

# MOORES ART GALLERY & DESIGN

colored pencil artwork

by artist/designer

CAROL MOORE



## Colored Pencil Skin Tones

Beginner to Intermediate Level Colored Pencil Lesson

**A Step-by-Step Colored Pencil Lesson** by Colored Pencil Artist Carol Moore

Materials and Tools	Prismacolor Colored Pencils	Derwent Coloursofts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reference photo of an arm</li><li>8.0" x 11.0" Professional Grade Acid Free Drawing Paper</li><li>Electric Pencil Sharpener</li><li>Click Eraser</li><li>Makeup or drafting brush</li><li>Drawing pencil</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cream PC914</li><li>Peach PC939</li><li>Light Peach PC927</li><li>Mineral Orange PC1033</li><li>Deco Pink PC1014</li><li>Rosy Beige PC1019</li><li>Pink PC929</li><li>Clay Rose PC1017</li><li>Pink Rose PC1018</li><li>Seashell Pink PC1003</li><li>Burnt Ochre PC743</li><li>Greyed Lavender PC</li><li>Dark Brown PC946</li><li>Dark Umber PC947</li><li>Black PC935</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pale Peach C570</li><li>Soft Pink C170</li><li>Light Sand C580</li><li>Pale Brown C220</li><li>Mid Brown C600</li></ul>

### Reference Chart

#### *Point of Pencil*

Remember to keep your pencil points sharp throughout the lesson.

#### *Pressure*

The amount of pressure you apply, when applying your pencil strokes.

Light Pressure, Medium Pressure and Hard Pressure will be used in this lesson.

Pressure will be identified as light to hard layer or light to hard pressure.

#### *Layer*

A layer is applying one pencil color stroke after another using consistent even pressure, and then applying another layer of color over the top of that layer of color, until you have built up several layers of different colors.

## Tips\*

- \* To avoid getting debris and smudges on the surface of your paper, wipe the tips of your pencil with a cloth or tissue before applying color to the surface of the paper.
- \* Rotate your pencil around as you are applying the layers of color, it will help keep your strokes consistent and smooth.
- \* Keep the surface of your paper clean by wiping periodically with makeup brush or drafting brush.
- \* To hide or remove flecks or specks of color that appear on the surface of your paper, use cream or pale peach lightly over the spot or remove with q-tip.

Achieving realistic skin tones in colored pencil can be quite a challenge. Over the years, I have learned various techniques and methods from other colored pencil artists on how to achieve a realistic skin tone. My method combines colors from Prismacolors and Derwent Coloursofts palettes. Also, I tend to build my layers gradually, working from lightest colors to darkest colors.

### Step 1

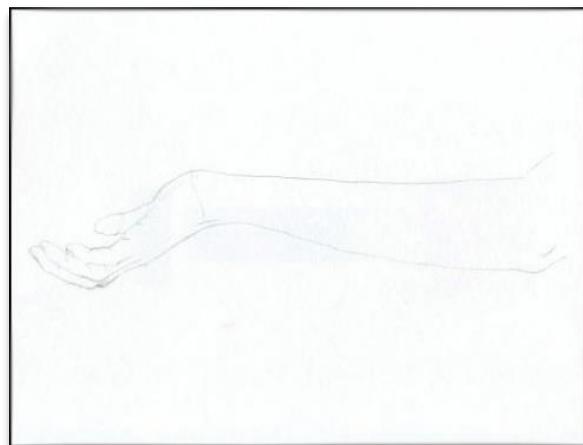
The first step is to select a reference photo of an arm. I am using a stock photo from WC Stock on DeviantArt



