

# BASIC PANPASTEL TIPS & TECHNIQUES



1. Apply large areas of color using a large Sofft sponge (Big Oval or Angle Slice) for backgrounds, underpaintings or "dry washes".



2. Try using the flat sides and edges of Sofft Sponge Bars to create a variety of different mark sizes. Also, "manipulate" the flexible sponge material for different effects.



3. Between colors "clean" the Sofft Tool by wiping on a dry paper towel. The same tool can then be used with several colors. *Tip: Wipe KNIFE/COVER side to side so the paper towel doesn't drag the cover off.*



4. Mix colors - like paint - to create intermediate colors. (Traditional painting/color mixing rules apply.)

*Tip: If a pan's surface becomes contaminated with another color "clean" pan by gently wiping away the contamination with a clean dry sponge or paper towel.*



5. Double load Sofft Tool with two colors and apply. Lift 1<sup>st</sup> color on one side, then 2<sup>nd</sup> color on the other side of the same tool. *Tip: Load the palest color first.*



6. PanPastel can be erased with any eraser

# SSC

1-866-285-5509

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# BASIC PANPASTEL TIPS & TECHNIQUES

## Additional materials suggested:

- Kitchen (paper) towel - for cleaning tools between colors
- Surfaces - PanPastel can be used on a wide variety of surfaces for example: pastel papers and boards (low & high tooth), drawing paper, watercolor paper, delicate handmade papers, primed canvas, ink-jet papers etc.
- Eraser

## GENERAL TIPS:

- To avoid dust - swipe the Sofft Tool over the pan surface 1-3 times - swiping more than necessary will generate excess dust.
- Don't use excess pressure when loading / cleaning tools, to prevent premature sponge damage.
- PanPastel Colors are compatible with pastel (spray) fixatives.
- Before storing pans: tap out any dust left on the pan surface.
- **DO NOT APPLY WATER/LIQUID OR WET TOOLS TO PAN SURFACES.** If a "wet wash" is desired - add 25-50% rubbing alcohol to water for the best results with PanPastel Colors. Apply color to working surface (e.g. paper) first, then brush on the wet wash.



