

THREE C's

Design & Study by Lynn Patton

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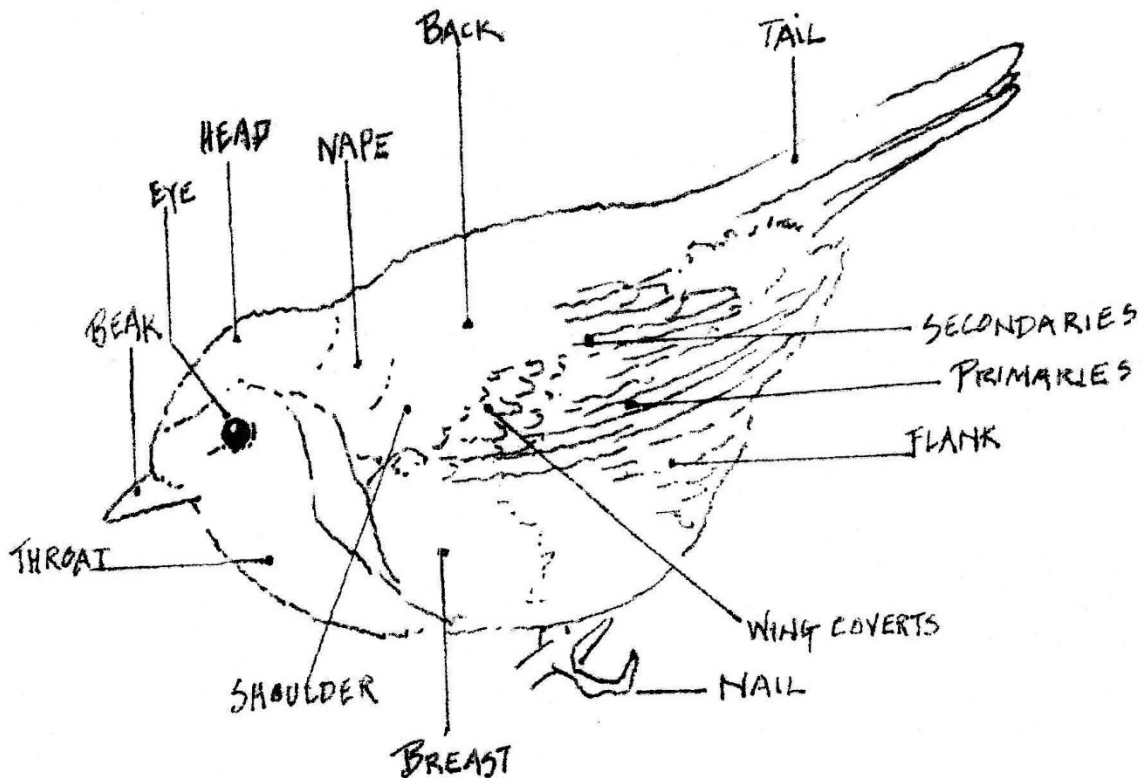
SUPPLIES

General

- Graphite paper & Stylus or China Pencil (*I use Stabilo 8046*)
- Wipe-out tool and Pic
- Stippler or Small Mop brush
- Pen & Black Ink
- Small piece of bubble-wrap

Paints (In order in which they are used)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| • Black | White | Cream |
| • Gray Green with White | • OR Gentle Green | • Medium Green |
| • South Brown or Orange | • Yellow Green | • Yellow Red |
| | • Finishing Brown | |



Three C's.....Chickadees, Cauliflower, and Carrots. Early one morning, I decided to paint a few plates with vegetables as a theme. Not especially thrilling (though I do love my veggies.) Why not have some curious Chickadees inspecting ?

Thus, a design was born and a series. This is the first one. Enjoy !

First Fire:

1. Trace OR draw on design. The line drawing includes shading and shadows. Trace or draw only basic lines, *without* the shading or shadows. That will come later.
2. Begin with the Chicks.
3. Place Saran Wrap over rest of your drawing (except the Chicks) as protection from smearing.
4. The Eyes -the life of the bird ! Lay in the pupil-create a round eye with Black paint on a tiny brush, or use Black ink. Highlight the eye-this may be a V -shape or oval or a sharp dot. Locate the eye so the center of the pupil will be approximately even with the middle part of the beak. Note: the eye is the darkest value of the bird.
5. Brush in the beak and highlight.
6. Using Black paint around the eye area and the patch at the throat. Continue on with the Black to paint the head.
7. With White mixed into brush (which still has a bit of Black), touch a bit onto the cheeks of each bird. Round this with a Stippler -give a really curved look. These Chickadees have such adorable plump cheeks !
8. Using Cream and White along with a tiny bit of Yellow Red, go lightly over the chest and down towards the flank.
9. Now, with small amount of Black, paint the tail, beginning at the end/the tip and work way up to nape. Pull color gently over the shoulder coverts. They do have short necks !
10. Feel the roundness, the softness and the volume of the wee birds. Soften the body contours by feathering technique or stippling.
11. With Pic, mark shape of wing feathers areas. Define the feather lines, starting at tail, then shoulder coverts.
12. Either with Pic or fanned out liner, pull out a few wispy top feathers.
13. Use Gray or Black to shade the feet and then highlight.

14. Checklist for Chickadees: -Highlight eyes and beaks? -Are cheeks pump? Do feathers look overlapped? -Does the shading from breast to flank show enough contours?
15. Define the Cauliflower buds by using a light coat of Gentle Green or Medium Green mixed with White. Think of chunks or bubbles while painting these. Lay in a bit of color, then push an area with Stippler or dry brush to create a variety of bud shapes. Important to leave white spaces! Some buds could use a further definition of paint, so outline several. Keep value down, you do not want high contrast.
16. Once the Cauliflower head is complete, paint its leaves. Using gray Green and then Medium Green, block in the colors. Refer to my line drawing and color photo to see the shade and shading. Once the colors are blocked in, lightly pounce, without disturbing any other of the painting. I pounce with a small piece of bubble wrap. This gives a wonderfully crinkled effect to the leaves. Then, wipe out the veins.
17. Checklist for Cauliflower: Is the darkest shading(of adjoining leaves) against the lightness of the buds? - Are leaves on bottom, against the head, medium value?- does fallen leaf show shadow from leaf above ?- are veins sharply defined?
18. Proceed to the carrots. Note that the stems have a recess around them- a contrast of light and dark. Paint the stems with Brown then wipeout highlight in them. Proceed to painting rest of carrot, taking careful note of shading. Background carrot is painted with darker blend of Orange and bit of Brown. The contours are wiped out with Pic. Foreground carrot is lighter in value where it is against the background carrot. This carrot is painted in Yellow Red and Orange, with Brown shading. Again, wipe out the contours with a Pic. Remember, most carrots are wobbly and uneven.
19. Checklist for Carrots : Is there good contrast of light and dark around the stem portion?- Is shading applied towards bottom edges, and bit on sides of the carrots?-
20. Work on all outside edges of the painting with your wipe-out tool. Make the edges of the leaves and carrots look well defined.
21. Sign and fire, 016-018. Second Fire:
 1. Enhance colors where needed.
 2. Touch up roundness of chickadees.
 3. Deepen shading on leaves and carrots, if needed. 4. Fire 017-018.

