



Here is a nice picture for a beginner to start using color. This is a copy of the black and white barn drawing so if you wish you can do that one first. Scroll down.



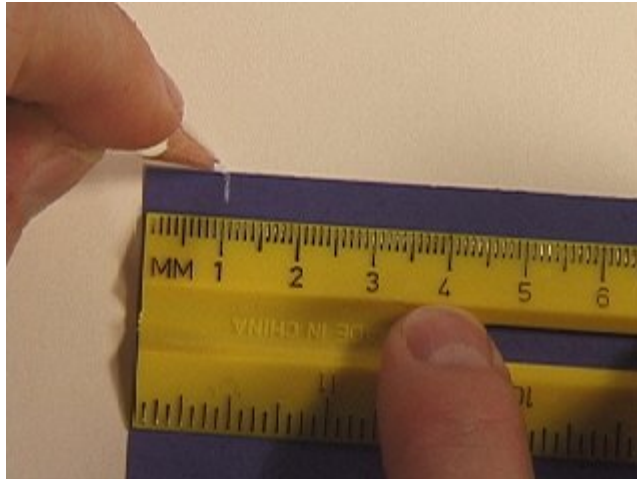
You will need 9x12 blue construction paper, SOFT LEAD pencil colors, an eraser, and a metric ruler.



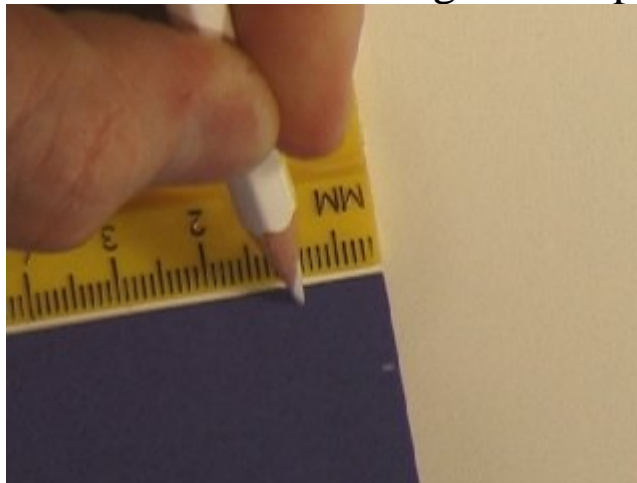
The SOFT LEAD colors you will need are light red, dark red, brown, orange, white, and yellow. The way you can recognize if the pencils are soft led is that you can color one color on top of another color.



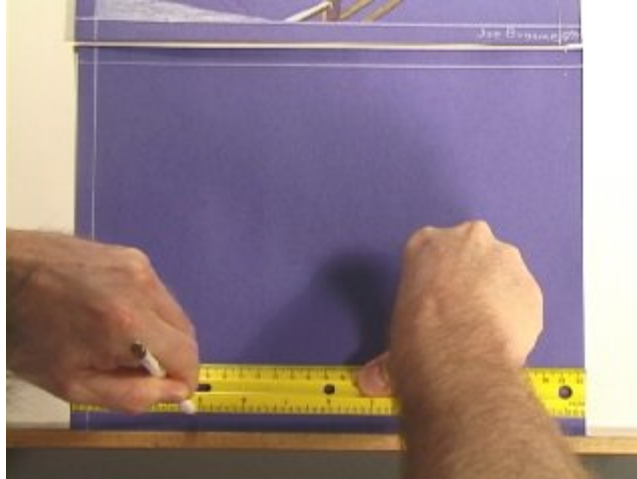
We will start by making a border one-centimeter from the edge of the paper using the white, and the ruler.



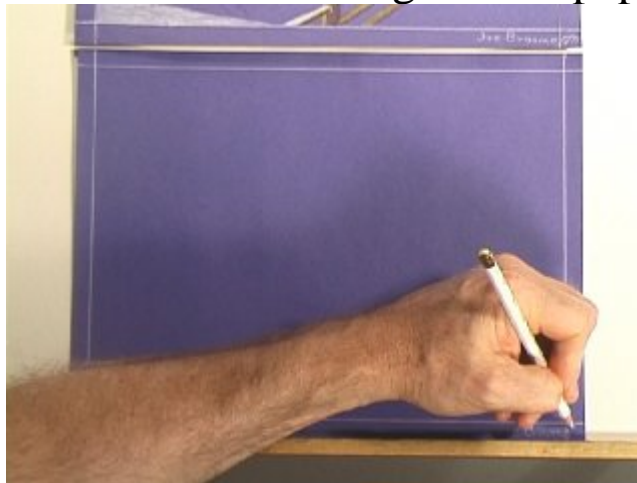
Measure one centimeter from the left corner of all four corners and make a mark on the edge of the paper.



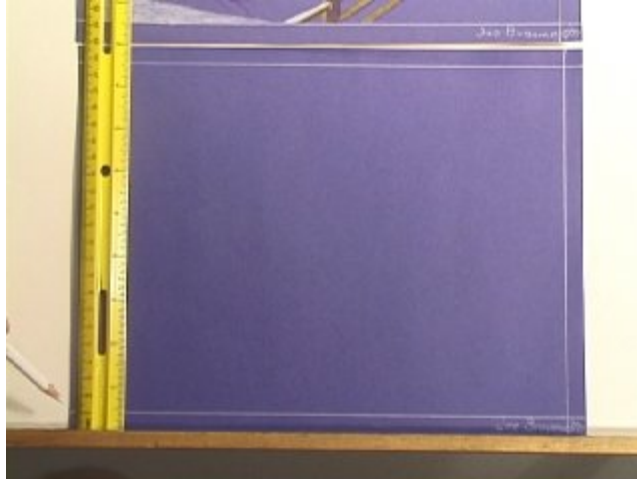
Next measure one centimeter from the right corner of all four corners and make a mark.



Now lay your ruler across the marks and draw a border line one centimeter from the edge of the paper.



Before you get started drawing sign and date your work so you will know which way is up if you turn your page over while you are working.



We are going to use two-point perspective to make the parts of our picture the correct size so let's begin by measuring the two points eleven centimeters from the bottom of the page.



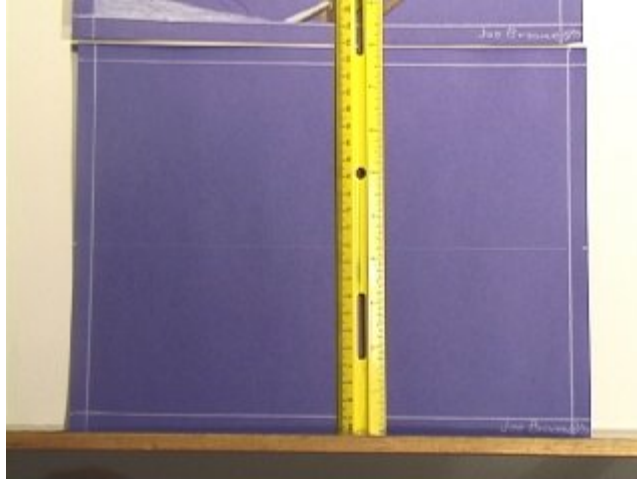
Put your marks right on the very edge of the paper.



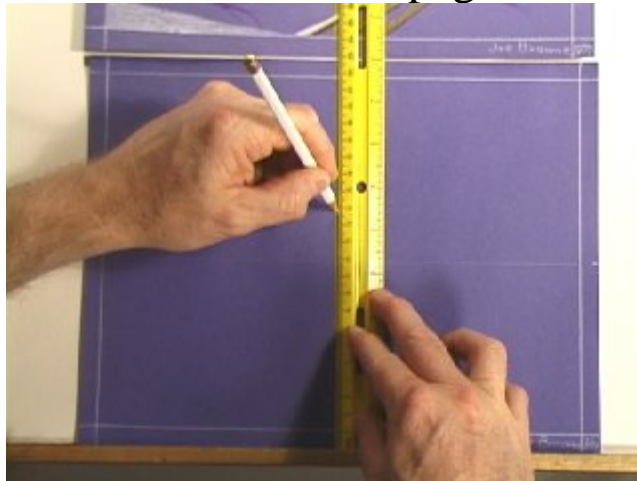
Measure your marks on both sides of the paper.



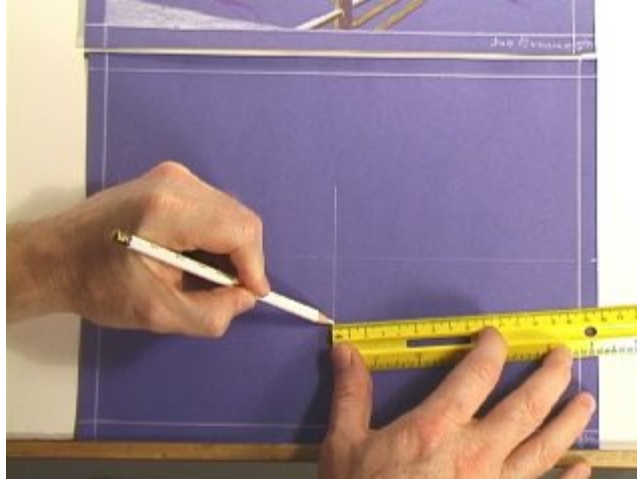
Next lay your ruler across the two eleven centimeter marks and draw a very light line from border to border and not from the edge of the page. This is not a permanent line so make it lightly.



