

Colored Pencil Holiday Cards - 3 Ways

By Marie Browning

Choosing the right colors have never been easier! Irojiten Colored Pencils are labeled by tone, making it foolproof to choose the right color combinations. Here are three different colorings using different tones so you can get an early start on hand-colored cards for the holidays.







Materials

Irojiten Color Dictionary:
Rainforest Edition
Colored Pencil Eraser
Glue Pen
Mono Multi Liquid Glue
Mono + Permanent Adhesive
Cardstock
Card Blanks
For embellishing:
White Acrylic Paint
Fine Gold Glitter
Rhinestones
Ribbon and buckle

Printing out the coloring panel

Go to tombowusa.com to find the coloring page for this project. The ornament image is set up to print 2 panels to a page.

The samples shown here used Strathmore Colored Pencil Paper. It has a nice medium tooth for adding multiple color layers and a slight cream color to the paper. I used the 9 x 12 sheets and cut them down to 8.5×11 to fit my inkjet printer.

Download the image and print actual size onto the paper. Note: If using a Dual Brush Colorless Blender for blending, you will need to print the panels out using a laser printer to prevent color transfer.

Irojiten Color Dictionary: Rainforest Edition

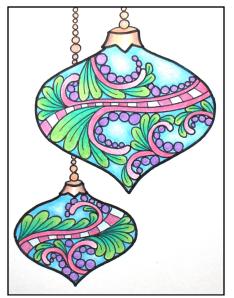
This set has 30 pencils in three tonal groups: Pale Tone 1, Vivid Tone 1 and Deep Tone 1. The pencil number is one of the most logical numbering systems in the art world and is perfect for beginners who have the problem of choosing what colors to use.

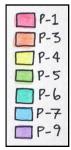
The pencil lead has a nice point strength, which results in less work to fill in color fields. It also keeps a sharp point longer for fine texturing. The durable lead and glued-in core also means no breakage even in electric pencil sharpeners. The colors have a consistent finish, are excellent for blending, and don't muddy.

General

I like to work with many different tones and layered colors for the richest look. However, when you are a beginner, the hardest part is choosing your colors, and most can't understand why the end coloring just doesn't look right. With the different tonal numbering systems of the Irojitens, you can use any color from the same tonal group for beautiful and perfectly colored images!

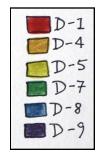
Start with a very light shading, choosing your colors. If you decide to change a color, simply use the Colored Pencil Eraser to remove and add a different color. When you have your colors selected, add the colors using a basic back and forth shading using a heavier pressure for the deepest colors and a very light pressure for the highlights. You can also use the Colored Pencils Eraser to bring back a highlight.

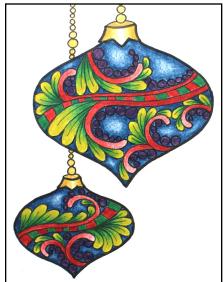




Pale Tones

The Pale Tones give a beautiful soft rendering to the composition. The green areas were layered and the blue background areas were highlighted with the Colored Pencil Eraser.

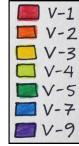




Deep Tones

The Deep Tone colors give the coloring a very different appearance. The darker colors have a deep, tapestry like finish. Note the highlighted area in the top cap and chain giving it a look of metallic gold.





Vivid Tones

The traditional, bright hues of the Vivd Tones gives this coloring a very whimsical look. As you can see, your choice of colors can make a very big difference in the feel of your finished piece!

Finishing

With the Pale Toned coloring, highlights were added for a bit of sparkle. I used a toothpick dipped into white acrylic paint to add these 'sparkle dots' to each purple circle motif. Let dry completely before mounting onto matching colored cardstock panels with the Mono + Permanent adhesive and then onto a 5 x 7 cream card blank. When mounted, I added 'joy' lettered with the Fudenosuke Brush Pen.

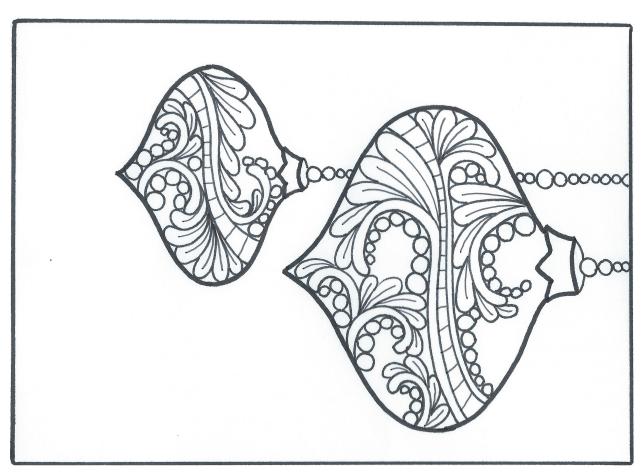


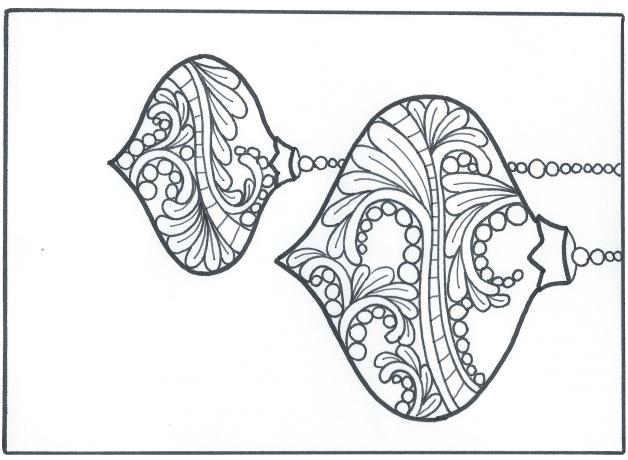
With the Deep Toned coloring, I added gold glitter dots that added to the rich tapestry appearance. The Mono Multi glue gives these gold dots a lovely dimension. Using the fine tip of the glue dispenser, add a drop to each purple circle motif. Sprinkle on the glitter and dump off the excess. Let dry completely before cutting out the image leaving a slight edge. Mount onto matching colored cardstock panels with the Mono + Permanent adhesive and then onto a 5 x 7 parchment card blank. You can also cut out a sayings panel or a stamped image for additional accent.



The vivid coloring was accented with rhinestones. Using the Glue Pen, fill each purple circle with glue. Work on four to five motifs at a time. Pick up each rhinestone using a wax-ended applicator and press into the glue. Let dry completely before mounting onto a white 5 x 7 card blank. A ribbon with a ribbon buckle was added with the Mono + Permanent adhesive to add to this fun card.







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