*Step 1 - Reference Photo*

### Step 2

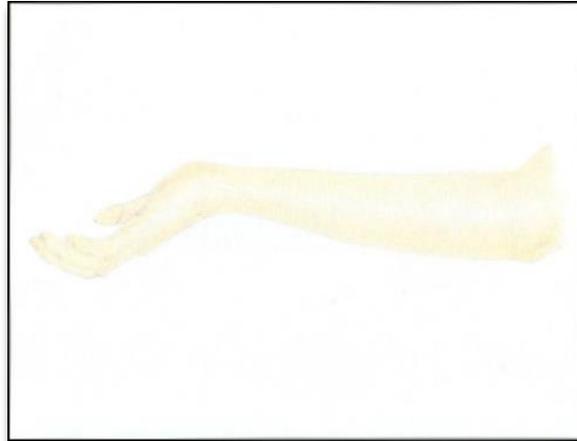
Start first by doing a light sketch of the arm reference. I made my sketch a little darker than normal, so the computer scan would capture the sketch lines. If you make the sketch lines too dark, you can go back and lighten the sketch lines with an eraser.



*Step 2 - Sketch*

### Step 3

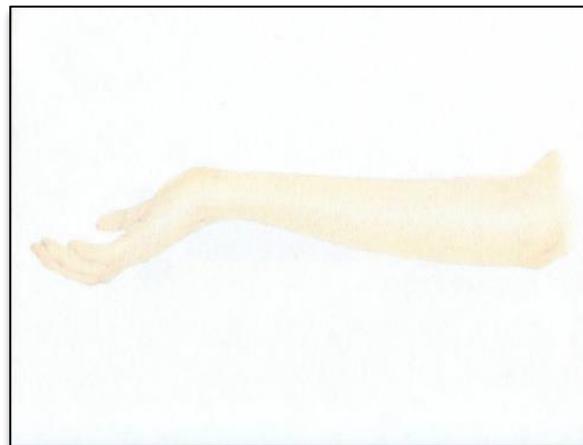
Next, apply a layer of **Prismacolor Cream** over the entire arm, using light to medium pressure. Use medium pressure in areas that are of darker value and light pressure in areas of lightest value. After that, using light to medium pressure, apply a layer of **Derwent Coloursoft Pale Peach** over the areas that have cream as a base color. Using medium pressure again, apply another layer of the **Pale Peach** over the areas that are darker in value. Also, apply another layer of the **Pale Peach** over the areas that are in light in value using light pressure. Last, apply a layer of **Prismacolor Light Peach**, using light to medium pressure. Use medium pressure in areas that are darkest in value.



Step 3

### Step 4

We are going to start with this step by applying a layer of **Derwent Coloursoft Soft Pink C170** over the layers of cream, pale peach, and light peach. Use medium pressure in shadowed and detailed areas and light pressure in all other areas. Apply the **Prismacolor Deco Pink** the same way, using medium pressure in detailed and shadowed areas.

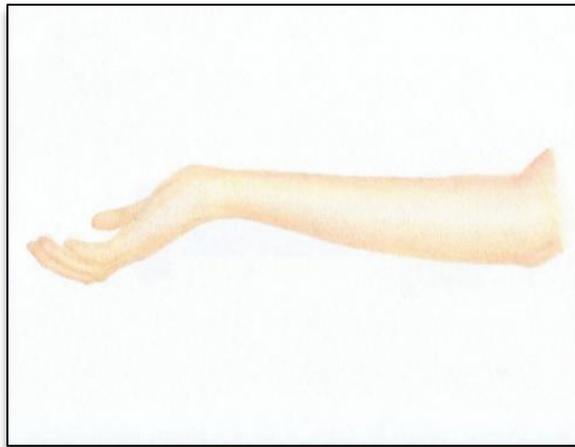


Step 4

### Step 5

Next, apply the color **Derwent Coloursoft Light Sand C580** using light to medium pressure. You want to be shaping the details and shadows of the hand and arm with this color. Then lightly apply a layer of **Prismacolor Cream PC914** and **Pale Peach C570** back over the top of the **Light Sand C580**, blending and evening out the Light Sand color towards the highlights of the center of the arm.