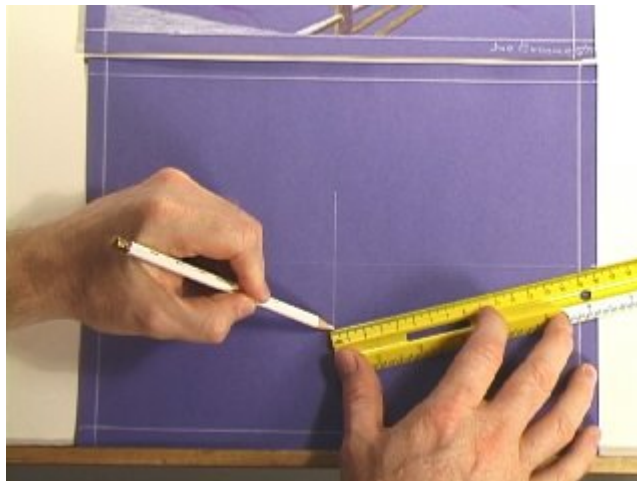
Lay your ruler with the centimeter side of the ruler vertically near the center of the page with the zero end of the ruler at the bottom of the page.



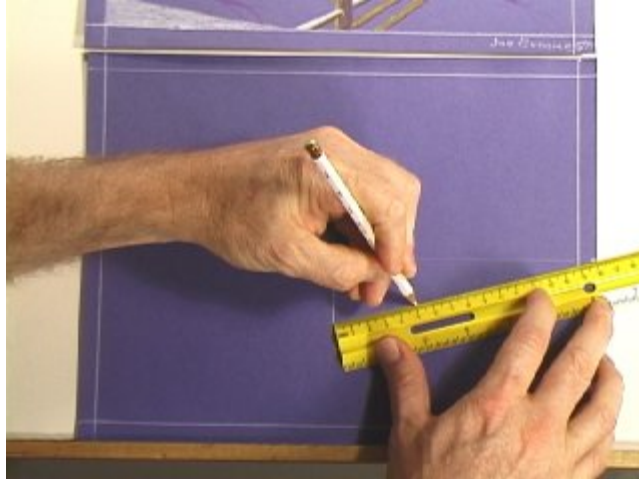
Draw a light white line on the paper from the seven- (7) centimeter mark on the ruler to the fifteen- (15) centimeter mark.



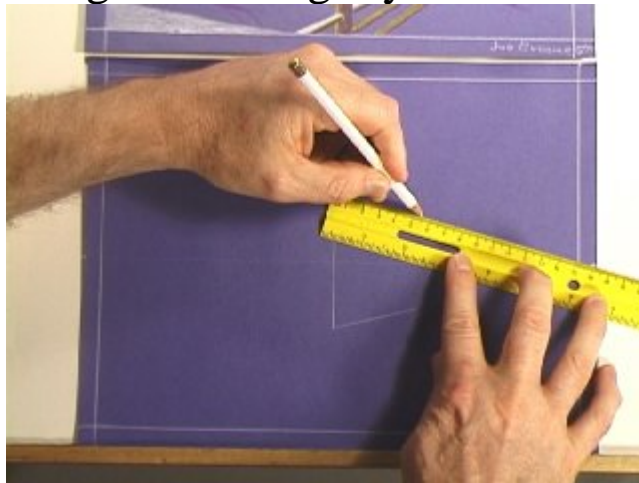
Now lay your ruler so the zero end of the ruler is at the bottom of the vertical line you just made.



Move the ruler up so it is touching the dot you made on the right side of the page.



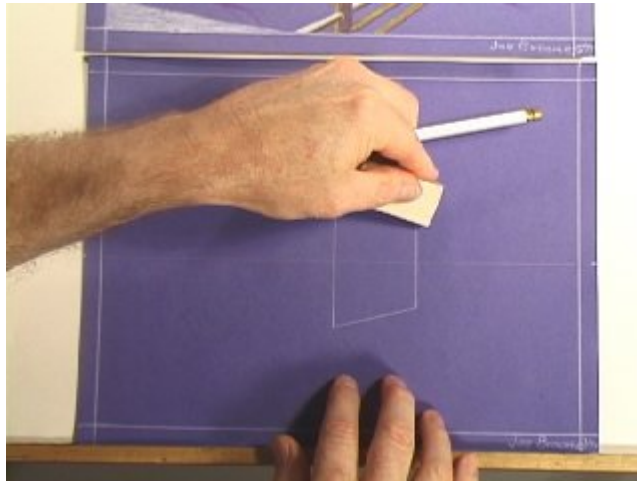
Make your first angular line lightly and five centimeters long.



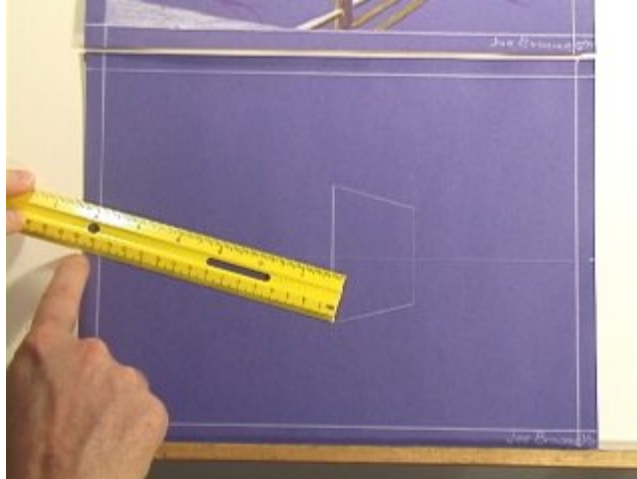
Now repeat the process from the top of the vertical line. Put the zero centimeter end of the ruler on the line and slide the metric side of the ruler to the right dot on the edge of the paper and draw a line about five centimeters long.



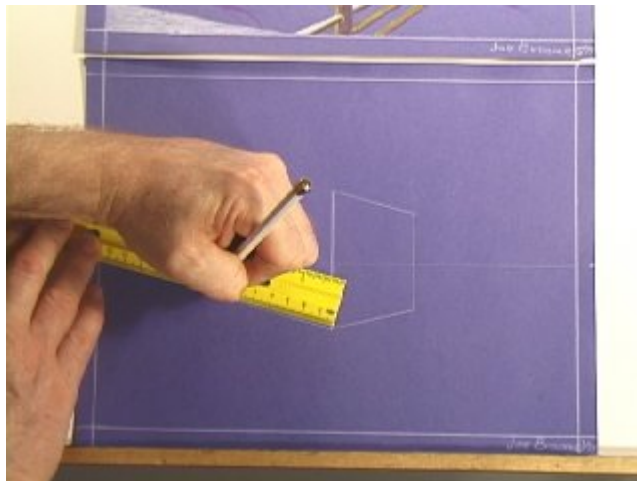
Lay your ruler vertically lined up with the bottom line and draw a line toward the top line. Lengthen or shorten the top line to make it end on the second vertical line



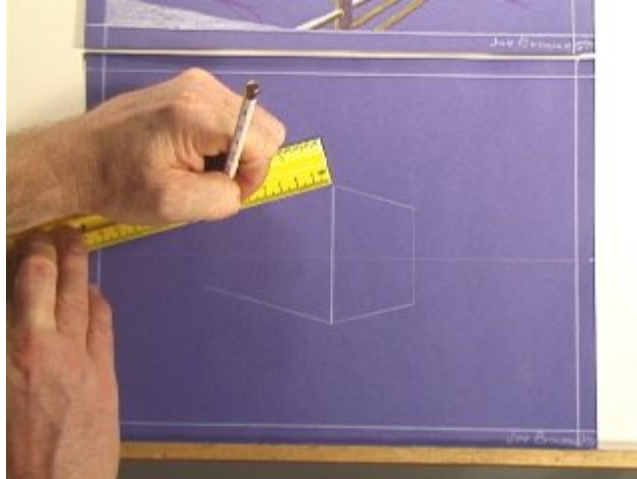
Erase any extra marks.



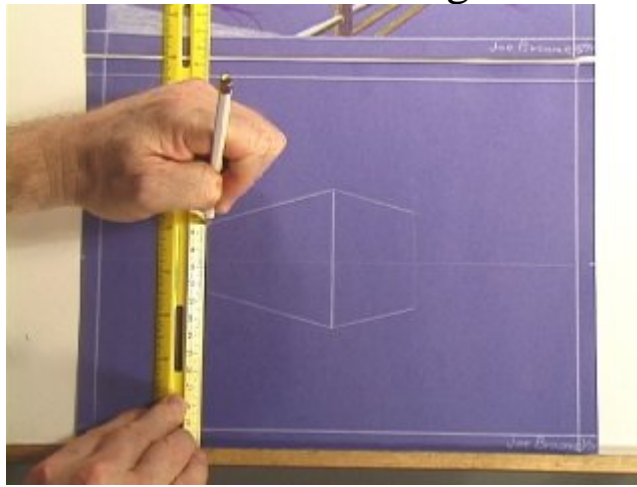
Now lay your ruler with the zero end touching the bottom of the first vertical line again but angle it toward the left dot.



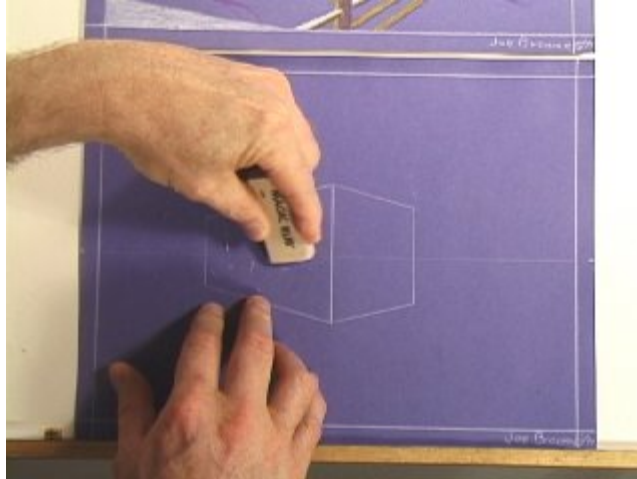
Make sure the ruler is touching the left dot (or vanishing point) and the bottom line and draw a line toward the left dot eight (8) centimeters.