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# PanPastel Weathering Kits

## Rust & Earth

*For light & dark rust, earth, mud & sand colors*



740.1 Burnt Sienna Extra Dark  
PR101:1 \*\*\*\*



380.1 Red Iron Oxide Extra Dark  
PR101 \*\*\*\*



780.5 Raw Umber  
PBr7 \*\*\*\*



740.3 Burnt Sienna Shade  
PR101:1 \*\*\*\*



740.5 Burnt Sienna  
PR101:1 \*\*\*\*



380.3 Red Iron Oxide Shade  
PR101 \*\*\*\*



740.8 Burnt Sienna Tint  
PR101:1 \*\*\*\*

## Greys, Grime & Soot

*For soot, smoke, ash, dust, rubble, grime, oil streaks, general wear & tear*



800.5 Black  
PBk7/PBk11 \*\*\*\*



840.1 Paynes Grey Extra Dark  
PB29/PY42/PBk7/PW6 \*\*\*\*



820.2 Neutral Grey Extra Dark  
PW6/PBk7 \*\*\*\*



820.5 Neutral Grey  
PW6/PBk7 \*\*\*\*



840.7 Paynes Grey Tint  
PB29/PY42/PBk7/PW6 \*\*\*\*



780.8 Raw Umber Tint  
PBr7 \*\*\*\*



100.5 Titanium White  
PW6 \*\*\*\*

## Scenery Kit



780.3 Raw Umber Shade  
PBr7 \*\*\*\*



660.1 Chrom. Oxide Green Extra Dark  
PG17 \*\*\*\*



660.3 Chromium Oxide Green Shade  
PG17 \*\*\*\*



520.3 Ultramarine Blue Shade  
PB29 \*\*\*\*



340.3 Permanent Red Shade  
PR254 \*\*\*\*



270.3 Yellow Ochre Shade  
PY42 \*\*\*\*



520.8 Ultramarine Blue Tint  
PB29 \*\*\*\*

### Each Kit Contains:

7 x PanPastel Colors  
1 x Sofft® Knife  
2 x Sofft® Sponge Bars

1 x Palette Tray with Cover  
5 x Sofft® Knife Covers

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# PanPastel Weathering Kits

## Seascape 30103



580.5  
Turquoise



560.8  
Phthalo Blue Tint



560.5  
Phthalo Blue



520.5  
Ultramarine Blue



520.3  
Ultramarine Blue Shade



520.8  
Ultramarine Blue Tint



820.5  
Neutral Grey



820.7  
Neutral Grey Tint



100.5  
Titanium White



840.3  
Paynes Grey

## Greens 30104



640.5  
Permanent Green



620.5  
Phthalo Green



660.3  
Chrom Oxide Green Shade



660.5  
Chromium Oxide Green



680.3  
Bright Yellow Green Shade



680.5  
Bright Yellow Green



680.8  
Bright Yellow Green Tint



620.8  
Phthalo Green Tint



660.8  
Chromium Oxide Green Tint



100.5  
Titanium White

## Extra Dark Shades - Warm 30105



280.1  
Orange Extra Dark



270.1  
Yellow Ochre Extra Dark



250.1  
Diarylide Yellow Extra Dark



220.1  
Hansa Yellow Extra Dark



680.1  
Bright Yellow Green Extra Dark



340.1  
Permanent Red Extra Dark



380.1  
Red Iron Oxide Extra Dark



740.1  
Burnt Sienna Extra Dark



780.1  
Raw Umber Extra Dark



820.2  
Neutral Grey Extra Dark

## Extra Dark Shades - Cool 30106



560.1  
Phthalo Blue Extra Dark



520.1  
Ultramarine Blue Extra Dark



580.1  
Turquoise Extra Dark



620.1  
Phthalo Green Extra Dark



640.1  
Permanent Green Extra Dark



660.1  
Chromium Oxide Green Extra Dark



430.1  
Magenta Extra Dark



470.1  
Violet Extra Dark



840.1  
Paynes Grey Extra Dark



820.1  
Neutral Grey Extra Dark

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## PanPastel Colors

### Can I use fixative with PanPastel?

Yes, PanPastel is compatible with all conventional spray pastel fixatives. Although it is not essential - as with soft pastel stick color, so fixative can be used to protect the artwork.

Fixative can also be used as a way to isolate previous layers of color when working with pastels, especially on less toothy surfaces. Whether or not to use fixative and the technique chosen really depends on personal preference and your working method.

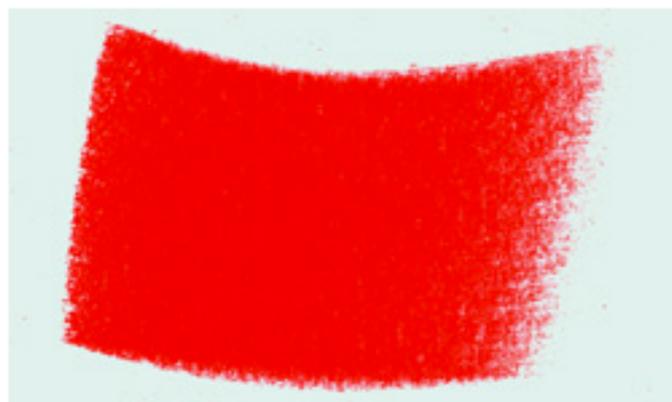
*Tip: When using fixative, spray in light layers multiple times, building up as required - rather than spraying one heavy layer. ALWAYS spray in a well-ventilated space (or outdoors) away from other people. Hold the can at least 12in or 30cm away from the artwork when spraying.*

### Which surfaces should I use with PanPastel?

An important characteristic of PanPastel Colors is that they work well on so many different surfaces - from very low tooth to high tooth. e.g. from delicate surfaces through to toothy pastel (sand-paper) surfaces and everything in between...drawing papers, pastel papers, canvas, vellum, watercolor papers, print-making papers, cardstock, digital/ink-jet papers (matt) etc.

Also, because they are not wet, PanPastel Colors don't cause lightweight papers to "buckle", and the SOFFT sponge tools are gentle on delicate papers such as Japanese handmade papers. Each artist normally gravitates towards his or her own preferred surface. Don't limit yourself – experiment!

