go over your previous coloring, moving towards the center just a little more; blend well.

D) Use R00 to color in the center of the sweater.

E) Color the complete sweater one last time, all over with the lightest marker R00. In this picture you can see the difference when the lightest marker R00 is colored and blended over the entire image. In A) you can see definite lines between the colors; now the edges are softened and blended together. You might want your image to be blended even more, but I like to have some

sharp contrast on my clothing.



Skirt:

1. I chose 3 colors for her skirt ; B00 Frost Blue, BG000 Pale Aqua and BG45 Again, I color the edges/shadowy areas of her skirt using my darkest color first BG45. I color the underside of her skirt more than once with this color to make it a little darker because this area would be very shadowed.
2. Use B00 to color over what you just did spreading out towards the middle. Leave the center section (highlighted area) the color of your paper, in this case white.



3. Use BG 000 to color entire area, saturating the paper to blend any harsh lines. It is a good idea to have another piece of paper beneath the one you are coloring on so you do not mark the surface underneath.



4. Color her mittens in the same way, using the same colors and add some color to the stitching of her sweater.
5. Extra detail; Use a white pen to add a dot to each cheek, draws attention to the face; add small white dots on her skirt for some extra pattern ; add a curving white line to side of sweater arm to highlight and indicate dimension.

I hope you enjoyed this tutorial today. I use these steps to color all of my images whether they are people or objects. The only change I make is where I want my light/sun to come from which depends on my mood or preference that day.

If you want more detailed information or different techniques with your Copics, make sure to visit the Copic Guru, Marianne Walker. Her Blog address is <http://www.ilikemarkers.blogspot.com>.

Suzanne

It is a good idea to stamp and color an extra image so you can keep it in a sketch book and note the colors you used. You will soon have a book full of favourite color combinations. It will also help you choose other colors you might feel you need. There are 322 Sketch Marker colors and 144 Ciao Markers. YG 41 in the Ciao Marker is the same ink YG 41 as in the Sketch set.