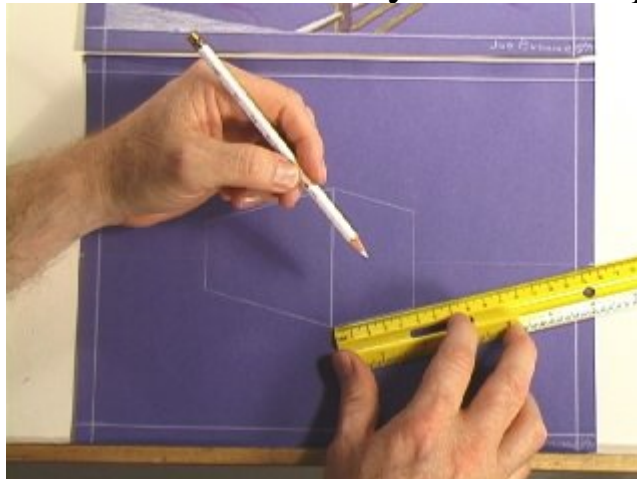
Repeat the process from the top of the vertical line making sure your metric side of the ruler is touching the left vanishing point.



Connect the two angular lines with a vertical line.



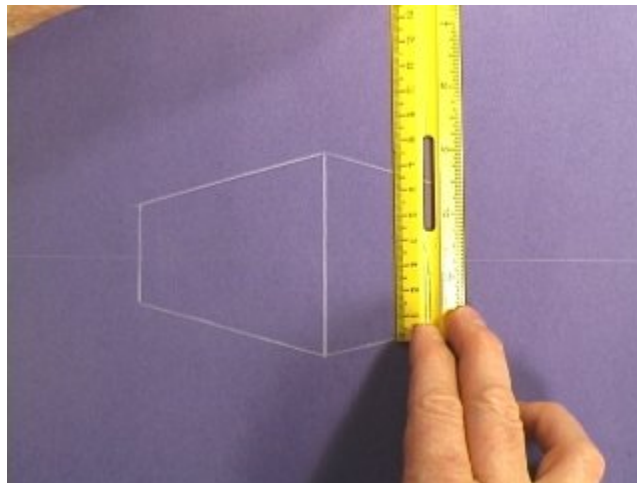
You have drawn a box in perspective and you can't see through a box. So erase the horizon line where it passes behind the box. Do not erase so hard that you hurt the paper.



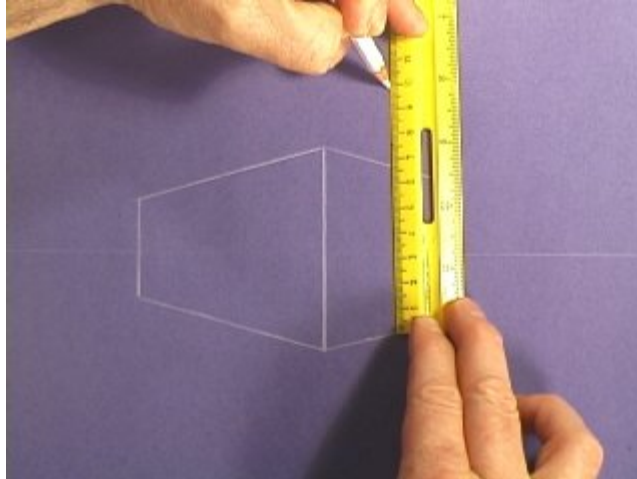
We need some marks to help us make the roof and door. So lay your ruler as if you were going to make the first angular line over again.



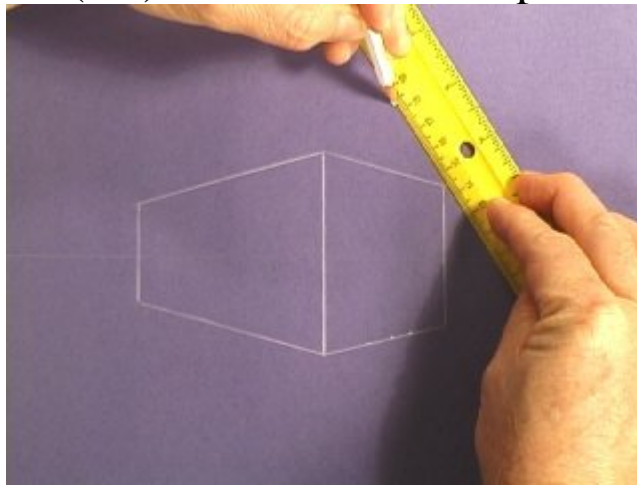
Make three marks on the line at two (2) centimeters, three (3) centimeters and put the final mark two millimeters before the four- (4) centimeter mark. The far away half of the door will be a little shorter than the close half of the door.



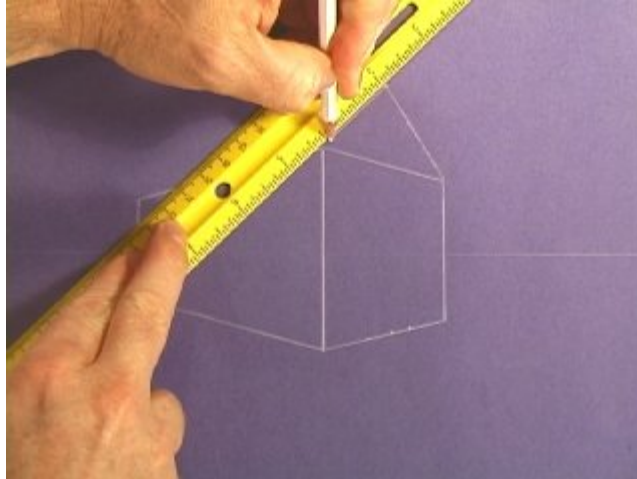
Turn your ruler vertical with the zero end of the ruler on the center or three- (3) centimeter mark.



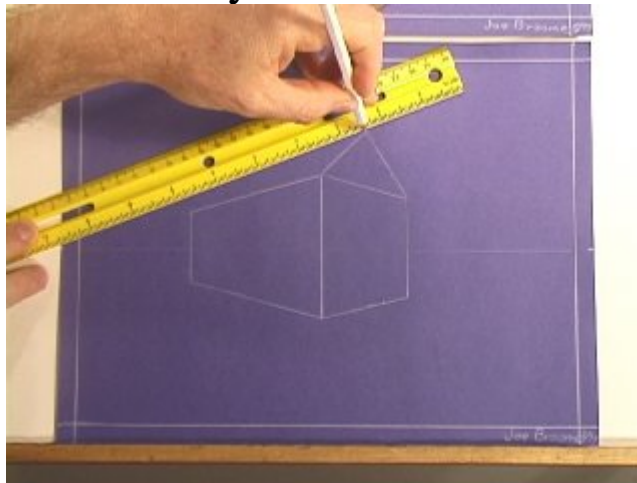
Make sure the ruler is vertical and make a dot at ten (10) centimeters (cm). This will be the apex of the roof.



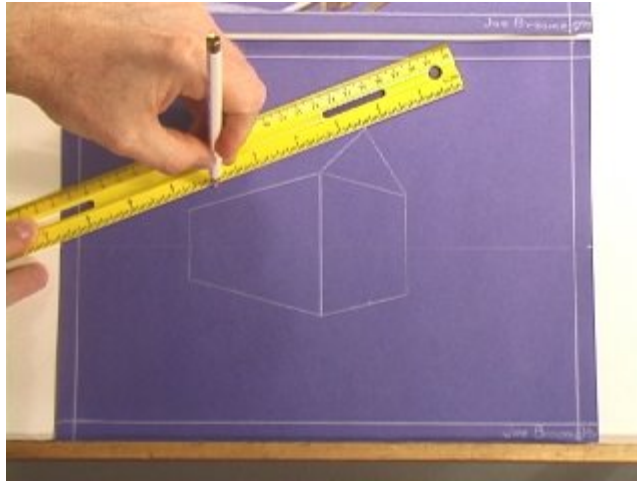
Now use the ruler as a straight edge to draw a line from the dot you just made to the right side of the box.



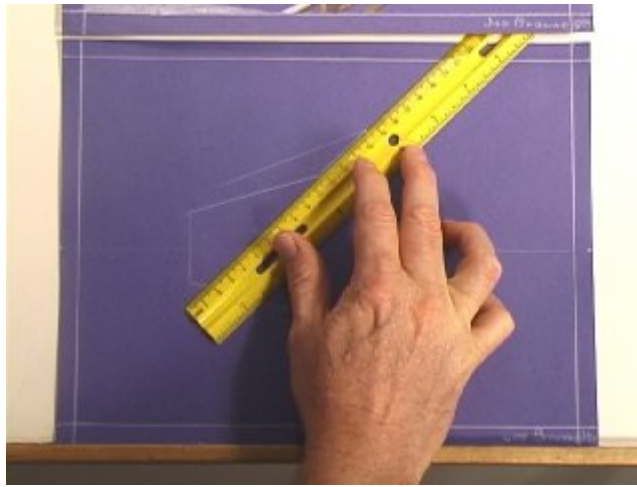
Use the ruler to draw a line from the dot to the first vertical line you drew.



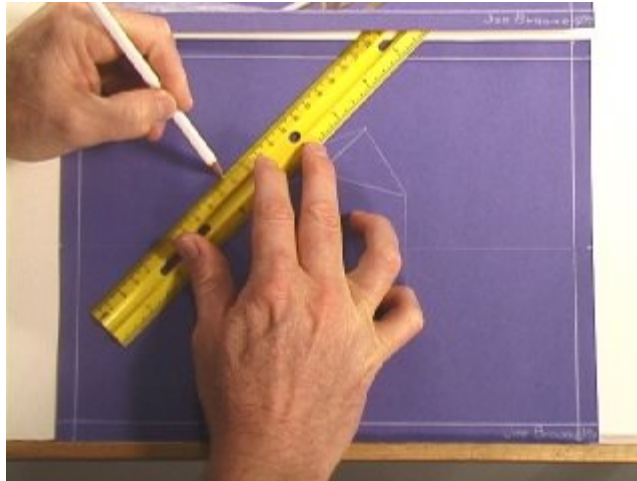
Use your ruler as a straight edge again by laying it across the apex of the roof and the left vanishing point. Make sure the ruler is touching those two places.



