

# Sketching

## Some Dos....and Don'ts

**Don't** be too ambitious with what you are about to sketch.

**Don't** think that every time you put pen to paper you will produce a masterpiece, because you won't. Remember sketches are for practice, for memories, for enjoyment.

**Don't** worry about what others may think of your drawing.

**Don't** just use a pencil, try out other things, for example pens, brushed lines, felt tips.

**Don't** draw something you are not interested in.

**Don't** compare your work to others when you are working in a group. Other people's sketches are not better or worse than your own - they're different! - and it doesn't matter anyway you are doing this to enjoy yourself!

**Don't** sit in full sunlight, on an uncomfortable rock, or in a draughty spot, (that's just daft!)

**Do** Let others see your work if they ask. Passing strangers will ALWAYS be complimentary about your work, fellow sketchers will ALWAYS be encouraging.

**Do** make lots of sketches of the same thing if it interests you. The more sketches of a subject you make the more you will learn about it and the clearer the forms will become.

**Do** make yourself comfortable, you are doing this for pleasure.

**Do** leave things out if they are boring, really tricky to draw, or you just don't like them in your picture. It's called "having an artistic licence" and its well worth the money you paid for it.

**Do** sketch people, pictures look so much more convincing with people in them (J.M.W.Turner drew rubbish people but that didn't stop him from putting them into his pictures)

**Do** spend that little bit more money on a nice sketch pad or some nice paints, this is after all **your** hobby and you're worth it!

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examples from my sketchbooks