Draw this Gargoyle in hard graphite in 5 easy stages

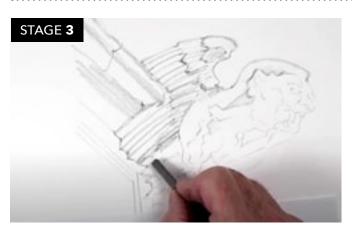




Begin the drawing by outlining your subject in soft graphite pencil onto a smooth cartridge paper.



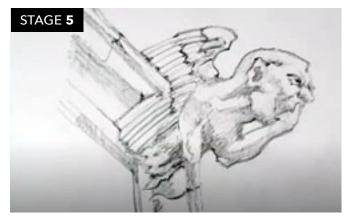
The edge of the stick further defines the edges, adding detail as you progress. Use different line thicknesses, achieved by alternating the pressure.



Continue adding definition to the drawing without concentrating on any particular area. Enhance the linework with heavier strokes using a variety of marks and hatching. Gently add form to to the facial features using a combination of strokes.



Now let's bring this gargoyle to life, building up the density by adding more layers with the hard graphite stick, keeping it sharp. Using the edge of the stick, intensify and contrast.



Keep the dark tones coming for added contrast and definition creating a 'sculptural' look to the drawing. Remember to always protect your drawing with a sheet of paper as you work.

Share your version of the hard graphite Gargoyle on Facebook or Instagram #castlearts





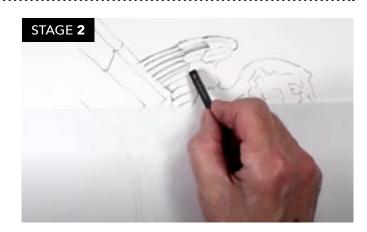


Draw this Gargoyle in medium graphite in 5 easy stages

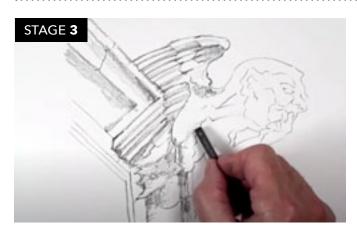




Begin your drawing by outlining with a medium graphite stick onto smooth cartridge paper.



Define the edges of the drawing with the flat edge of the stick. Alternate the grip on the stick to allow greater freedom of movement.



Variation of line thickness gives spontaneity to your drawing. Create form by intensifying your mark making... working overall. Continue identifying the edges and start developing the facial features of the drawing.



Keep alternating the pressure and edge options of the stick. Now let's bring this gargoyle to life, building up the density by adding more layers with the medium graphite stick. Strengthen the linework and vigorously shade with the flat edge of the stick.



Keep the dark tones coming for added contrast and definition. Remember to always protect your drawing with a sheet of paper as you work.

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Draw this Gargoyle in soft graphite in 5 easy stages





Begin by outlining with a soft graphite stick onto smooth cartridge paper. Lightly shade and hatch the entire drawing, strengthening the linework as you go.



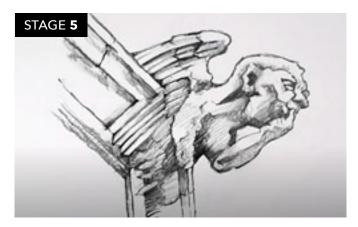
Start defining the edges with the flat edge of the stick, lightly shading as you progress. Experiment with different line thicknesses by alternating the pressures.



Keep working over the entire drawing with the hatching technique. Still using the stick, broadly shade the facial areas. Quickly hatch shadow areas with flat edge of the stick.



Now let's bring this gargoyle to life, building up the density by adding more layers with the soft graphite pencil. The pointed graphite pencil is perfect for adding detail.



Continue integrating the 'edge' linework with shading, adding density as you near completion. Finishing touches and clean up time with the moulded kneadable eraser.

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Holding your Graphite



Graphite Pencil

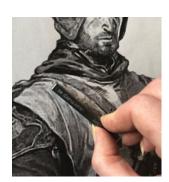


Position your hand closer to the end of the pencil to give you more control but heavier strokes.



Gripping further up the barrel of the pencil gives less control but allows for lighter strokes.

Graphite Stick



Grip the graphite stick about 25mm (1") from the end for better control.



Holding the graphite stick further away from the tip gives more freedom of movement but less control in detailed areas.

Try it yourself							
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Shading with Graphite



Making your mark, and blending

Use varied lines with subtle shifts in width and tone for a more interesting sketch. Control takes some practice, but experimenting with grades and holding at different angles will allow you to create a variety of marks.