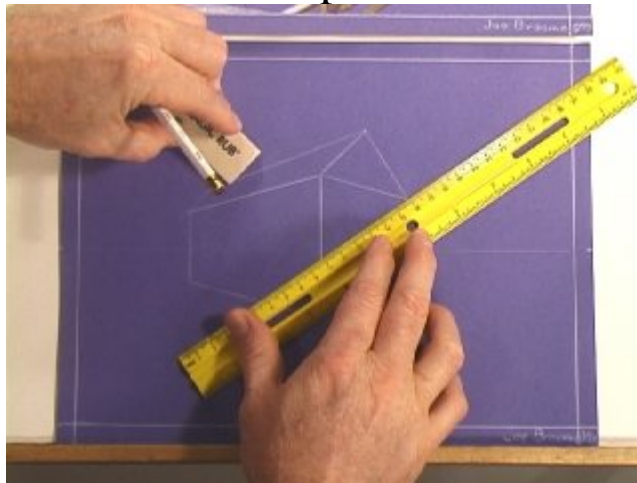
Draw a very light line almost to the left side of the box.



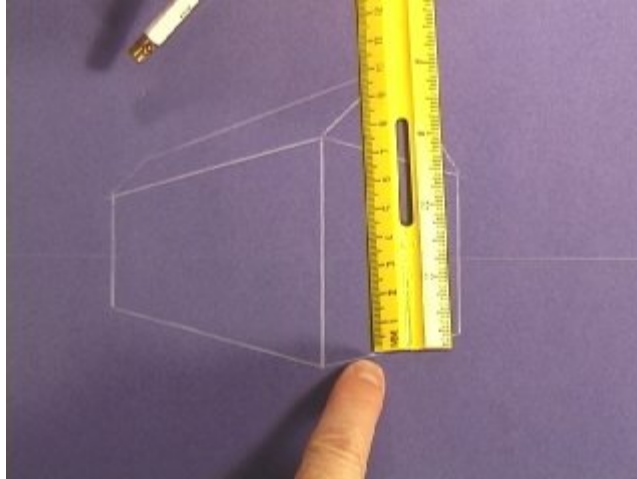
Next you will use an architects trick by laying the ruler on the left slope of the roof.



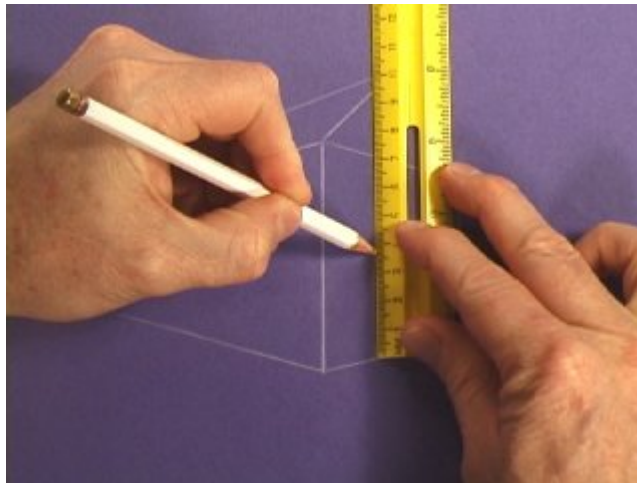
Then keep that angle as you slide the ruler to the left side of the building and draw a line up to the last line you drew.



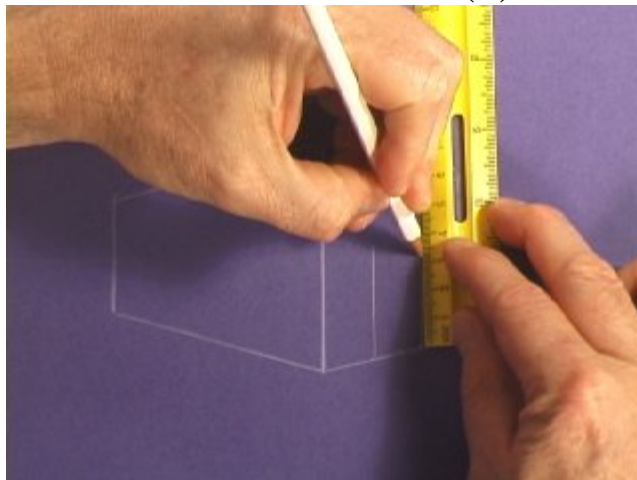
Now erase the extra.



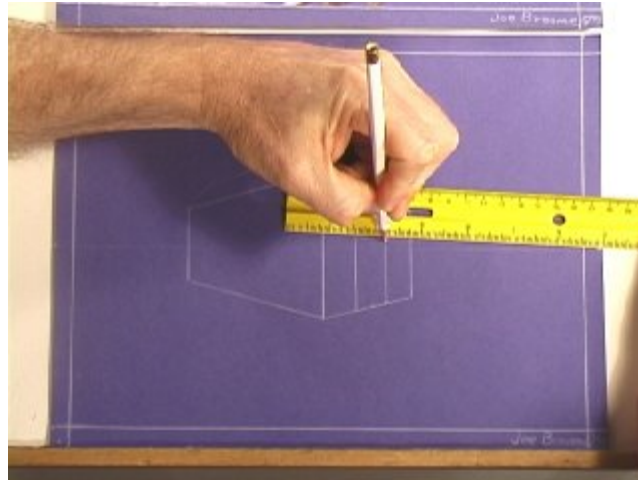
To make the door you need to lay your ruler vertically with the zero cm on the left dot of the three dots we made before.



Draw a line from the dot to four- (4) cm on the ruler.

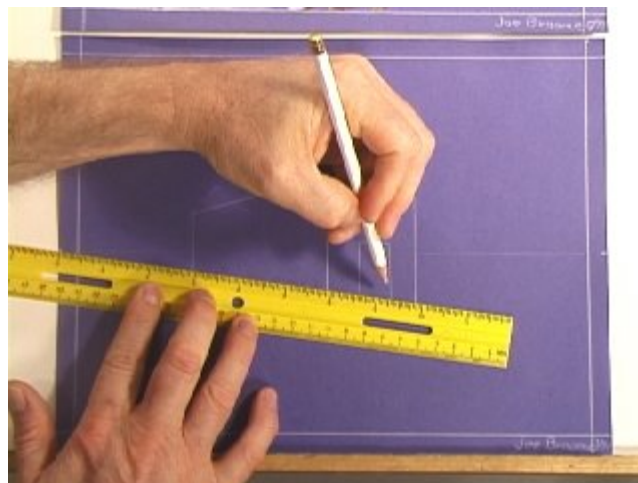


Draw a light vertical up from the third dot about as tall as the last but you won't know exactly how tall it will be until you draw the top of the door using two-point perspective.

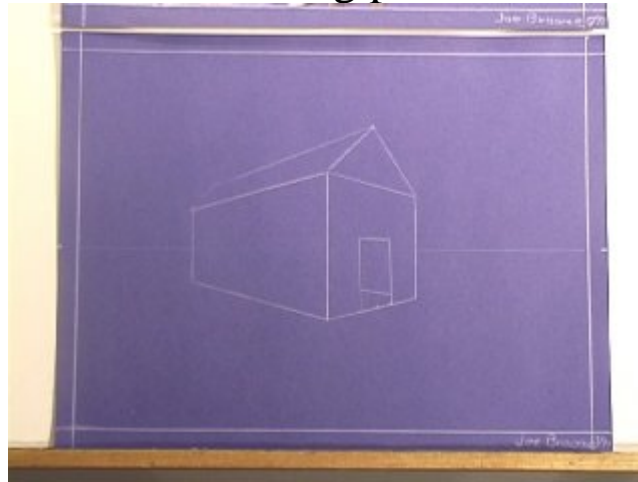


Use your ruler as a straight edge again lying across the left door line and the right vanishing point. Then draw a line from the top of the left side of the doorway to the right side of the doorway.

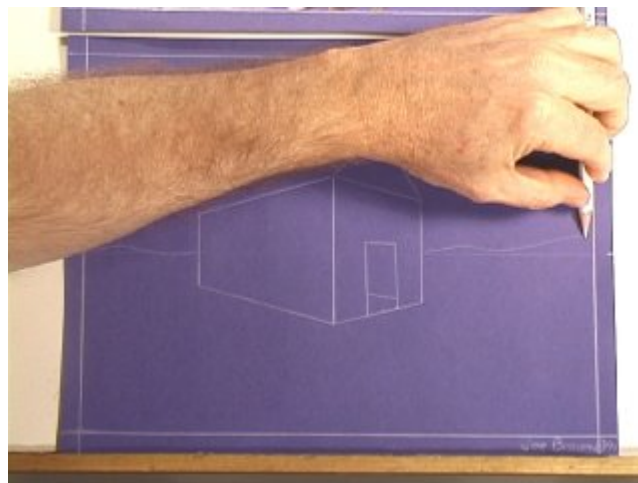
Erase the extra.



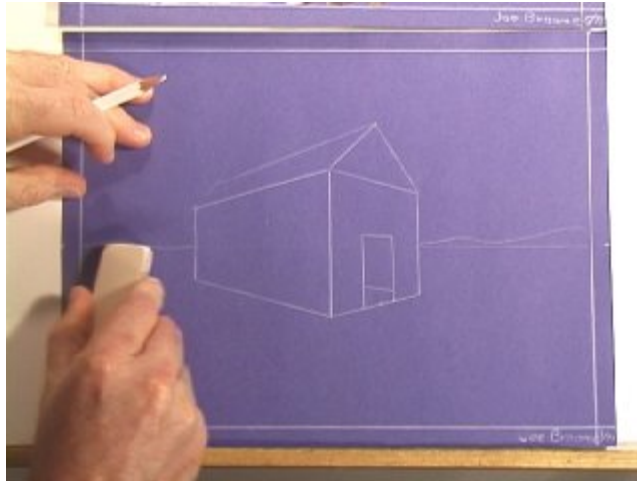
To draw the back wall inside the barn we have to use the ruler as a straight edge laying it across the lower right corner and the left vanishing point.



