## The Prismacolor Color Wheel - By Mark Menendez

## Tints, Tones and Shades

After I excluded the warm grays, cool greys, french greys, neons and metallics, there remained 120 pencils identifying the 12 HUES traditionally included on the general purpose color wheel, I identified other color pencils that are also hues, colors at their fullest INTENSITY. They are, however, incremental hues between specific hues of the twelve. These colors I attached to the main ring of the Prismacolor Premier Color Pencil Color Wheel to demonstrate their relationship to the twelve as hues. The size of the spheres of these colors are smaller than spheres of the primaries, secondaries and tertiaries.

Now there were 122 pencils remaining, either tints, tones or shades. But how might they be classified?

My goal was to create a wheel that reflected the QUADRATONES that we have been studying in this course. My next step was to organize the remaining pencils into the three categories: TINTS, TONES, and SHADES. Thus, when I created my Prismacolor Premier Color Pencil Color Wheel, I devised a plan to place the darkest values tones and

shades in the center of the wheel, and the lightest value tones and tints outside of the wheel. The position of the pencils to the color wheel would make color selection easier, by studying the Prismacolor Premier Color Pencil Color Wheel, and then selecting the QUADRATONES by color category and value. You could make the selections by either working from light to dark, or the reverse, from dark to light. The QUADRATONES may not necessarily fall in a straight line, but through observation of your subject, you may discern which four QUADRATONES to select, as demonstrated on the next page.

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## Selecting Color Pencils by QUADRATONES

On my Prismacolor Premier Color Pencil Color Wheel, I devised a plan to place the darkest values tones and shades in the center of the wheel, and the lightest value tones and shades outside of the wheel. This ordered positioning of the colors would make color selection simpler. First, study your subject, then locate the four pencils on the Color Pencil Wheel. Select the QUADRATONES as they appear in a line according to color category and value: HIGHLIGHT, LIGHT, SHADOW and DEEP SHADOW. You could make the selections by either working from light to dark, or the reverse, from dark to light. The QUADRATONES may not necessarily fall in a straight line, but through observation of your subject, you may discern which four QUADRATONES to select.
Below are examples of how to choose color pencils by QUADRATONES.

1. RED. This is the QUADRATONE we used earlier for creating the planes of the apple:

| HIGHLIGHT | 928 Blush Pink |
| :--- | :--- |
| LIGHT | 922 Poppy Red |
| SHADOW | 925 Crimson Lake |
| DEEP SHADOW | 937 Tuscan Red |

2. GREEN. This is the QUADRATONE we used earlier for creating the leaf on the apple:

HIGHLIGHT<br>LIGHT<br>SHADOW<br>DEEP SHADOW<br>1004 Yellow Chartreuse 989 Chartreuse<br>1005 Limepeel<br>908 Dark Green

3. BLUE-GREEN. This is an example of a fairly straight line in a QUADRATONE:

| HIGHLIGHT | 1015 Deco Aqua |
| :--- | :--- |
| LIGHT | 992 Light Aqua |
| SHADOW | 905 Aquamarine |
| DEEP SHADOW | 105 Cobalt Turquoise |



