

# Unique Compositions

## Study of a Toy



What I'm talking about is those fun little collectible toys. They're kicking around the house and you never stop to think about them, but they're a great inspiration for art. I realized this one day when I started sketching a snoopy dog figurine sitting on my desk. It was next to a thin apple core my daughter abandoned. It made a really cute and fun composition which I would have kept if only I hadn't been doodling on lined paper.

To get the most out of this project I'd suggest starting on drawing paper with a pencil and then move to ink for shading. Stop there or for a really fun composition add an imaginary background using point perspective principles. From there transfer it to watercolor paper and finish with realistic or abstract watercolors.

### Steps:

1. Set up your supplies. Make sure you have a unique toy, a prop or two, a single light source, paper, pencils, erasers. (Also a pen and watercolor supplies.)
2. Move your props around to create a scene that suggests a story. Use a viewfinder or your fingers to find a composition that you like. Try drawing 3 thumbnail plans in a sketch pad first. Pick the best one.
3. Carefully draw the composition by making relative measurements with a pencil, focusing on the angles of lines and the negative spaces around the objects. Trace with pen.
4. Transfer the drawing to watercolor paper, add cross hatching for shading and paint with watercolors for a colorful finish.