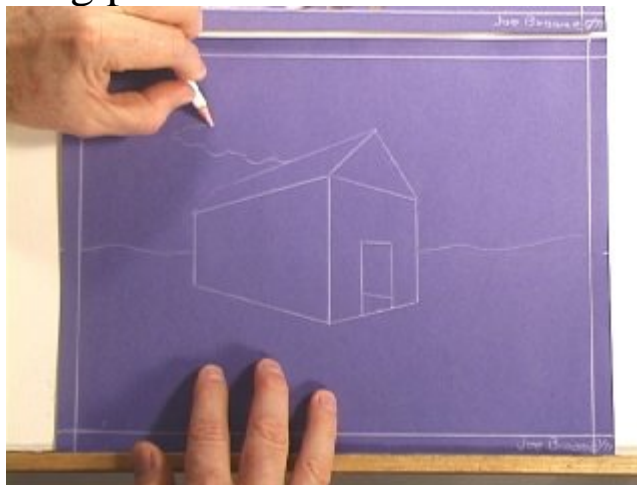
Draw your back wall only inside the doorway.



Everything we have done so far is measured or geometric. We will now do some chaotic or natural shapes. Lets start by making our horizon line into hills. Remember that too hilly is silly.



Erase the original straight horizon line but do not erase the two vanishing points. We will need them again.



Now lets start on the left side of the roof and make clouds in the shape of wide and pointed ovals. Make the clouds with a random outline made of three sized curves 1. Small, 2. Medium and 3. large.



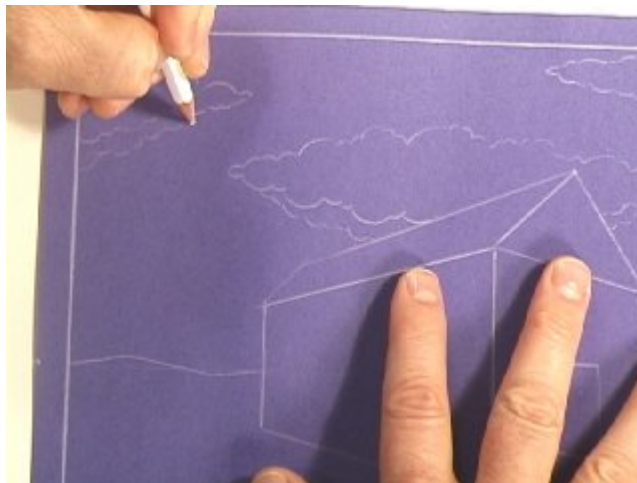
If you draw the three different sized curves in a random pattern but keep a generally wide oval shape you will get a good cloud shape every time.



Using the same random pattern of curves make a pointed oval sticking out from the left border.



Make one more coming down from the top and running off to the right border.



On all three clouds add another lighter random pattern on the under side. Don't let them reach the end points of the clouds.



Now we get to color! The roof and the top part of the clouds are going to be white. Lay your ruler on the edges so you don't go out of the lines and color the roof and clouds.



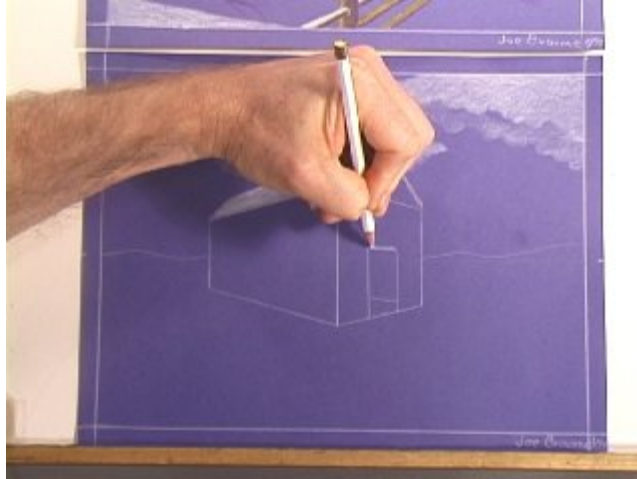
Lay your pencil sideways so it will not cut the paper with the sharp point and also thicken the right side of the roof.



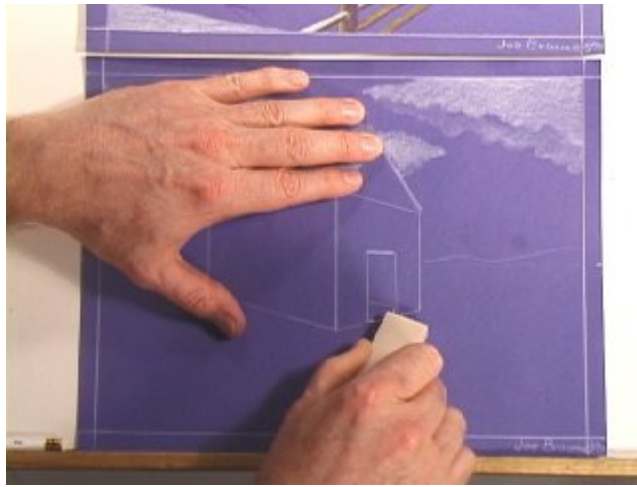
When you are coloring the clouds leave a tiny space between the roof and the clouds and color with tiny circles that blend together. Don't let the individual pencil marks show especially the outline of the cloud.



The bottom part of the clouds should be colored in by pressing much lighter on the pencil. This will leave the bottom a darker value and create the illusion of volume or roundness.



Add some snow above the doorway.



Erase the line across the doorway because it is going to be a dirt floor.



Now use your violet color and lay the ruler with the zero (cm) end at the bottom of the first vertical line you drew.



Put a tiny mark on the white line at each of the centimeter marks.



Now lay your ruler across the upper left slope of the roof but put your centimeter marks on the blue paper and not on the white roof.



Use your ruler as a straight edge and lay it across the left vanishing point and the first dot you drew on the white line. Make sure the ruler is touching both places before you draw the next line.



Draw a nice dark violet line from the white line to the back of the barn and stop. Don't try to estimate because you are learning to use this mathematical system to make the parts of the picture the correct size.



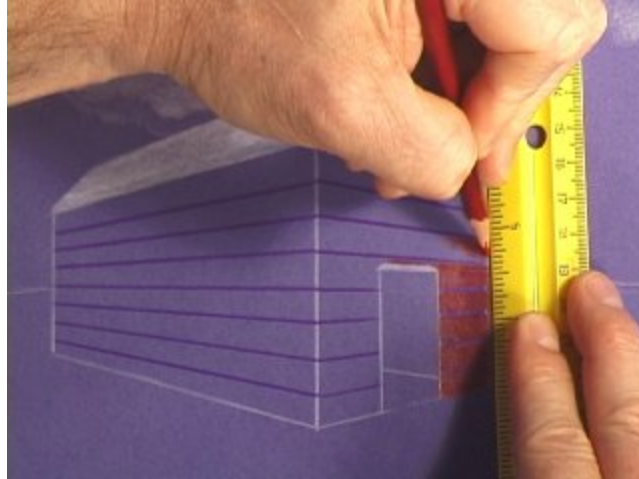
Repeat this process for each dot you made on the white line. The lines will fan out away from the left vanishing point.



Now lay your ruler across the right vanishing point and the bottom dot on the white line and do the same thing you did on the left side. Remember to skip over the door.



When you get to the roof you continue using the dots on the left slope.



Now use the dark red to color in the front of the barn. Use the ruler to help you stay in the lines. Don't color over the violet shadows between the boards. Do color over the white outlines.



Use the lighter red to do the other wall.



Now use the violet pencil and lay it sideways so it won't cut the paper and add some shading on the red under the edge of the roof all the way from the right to the left.



Next we will do inside the door. Use the ruler as a straight edge lying across the bottom right side of the door and the left vanishing point.



Use the violet pencil to make a mark almost as small as you can make from the right side of the door into the doorway.



Now lay your ruler vertically against the little mark and next to the right side of the door. Draw a line and fill the space between the line and the door.



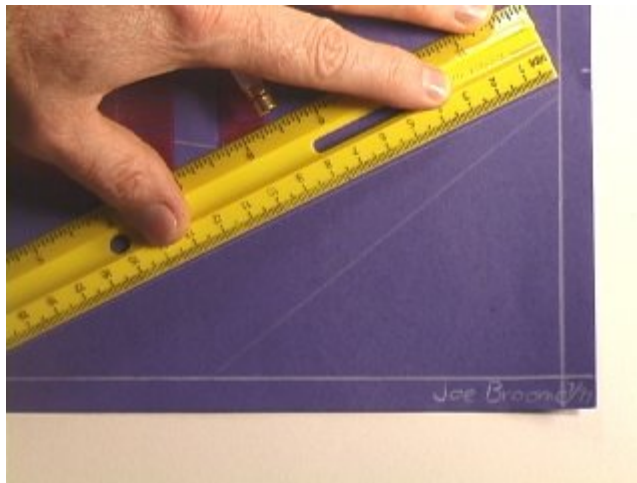
To make the fence we need to put the zero end of the ruler on the right vanishing point and the twenty-three (23) cm mark on the bottom border.