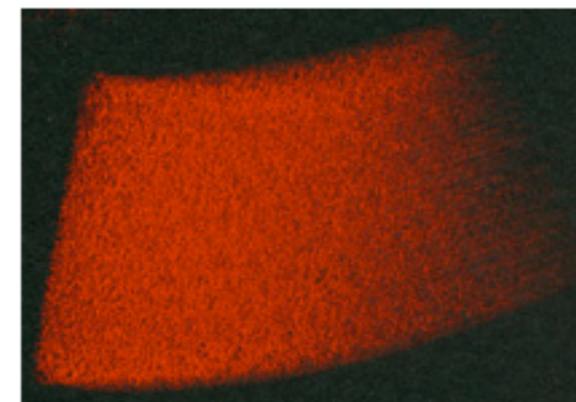
### PanPastel examples on various surfaces:



Canson Mi-Teintes Paper ("right" side)



Canson Mi-Teintes Paper ("wrong" side)

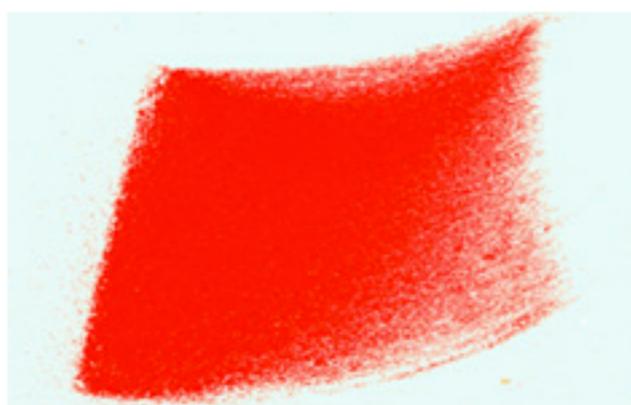


Canson Mi-Teintes Black ("right" side)

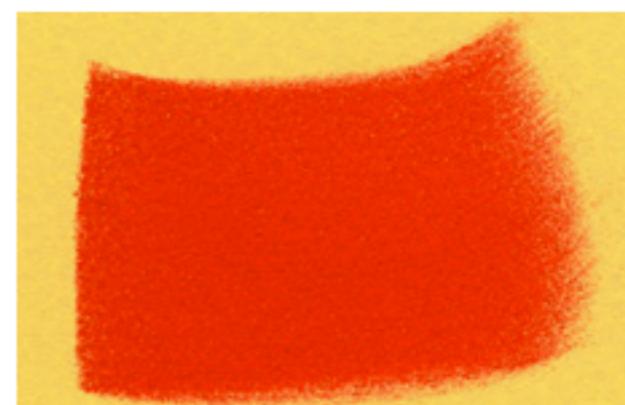
## PanPastel examples on various surfaces:



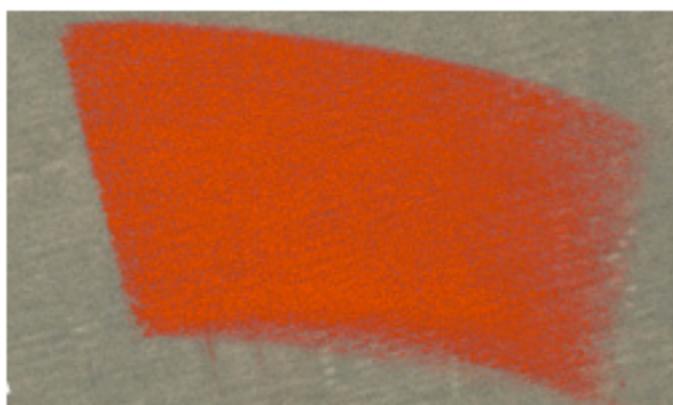
Ingres Paper



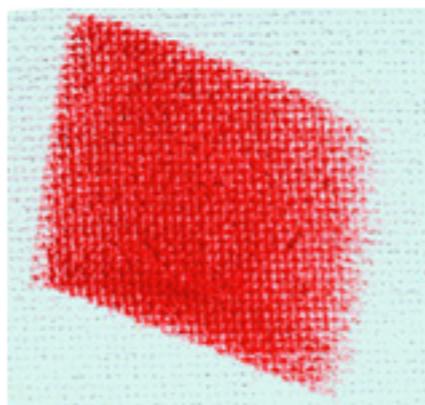
PastelBord



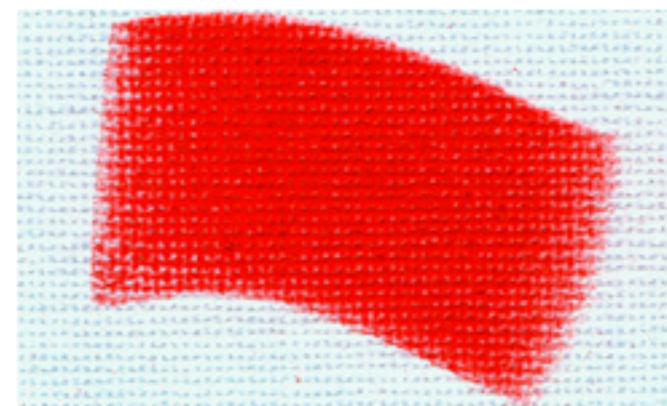
Colourfix Paper



Wallis



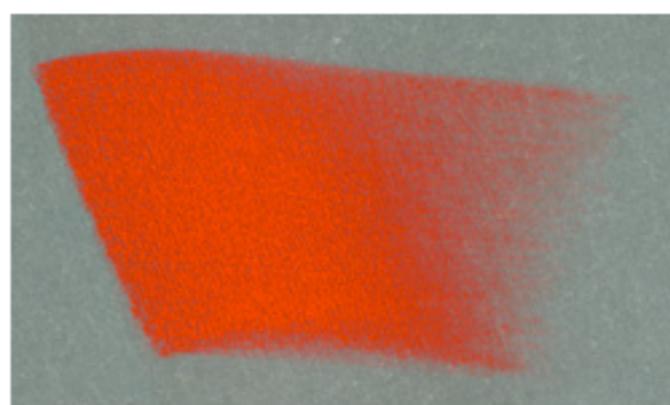
Canvas Panel



Canvas Pad – Acrylic Gesso Primed



Watercolor Paper



Vellum



Velour



#### How can I get super fine details when painting?

While fairly thin lines can be achieved by using the edges of the sponge tools and manipulating the sponge tools, you are limited by the size of the applicator when applying color (in the same way as you would be limited by a brush size when using liquid color) so to achieve super fine lines many artists use a colored pencil.

*Tip: to get straight lines, try masking to get the line, either with a straight edge (paper, card etc) or using low tack masking tape, and then applying the color over the desired area. Once you lift up the mask, you will see a straight line. Erase to refine further. Experiment to get the results you are looking for.*

#### Do I need to use a special eraser with PanPastel?

No, you can use any eraser with PanPastel. Which means that PanPastel is a very forgiving medium. If you don't like the results you are getting then you can easily erase PanPastel with any eraser (prior to fixing).

#### Should PanPastel Color lids be replaced every time I stop painting?

It is not necessary to put a lid on each pan every time you finish painting. As with pastel sticks, you can simply leave the colors "open" in the studio, until you resume painting. Many painters love this aspect of painting with PanPastel Colors, so much more convenient than working with tubes of paint.

However, it is good studio practice to cover the colors when not in use. PanPastel palette trays include a tray cover and are a convenient way to organize and store PanPastel Colors.

#### Can I use my fingers to blend / apply PanPastel Colors?

The color payoff is reduced when using fingers to apply PanPastel Colors instead of using Sofft tools. Also, as with any artists' colors it is always best to avoid using fingers when there is a tool available, such as Sofft Tools, that can do the job better!

#### Are PanPastel Colors lightfast?

All of our colors are independently tested to ASTM lightfastness standards (currently in draft form for pastels).

#### Can PanPastel Colors be used with water for a wet wash?

For wash techniques with water add 25-50% rubbing alcohol to the water for best results. **Important:** Do not apply wet tools, fluids or mediums directly to the pan's surface. Liquids should only be applied to the working surface (e.g. paper). Apply the PanPastel Color first to the surface, and then apply the liquid wash with a sponge or brush to create the desired effect.

**Note:** PanPastel Colors work great for dry wash techniques. It is not necessary to use any liquid for a wash, however if a true wet wash is required use the technique explained above.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## SOFFT Tools & Applicators



**Sofft Tools** are a range of contemporary tools for art & craft developed specifically for use with PanPastel Colors.

### **What is the best way to clean Sofft Knife Covers?**

Wipe on a paper towel – wiping from left to right, rather than up and down, so that the cover stays in place on the knife and will not get dragged off by the towel.

### **What makes Sofft sponge special?**

The sponge material used is unique to Sofft. Sofft's micropore sponge formulation was specifically developed for use with PanPastel. They really do load and release the color perfectly. Sofft Tools also work great with most water-based artists materials – inks, acrylics, watercolors etc.

