

Lesson 2 – Paint An All Gray Painting

Study of Fruit/Veggies in Grays, need 9 x 12” canvas board

In this assignment you will be doing a simple painting of fruit/veggies in 5 values: dark, medium dark, medium, medium light, and light. This exercise will train your eye to seeing values and their relationship to color. Value is very important because it brings harmony to paintings.

Here are the steps to doing this assignment:

1. Put out dabs of black and white paints onto your palette. Mix up 5 values separately – see chart below.

GRAY CHART - 5 VALUES

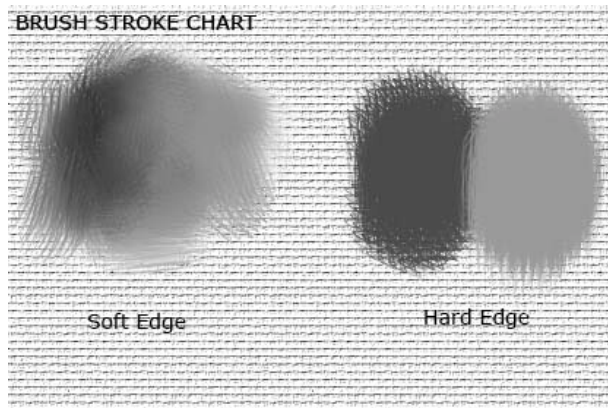


GRAY CHART - 3 VALUES

There is more harmony in a painting when you paint with only 3 values

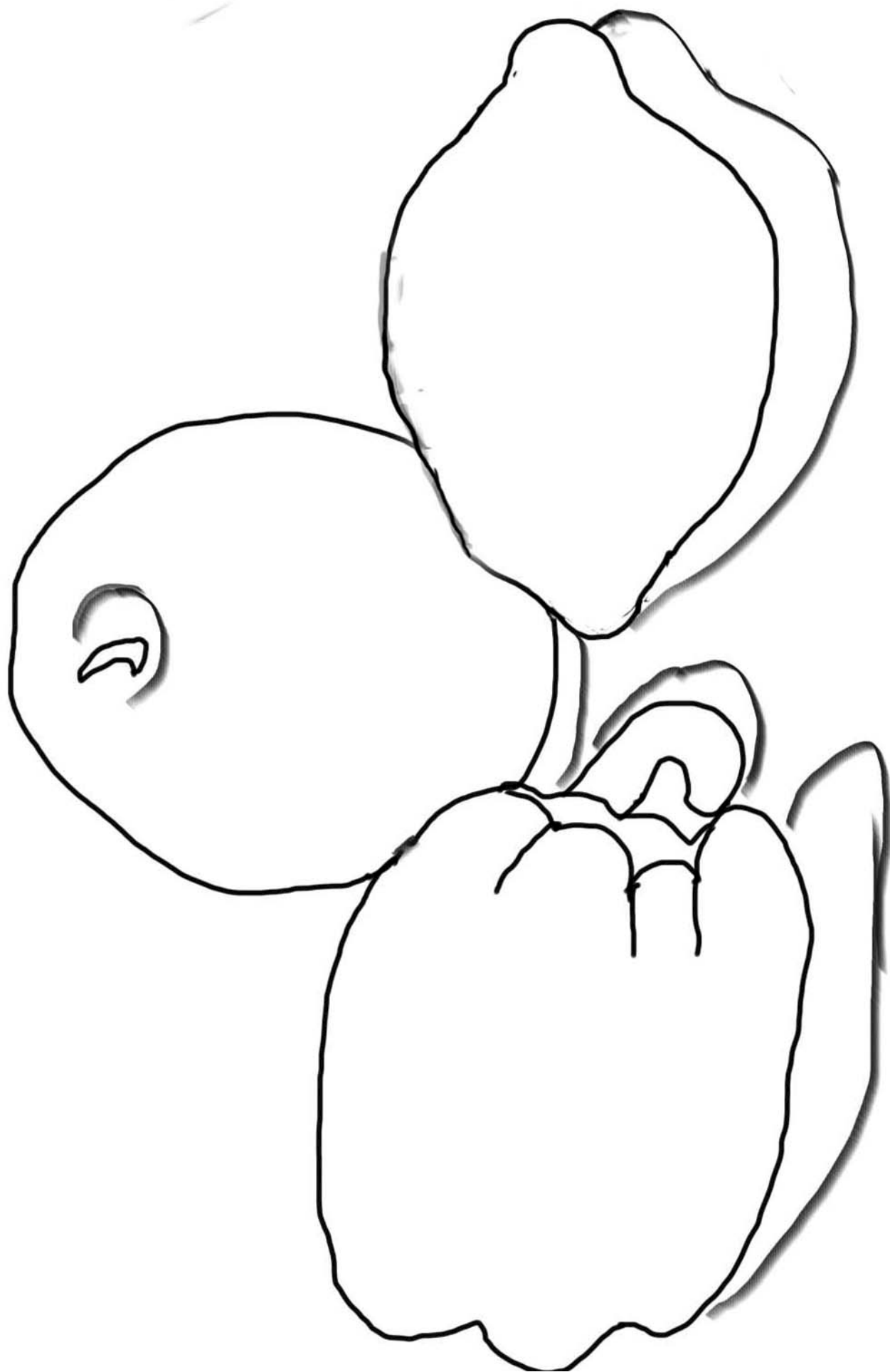


1. Use the TEMPLATE on the PAGE 3 that I have attached for you to transfer a simple still life. CENTER THE TEMPLATE HORIZONTALLY. Eventually, you will be using your own setup, but for now this is a good way to learn how to use the paint. Just transfer the same way you did the color wheel. The template works on a 9 x 12” canvas.
2. If you cannot see your drawing very well, just go over the lines with a pencil. Start by painting the **background around your subject** with a medium gray. Next apply paint using the finished sample attached as a guide.