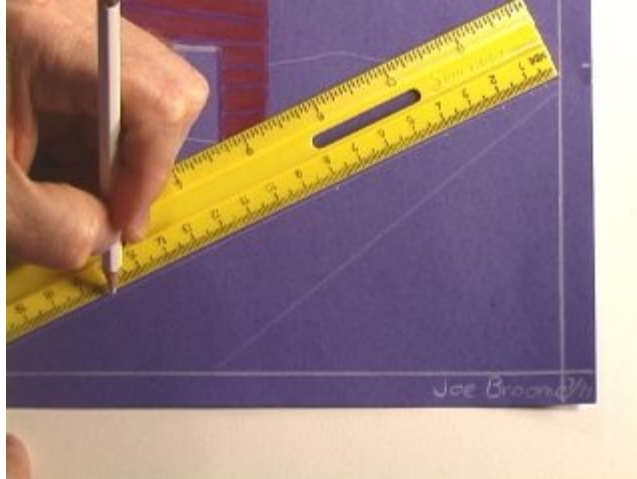
Very lightly using your white pencil draw a line from border to border not from edge of the page to edge.



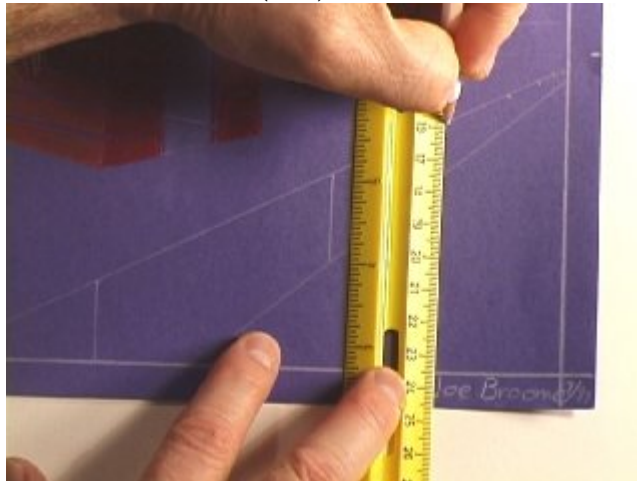
Carefully put the zero end of the ruler on the right vanishing point again and slide the sixteen- (16) cm mark on the ruler to the border and draw another very light line.



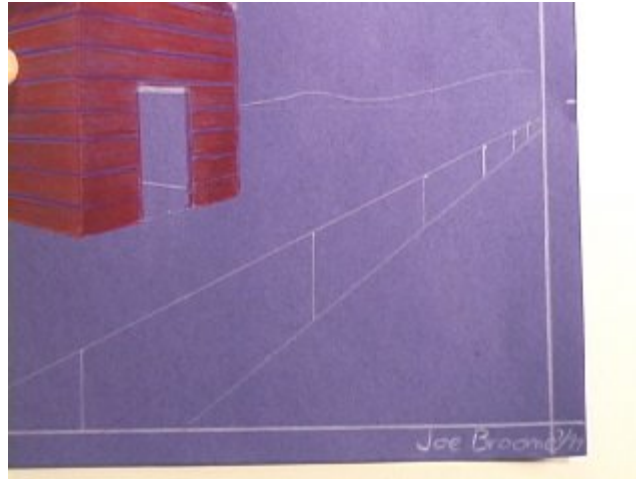
To indicate where the vertical fence posts are located we have to lay the ruler on the top line with the zero cm on the right border.



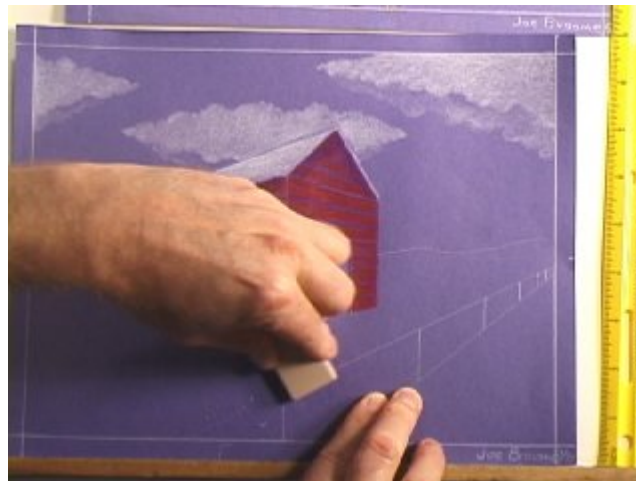
Then we make tiny marks on the white line at the half ($1/2$) cm, the one- (1) cm, the two- (2) cm, the four- (4) cm, the eight- (8) cm, and the sixteen (16) cm marks on the ruler.



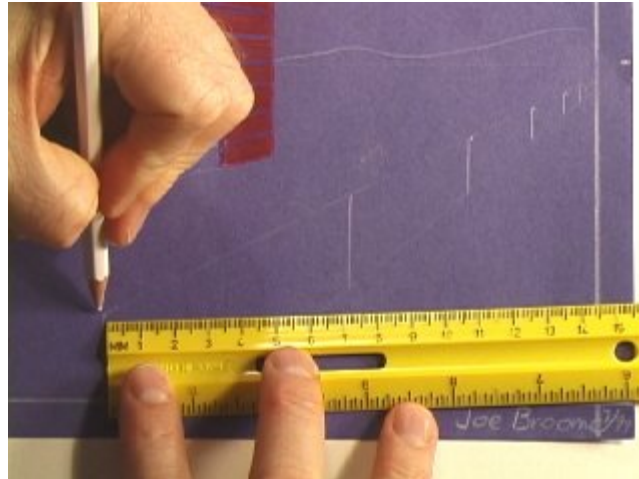
For each dot that you have just made you need to lay the ruler vertically and draw a light line down to the second line. Only the first line will touch the border.



There seems to be a psychological tendency to lean the ruler to one side so you must fight that temptation and keep the ruler vertical for each line.



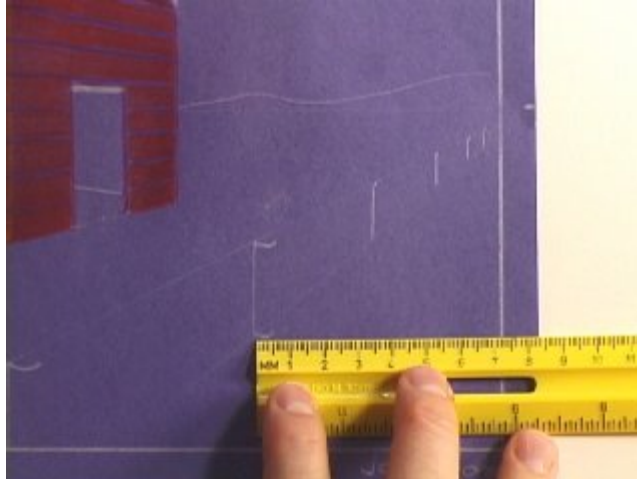
Now erase the two angular lines.



To make the top and bottom of the fence posts you will need to lay the ruler horizontally and draw a smile extending to the right of the top and bottom of each one.



The closest post has a smile one (1) cm wide but you can't see the bottom.



The second post has two (2) half ($1/2$) cm smile curves.



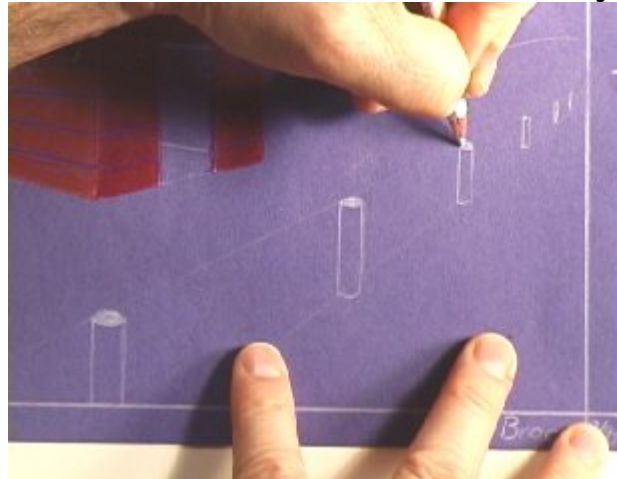
The smile curves on the third post are one fourth ($1/4$) cm wide.



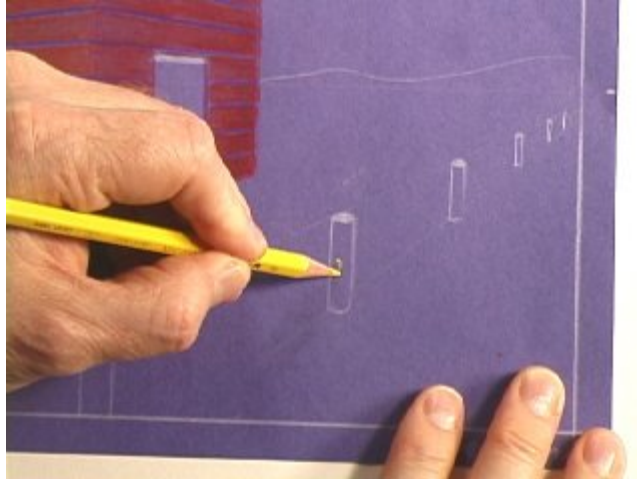
You don't have to measure the forth post-just make a tiny smile at the top and bottom.



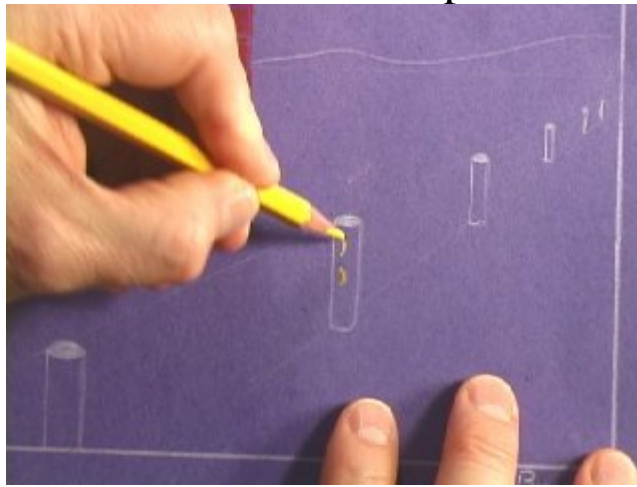
Next draw a line down connecting the smile curves on each post until you get to the last two. The second to last only needs to be darkened and the last should remain a very skinny line.