Now apply a layer of **Prismacolor Pink Rose PC1018** using light pressure, shaping the details and shadows of the hand and arm. Next, apply a light layer of **Prismacolor Seashell Pink PC1003** over the Pink Rose to even out the tone, blend the colors and draw in the details of the hand. And finally, add another light layer of **Light Peach PC927** and **Pale Peach C570** to blend and even out the colors towards the highlights of the center of the arm.

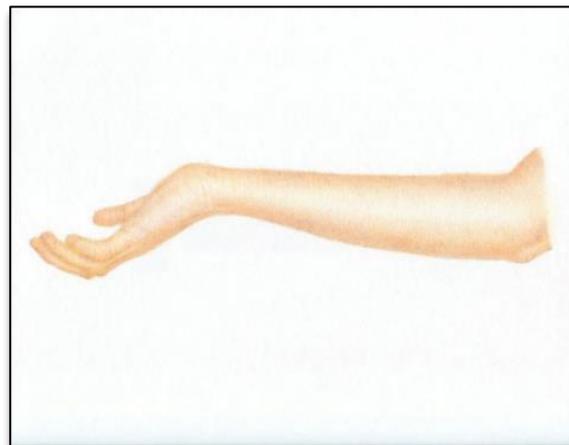


Step 5

### Step 6

Begin this step, by applying a layer of **Prismacolor Peach PC939**. In the areas of darker value use medium pressure. Use light pressure in all other areas. Next, using light pressure, apply a layer of **Seashell Pink PC1003** over the areas of **Peach PC939** blending the two layers of colors together. Next add a layer of **Mineral Orange PC1033**, using light to medium pressure, shaping, and detailing in the darkest areas of the arm. Apply a light layer of **Peach PC939** over the layer of **Mineral Orange PC1033**, blending and smoothing out the layers of colors.

The next color we will be using is **Prismacolor Rosy Beige PC1019**. Apply a light layer of **Rosy Beige** along the edge of the arm and in the shaded and detailed areas. This color will start to tone down the

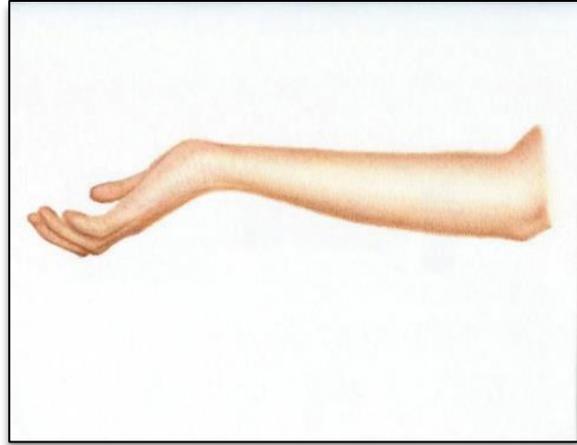


Step 6

other layers of colors. Also, use light layer of **Peach PC939** and **Light Peach PC927** to blend all the colors together where needed.

### Step 7

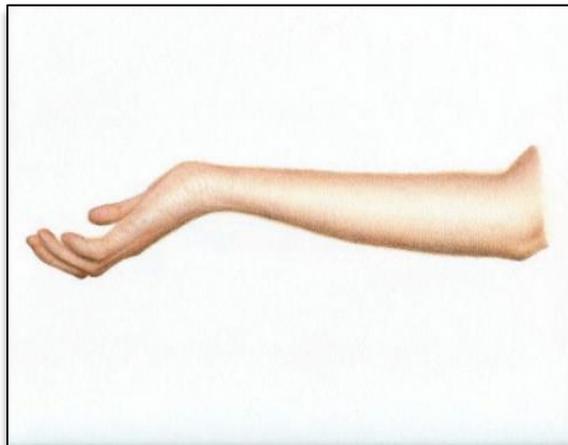
In this step, we will start by adding a light layer of **Prismacolor Pink PC929** in the shaded and detailed areas. Then add a light to medium layer of **Clay Rose PC1017**. Use medium pressure in the shaded and detailed areas and light pressure in all other areas. Next, add a light layer of **Peach PC939** blending all the colors together. Next, add a light to medium layer of **Prismacolor Burnt Ochre PC743** and then a layer of **Pale Brown C220** in the shaded and detailed areas. Apply medium to heavy pressure along the edge of the bottom part of the arm and in and around the fingers to darken up shadows and details. Then, add a light layer of **Seashell Pink PC1003** to blend and even out the two colors.



