Creating Realism with Multiple Colors

Follow the directions to create a richly colored tree trunk and shadow.

Begin with the linear outline of a tree trunk.

Gently fill in the areas indicated below using a combination of the general pencil colors below:

Note – you don't have to use these exact colors. But try to find the right contrasts in hue.

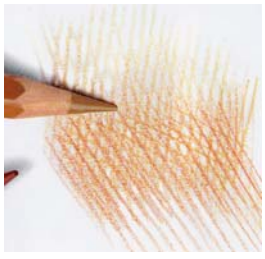
Tree – 1) Dark Brown 2) Light Brown or Red 3) Gray

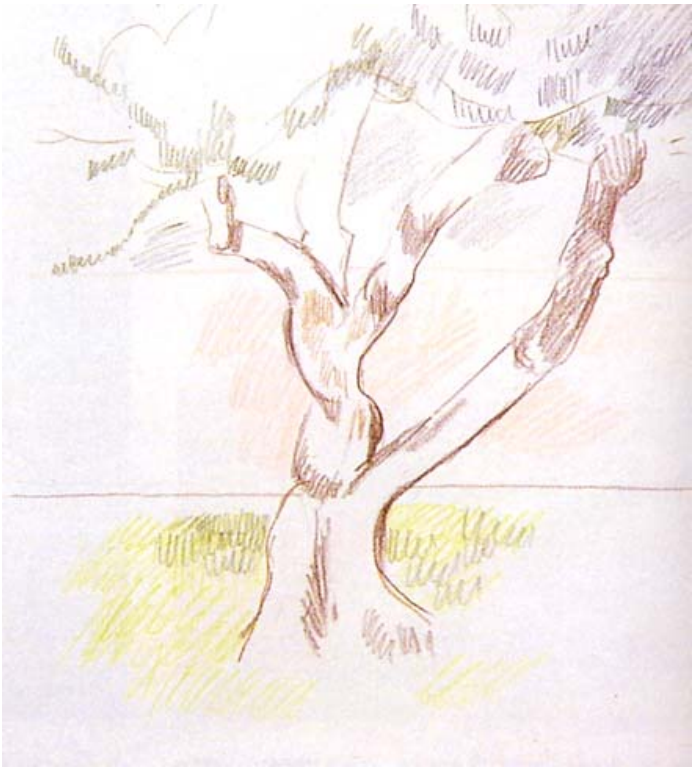
Grass – 1) Green 2) Dark Green 3) Yellow

<u>Step 1- Tree</u>

Use a "hatching" technique with the medium brown pencil to lay out the basic shaded areas. This lends definition to the volume of the trunk.

Hatching @ Crosshatching

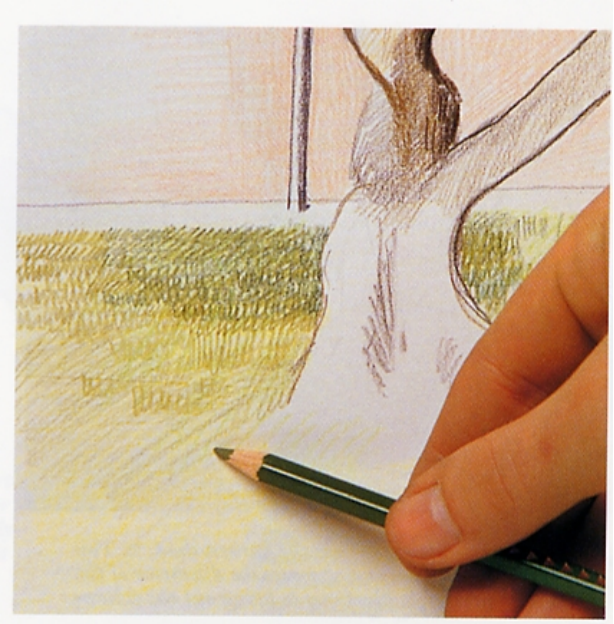




Imitate the shadows on the trunk.