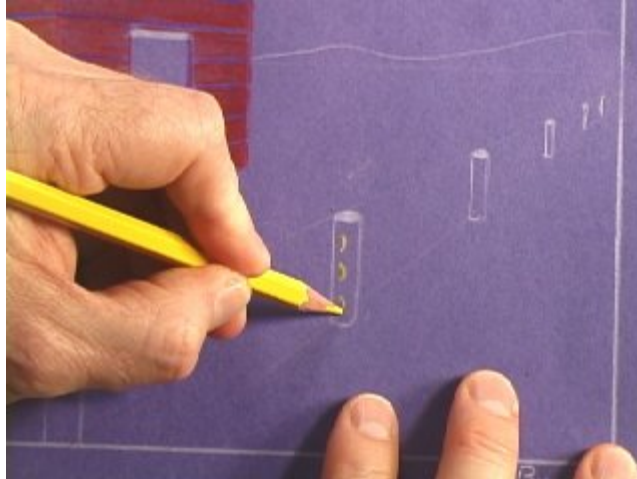
We can now color in the top of each post with an oval of snow, which is as wide as the smile curves.



Now use the yellow color and make a tiny curve in the center of the second fence post.



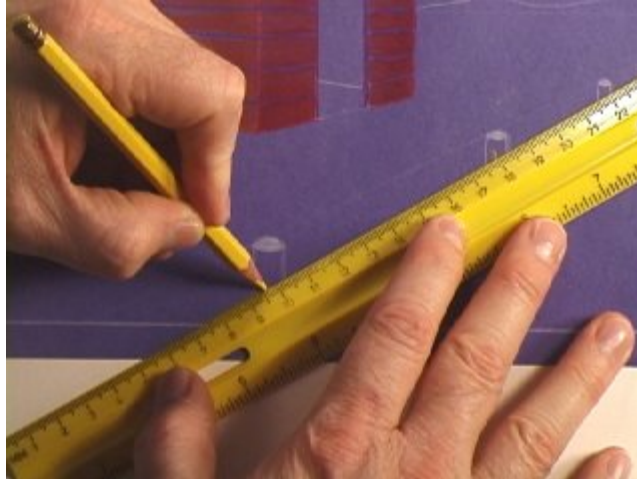
Then put another tiny curve half way between that curve and the top and the top of the post.



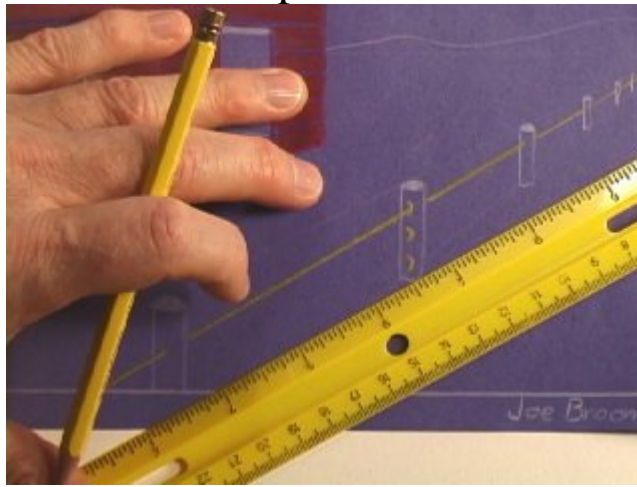
Put a third curve half way between the middle curve and the bottom of the post.



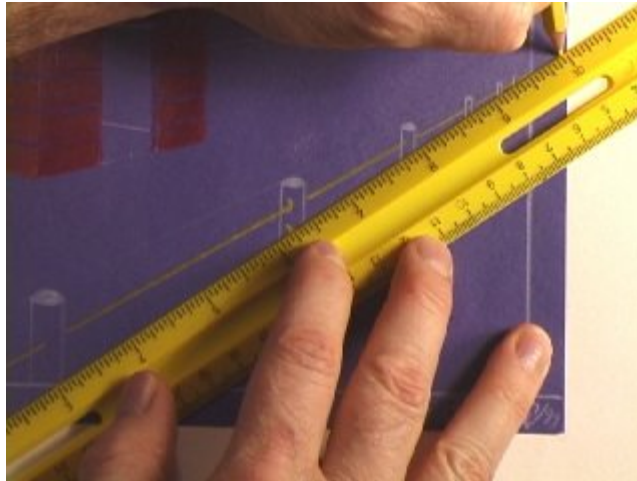
Use your ruler as a straight edge and lay it across the right vanishing point and the top yellow curve.



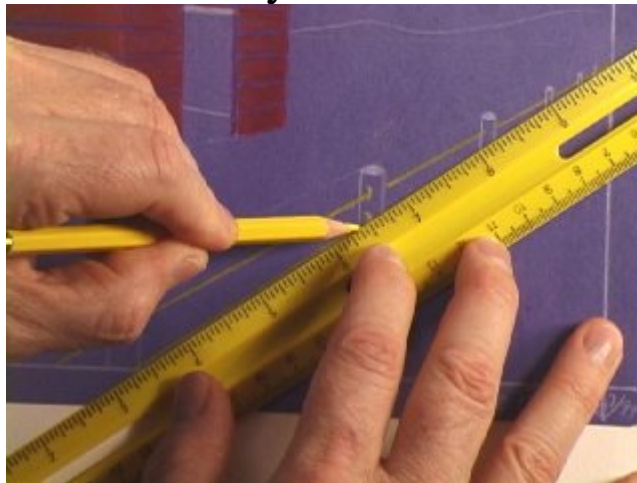
Draw a yellow line from the border to the middle of the first post.



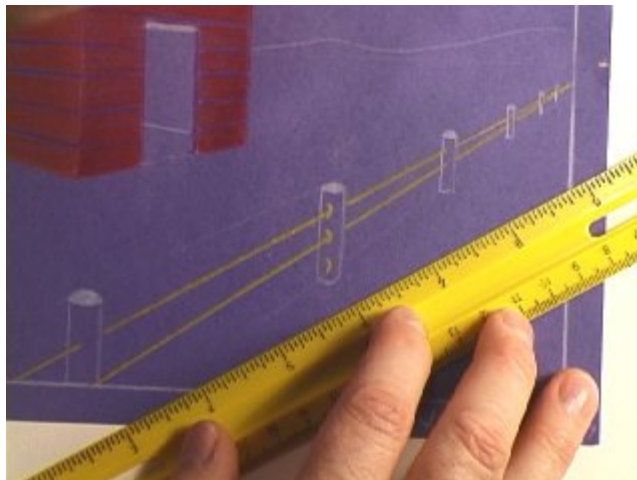
Continue the yellow line from the back of the first post to the middle of the second and repeat this process to the border.



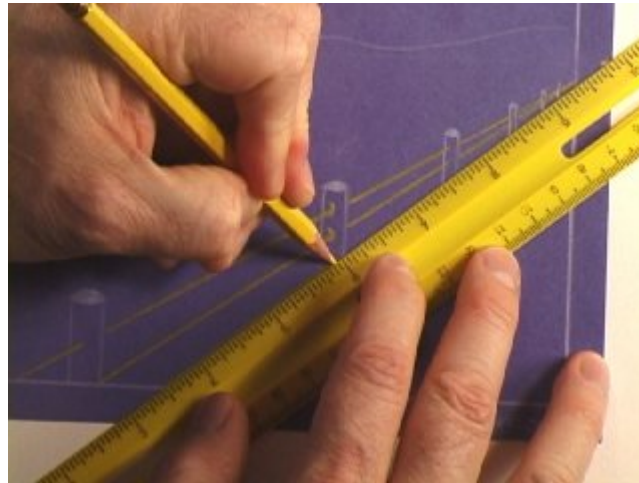
Put your ruler on the right vanishing point again and on the second yellow curve.



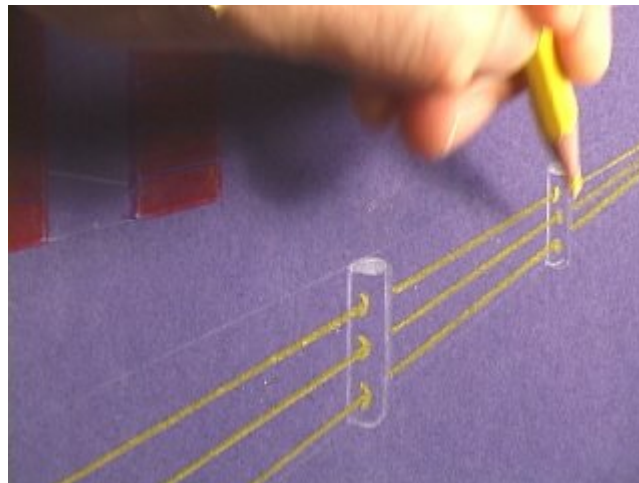
Draw a line to the middle of the second post.



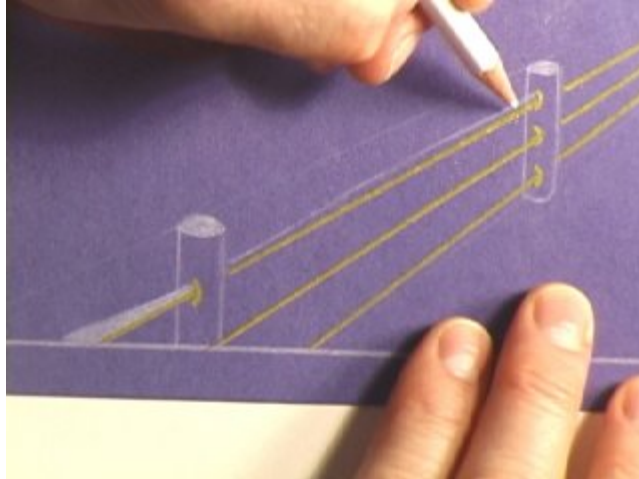
Repeat the process you used on the top yellow line for the second.