Step 7

### Step 8

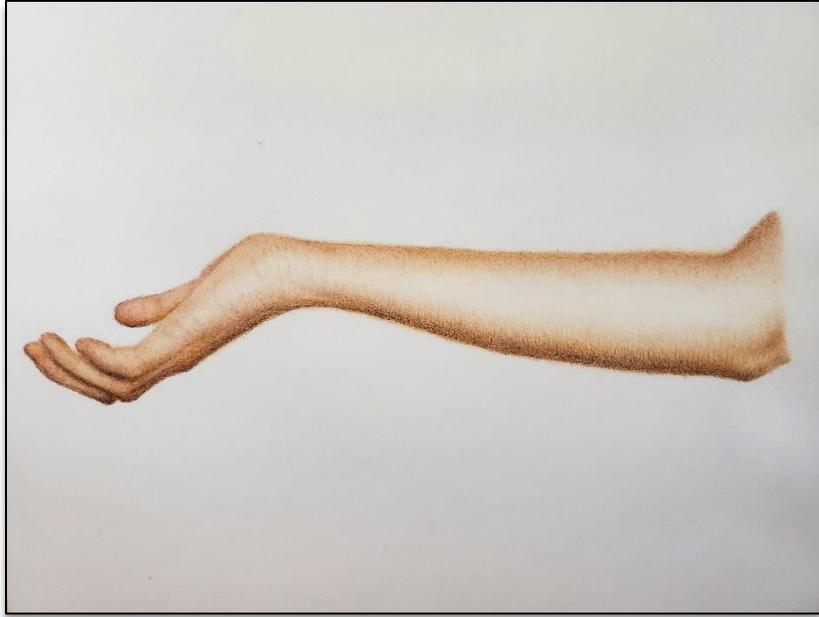
In this final step, apply a light to medium pressure of **Prismacolor Greyed Lavender PC1026** in the shaded and detailed areas. Next, apply a light to medium pressure of **Prismacolor Dark Brown PC946** in the lower part of the arm's shaded and detailed areas and just slightly in the upper right part of the arm. After that, apply medium to heavy pressure of the **Dark Brown** along the lower edge of the arm and up and around the fingers. As you will see, the Greyed Lavender tones down the orange-peach tone. Last of all, to even out and blend the colors apply a light layer of **Prismacolor Clay Rose**.



Step 8

### Final

Lastly, apply a light to medium layer of **Prismacolor Dark Umber PC947** and then a light layer of **Prismacolor Black PC935** along the lower edge of the arm and in around the fingers. Then to even out and blend the colors, apply **Greyed Lavender** and **Peach**.



*Final*

---

Thank you for following along on this step-by-step lesson.

If you have any questions about the lesson, please feel free to email me at [mooresartgallery@aol.com](mailto:mooresartgallery@aol.com)

Happy Creating Everyone!

*Carol Moore*



Visit Carol Moore At:

[www.mooresartgallery.com](http://www.mooresartgallery.com)

[www.facebook.com/MooresArtsGallery](http://www.facebook.com/MooresArtsGallery)

[mooresart.deviantart.com](http://mooresart.deviantart.com)

[mooresartgallery.blogspot.com](http://mooresartgallery.blogspot.com)

[mooresartgallery@aol.com](mailto:mooresartgallery@aol.com)

Moores Art Gallery & Design

303 Garfield St.

Carlton, Oregon 97111

503.852.3166