PanPastel Color formulations have very high levels of artists' pigments, and are used on many different and demanding surfaces, requiring a very different type of sponge that is durable and works the way an artist needs it to work. (Unlike cosmetic sponges, which are intended for use once or twice a day with color that has very little pigment and are for a limited one-stroke application on a special, very gentle surface - the skin).

The shapes and sizes of Sofft Tools were developed for the marks that artists make. For example, the knives and sponge bar shapes are based on brush shapes – round, flat, oval (filbert) and point.

Sofft sponges can be used on a broad selection of surfaces, even with “toothy” surfaces such as pastel papers. Obviously, the more abrasive the surface the shorter the life of the sponge.

Finally, Sofft sponges are inexpensive and can be washed and re-used several times.

## Sofft® Knives, Covers & Applicators

### Sofft Covers

These innovative Covers are sized specifically for use with Sofft Knives and Shapers. They transform Knives and Shapers into absorbent tools, capable of carrying and releasing color and material in a unique way. Sofft Covers are made from a specially formulated micropore sponge which is semi-absorbent.

### Sofft Knives

When used with Sofft Covers, the traditional painting knife is transformed into a multi-use and absorbent applicator for art and craft techniques. These inexpensive tools function like a cross between a brush and a knife.

Each knife has been ergonomically designed to fit in the hand for ease of use and for good control. Sofft Knives are made from a flexible, and durable plastic material. The handles are shaped like wooden handle knives for maximum comfort. Sofft Knives can also be used without Sofft Covers as traditional painting knives.

### Sofft Shapers

These indispensable art and craft tools can be used for a variety of applications either with or without Sofft Covers. The flexible silicone tips, when used in conjunction with Sofft Covers, make Shapers a versatile and absorbent tool.



Simply match the reference number of the Cover to the Knife or Shaper e.g use Cover No.1 with Knife No.1



Gently pull Sofft Cover completely over Knife or Shaper tip (like a sock). Covers can be re-used several times. **Note:** *Excessive stretching will tear the sponge.*

## Knives & Covers



Knife & Cover - No. 1 Round



Knife & Cover - No. 2 Flat



Knife & Cover - No. 3 Oval



Knife & Cover - No. 4 Point

## Shaper & Covers



Shaper & Cover - No. 2 Flat

### Techniques:

- Applying color
- Manipulating paint
- Blending colors
- Double and triple loading color
- Softening hard edges
- Applying smooth layers of material
- Applying colors in hard to reach areas

Draw

Paint

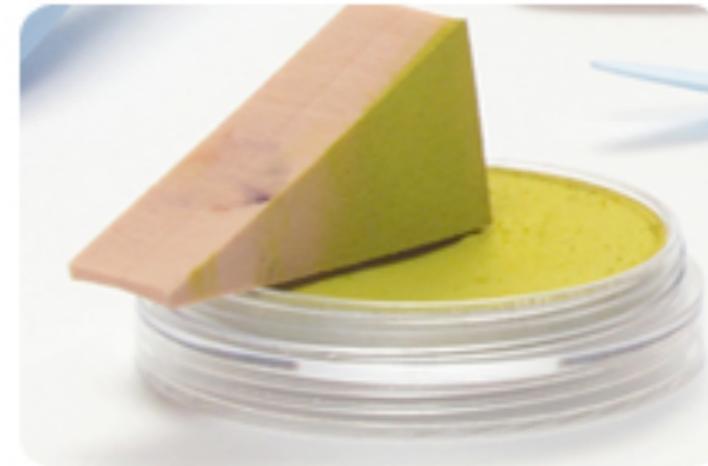
Create





## Sofft® Art Sponges & Applicators

Sofft Art Sponges are made with our semi-absorbent micropore sponge material. Each sponge has a unique shape and size, designed specifically for artists and crafters.



### Applicators



Mini Applicator

#### Techniques:

- Quick applications of color
- Softening hard edges
- Blending colors and materials
- Applying colors in hard to reach areas

Draw



Paint



Create





# SOFFT Art Sponges

### Techniques:

- Applying color
- Blocking in colors
- Blending colors & materials
- Manipulating paint
- Backgrounds & underpainting
- Double and triple loading colors
- Sponging out watercolors and acrylics
- Building up smooth layers of color

		Draw	Paint	Create
	Angle Slice - Round			
	Angle Slice - Flat			
	Big Oval			
	Round			
	Sponge Bar - Round			
	Sponge Bar - Flat			
	Sponge Bar - Point			
	Sponge Bar - Wedge			



No. 206717  
SOFFT Tools Combination Set