Hatching: Soft Pencil



Cross Hatching: Soft Stick



Stippling: Soft and Hard Stick, and Soft Pencil



Paper Blender

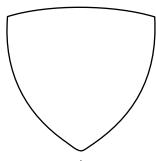


Twin-tipped Blender

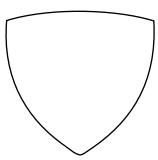


Kneadable Eraser removal method

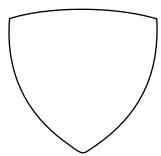
Try it yourself



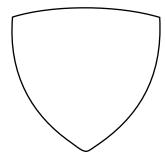
Hatching: Soft Pencil



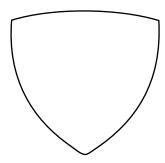
Cross Hatching: Soft Stick



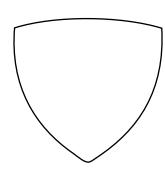
Stippling: Soft and Hard Stick, and Soft Pencil



Paper Blender



Twin-tipped Blender



Kneadable Eraser removal method

Graphite Dust



Make your own Graphite Dust



Powdered graphite is the same material that is used in pencils but ground into fine powder.

You can 'paint' it on to make a wash, smooth textures, or blurry backgrounds.

Make your own graphite dust by using a pencil sharpener or sharpening block, collecting the graphite residue – however it is important to exercise care not to inhale the powder.

How to use Graphite Dust



Using the soft brush, carefully 'pick up' some of the graphite dust and apply it to your drawing in a 'painterly' fashion.

Beautiful soft tones can be achieved with this method, or try stippling the dust for more dramatic effects.

Try it yourself

Draw this Medieval Bridge in 5 easy stages





Begin your drawing by outlining your subject in sofy graphite pencil on to smooth paper...



With soft graphite stick, add light shading across your drawing, then a darker layer with the medium stick...



Add some darker tones and blacker shadows with the soft graphite pencil...