3. Finished painting should have the whole range of darks and lights.
4. Paint with the largest brush you have for the bigger areas and a small brush for details.
5. Blending is very important in this painting so look out for hard edges and while the paint is wet smooth out those edges with an opposite brushstroke.

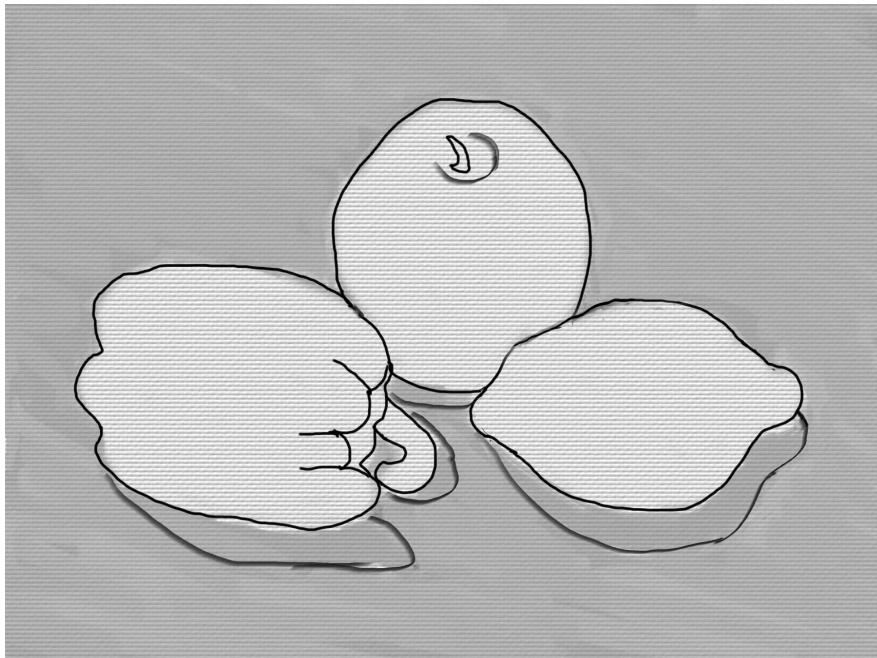


6. Generally, it is better to paint thin layers at the beginning and thicker as you paint more. Some painters like to work alla prima- meaning at “at one sitting”. There is a lot to say for this kind of painting as it is very loose and expressive. It is ok to paint both ways. If you are a patient person, I think it is better to paint slowly and in numerous sessions.

TEMPLATE FOR LESSON 3 is on the next page – Print template & trace using Saral Transfer Paper to canvas board.



FIRST PAINT THE BACKGROUND WITH A MIDDLE GRAY.



NEXT PAINT THE DARKEST DARK – WHICH IS THE SHADOW RIGHT UNDER THE SUBJECT.

NEXT PAINT THE MEDIUM DARK AND THE LIGHTEST LIGHTS LAST. THE LEMON SHOULD BE PAINTED A LIGHT MEDIUM TO LIGHT GRAY. (Lemon should be lighter than the apple or the pepper.)



FINISHED PAINTING SHOULD HAVE THE WHOLE RANGE OF DARKS AND LIGHTS.