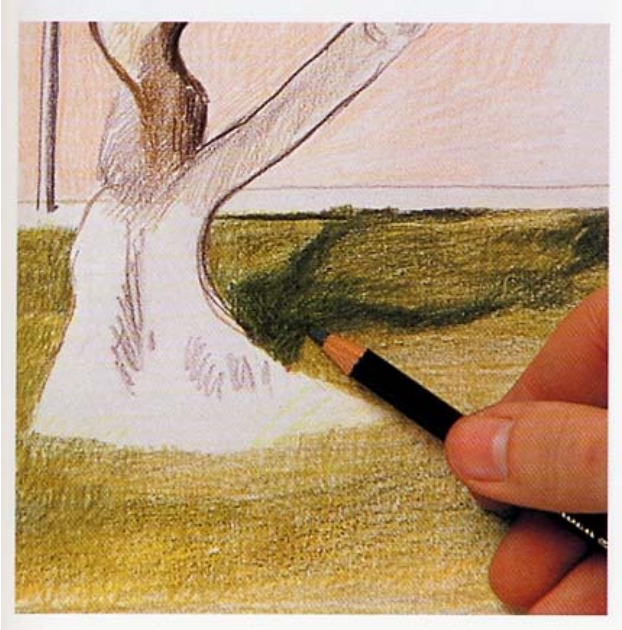
Step 2 – Grass

Make the grass in stages. First shade the area with yellow and pale green. Then apply tiny strokes of darker green. Continue to darken the grass tone with more tiny dark strokes that add density to the area.



Step 3 – Cast Shadow

Create the shadow cast by the tree. The shadow needs to have elements of the grass showing through it. Use dark green and dark brown together, with smaller strokes of the pencil. Build up the shadow so that it's appropriately dark, but leave the edges slightly softer.

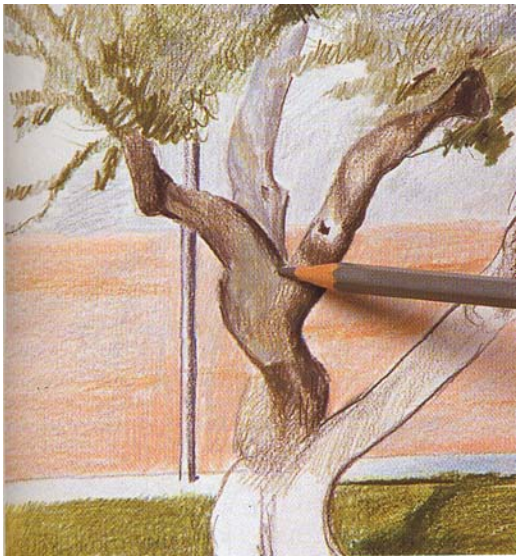


Step 4 – Finishing the Trunk

Begin to blend your dark brown pencil into your original shadows on the trunk. Create areas that are very shadowed while leaving other areas almost completely white. Be creative in your placement of the colors. Darken the edges when necessary.