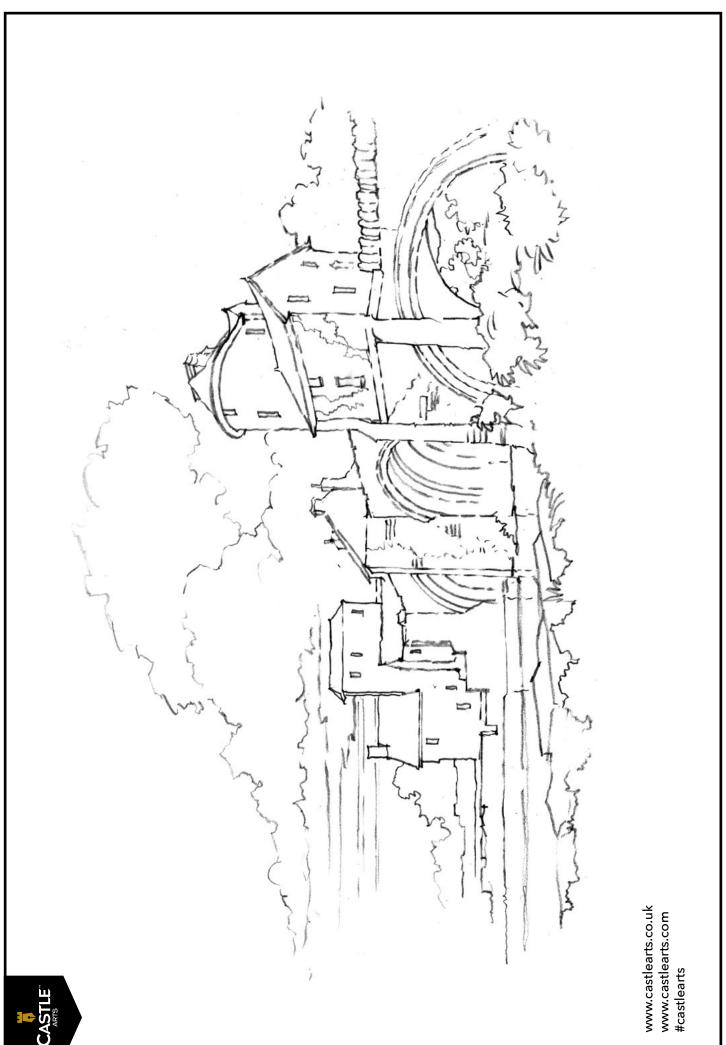


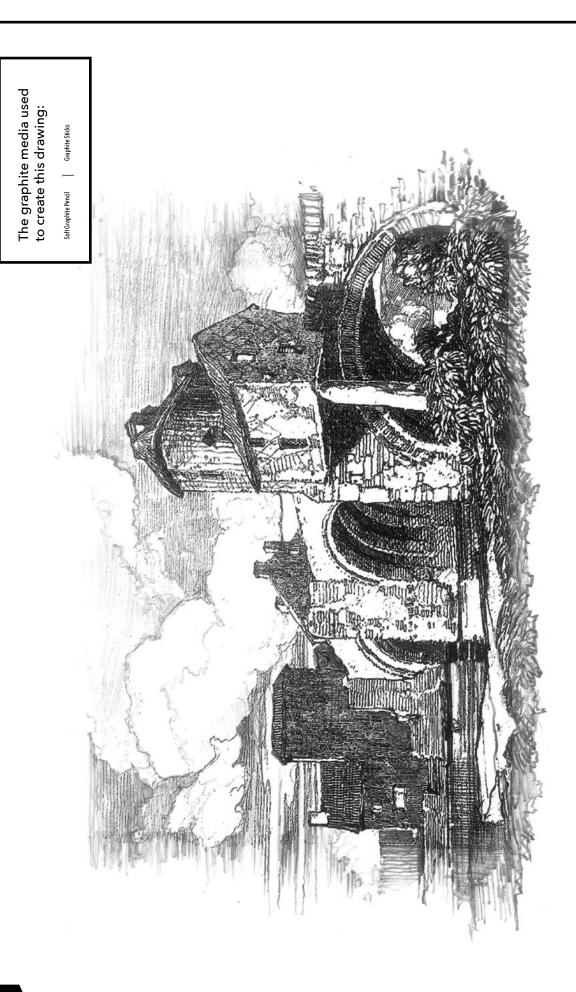
Still with the soft graphite pencil, continue to intensify the dark areas and shadows...



A final touch up with kneadable eraser and soft graphite pencil and you're done!

Share your version of the graphite Bridge drawing on Facebook or Instagram #castlearts







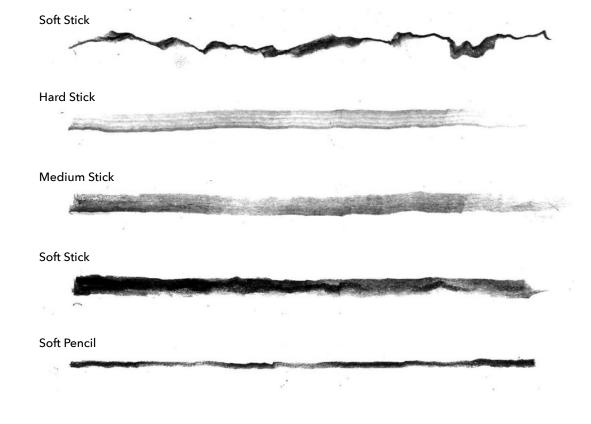
Drawing lines with Graphite



Exploring line thicknesses

In a graphite drawing, if every line has the same width or is drawn using the same pressure, it ends up looking like a coloring book drawing and can come across as one-dimensional and less engaging.

Soft Pencil



Try It yourself			
Soft Stick			
Hard Stick			
Medium Stick			
Soft Stick			

Draw this valiant Soldier in 5 easy stages



STAGE 1

Begin your drawing by outlining your subject in black on to smooth paper...



Start to build up the drawing with layers of tone...

STAGE 3

Continue adding layers and darker tones to achieve more density...



Keep the darker tones coming,

using a blender to

intensify

your image...

STAGE 5

Complete the drawing with final details in black and some subtle blending.



Share your version of the graphite Soldier drawing on Facebook or Instagram #castlearts









The graphite media used to create this drawing:

Soft Graphite Pencil Graphite Stick

Draw this Fairytale Castle in 5 easy stages



STAGE 1 Begin your drawing by outlining your subject in black on to smooth paper...

STAGE 2

Start to build up the drawing with layers of tone...



STAGE 3

Continue adding layers and darker tones to achieve more density...



STAGE 4

Keep the darker tones coming, using a blender to intensify your image...



STAGE 5

Complete the drawing with final details in graphite pencil and some subtle blending.



Share your version of the graphite Castle drawing on Facebook or Instagram #castlearts







The graphite media used to create this drawing:

Soft Graphite Pencil Graphite Sticks