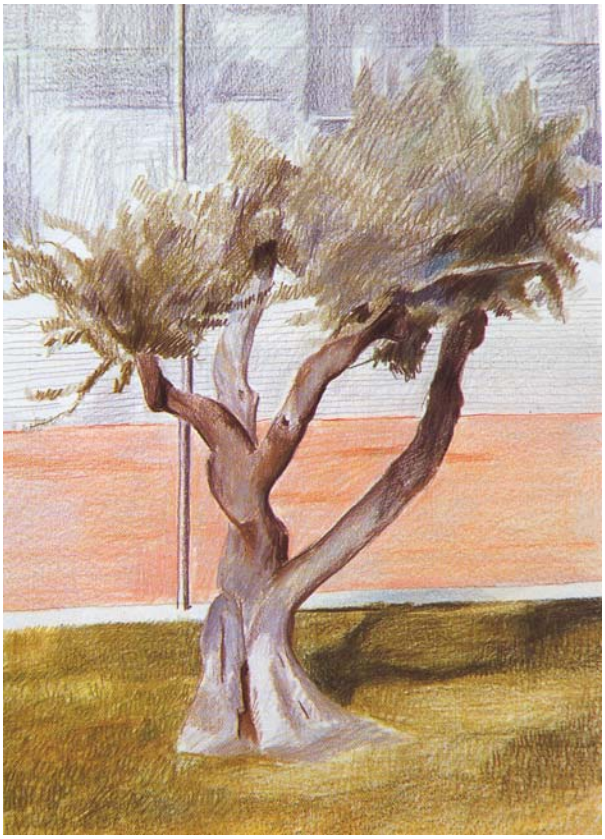
Step 6 – Adding Gray tones

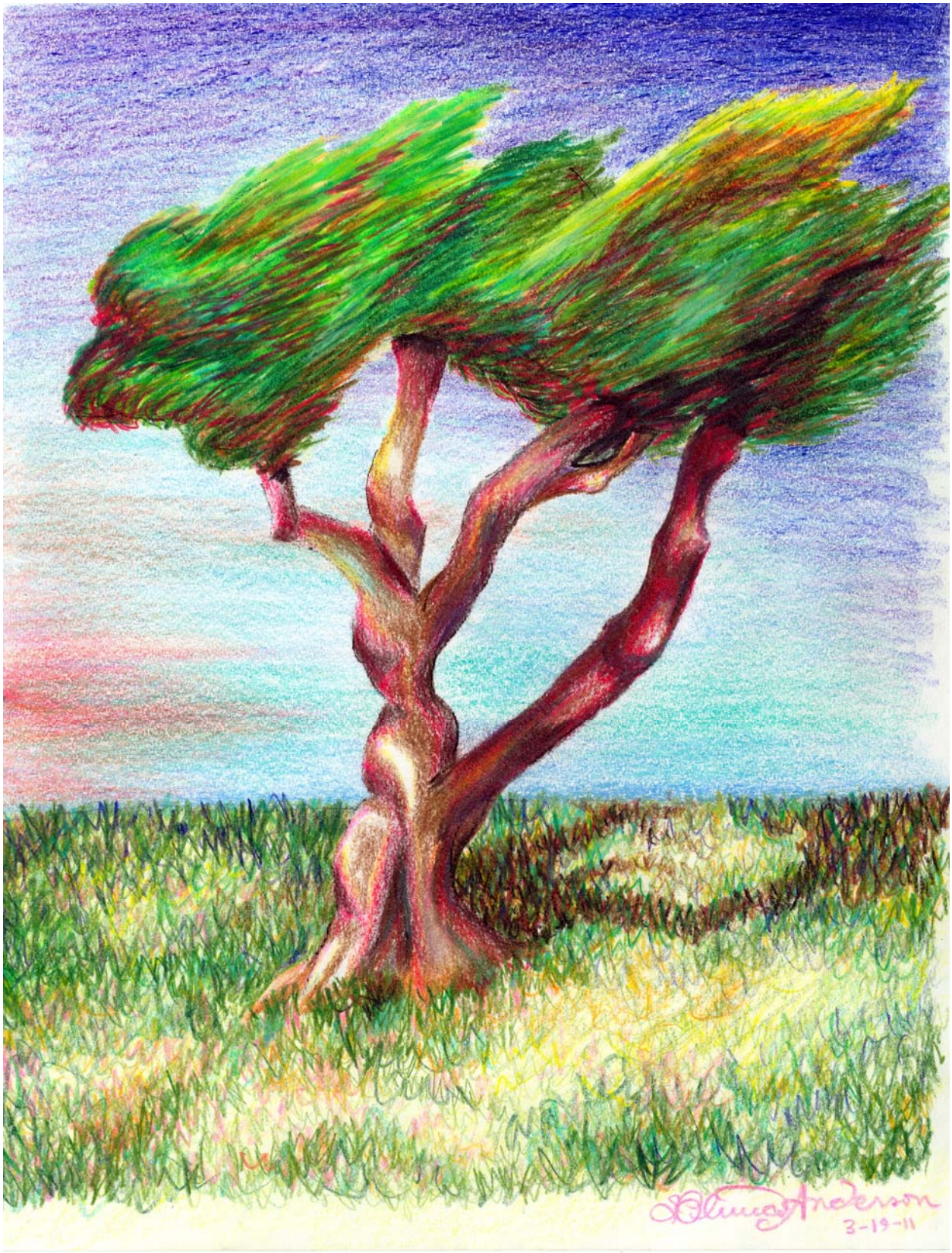
Using a grayish pencil you can blend the tones together on the trunk where the light is prevalent.



Step 7 – Finishing touches

Practice using your hatching techniques by creating overlapping shades of green in the branches of the tree. Use strong directional strokes, changing direction when needed. Experiment with other colors and techniques as you go.

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