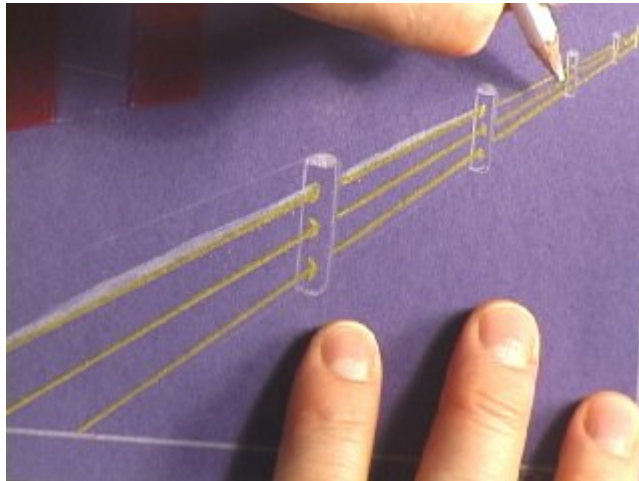
Do the same for a third line.



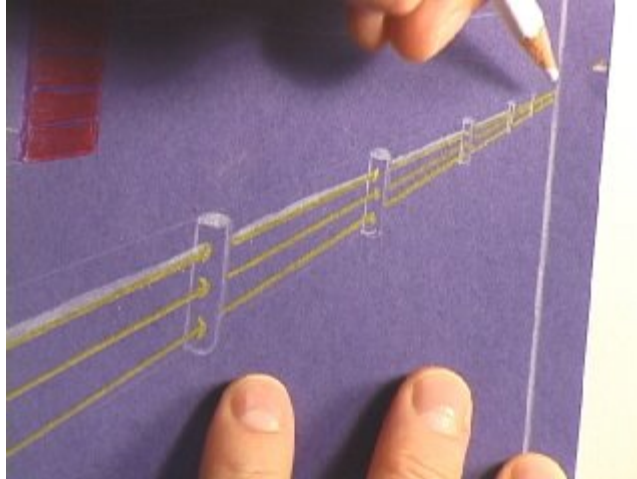
Use the yellow pencil to make little curves in the middle of each post where the line ends.



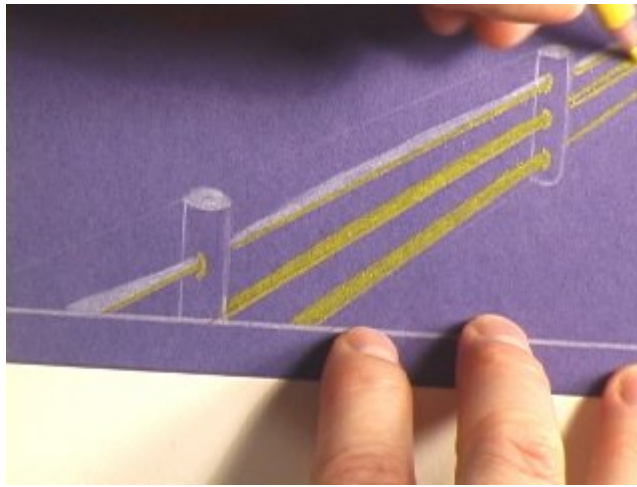
Use the white pencil to draw a line on top of the yellow line and fill. Let the snow get wider in the center.



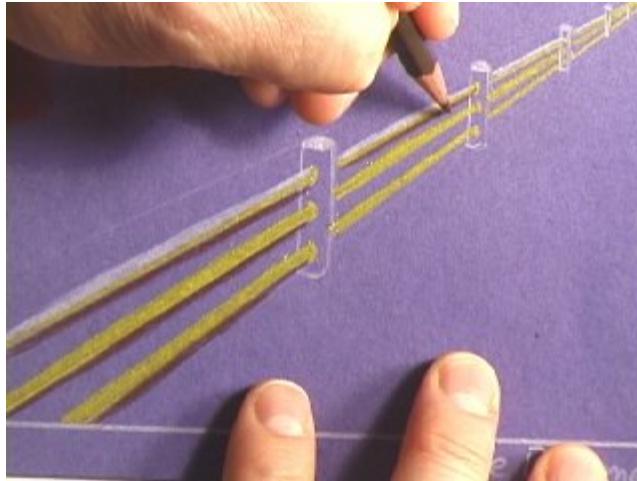
Make sure the white snow gets thinner on each post.



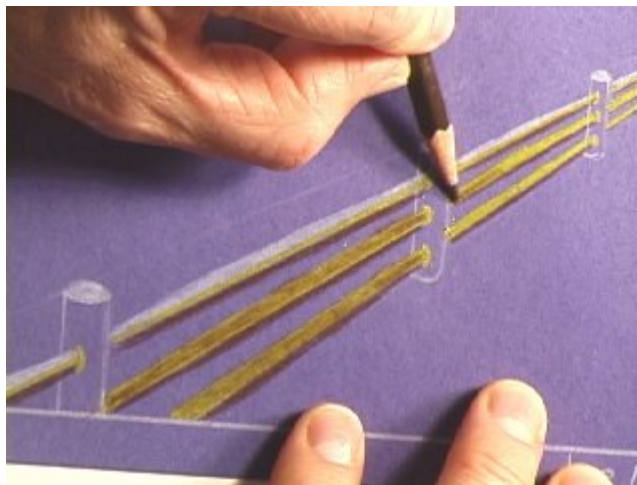
On the distant posts you will only need to add a thin line of white.



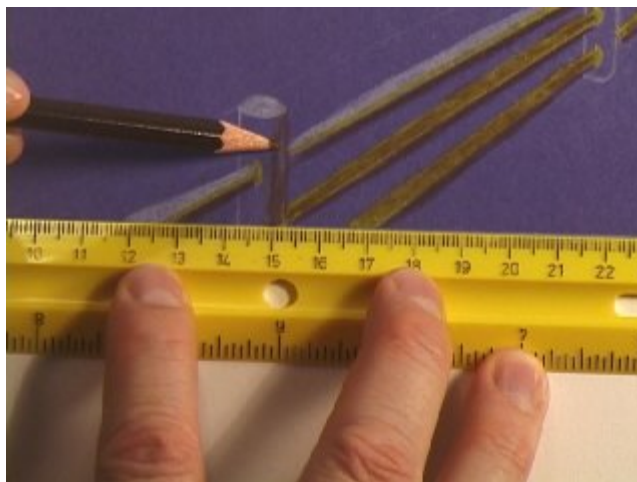
The second row of posts are yellow on top but they are the same as the top ones in thickness.



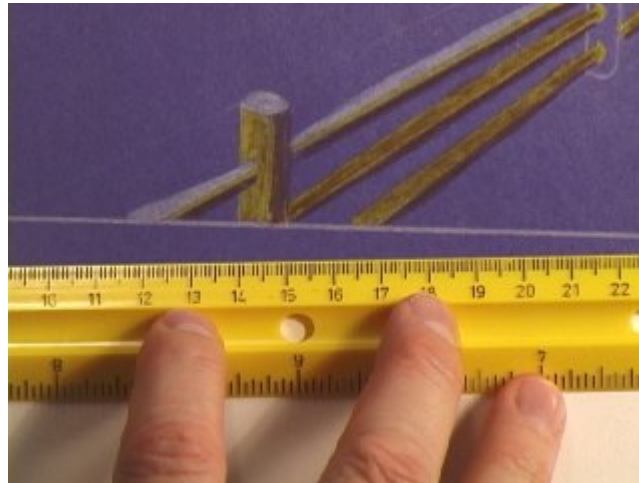
All the posts have a thin line of brown on there under sides.



Next use the side of the brown pencil to tone the yellow to make it more brown and natural.



Now color the vertical posts the same way. Start with the brown on the right side.



Next add yellow to the left side and tone it with brown and repeat this on the remaining posts.



To do the inside of the doorway you begin by making an upside down "L" shape with yellow.



Next fill in the middle but press more lightly as you move down.



Use the brown to make an "L" shape on the inner wall of the barn and fill it in pressing lighter toward the center.



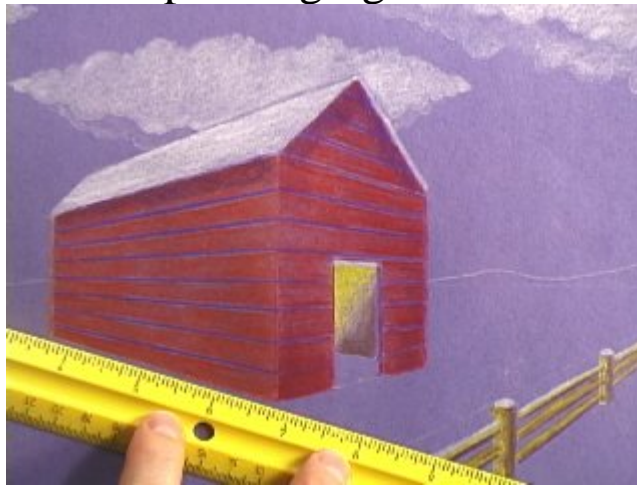
Lay the ruler across the bottom of the barn to help you keep your line straight when you add shadows from the moon behind the barn and the light from inside the barn.



Slide the ruler up to the door keeping the same angle and use the side of your white pencil to lightly color a rectangle that is longer on the top and shorter on the bottom.



Use the brown to make an "L" shape on the inner wall of the barn and fill it in pressing lighter toward the center.



Lay the ruler across the bottom of the barn to help you keep your line straight when you add shadows from the moon behind the barn and the light from inside the barn.



Slide the ruler up to the door keeping the same angle and use the side of your white pencil to lightly color a rectangle that is longer on the top and shorter on the bottom.



Use the white and a random pattern to make a few simple mountain shapes on the left and right side of the barn.



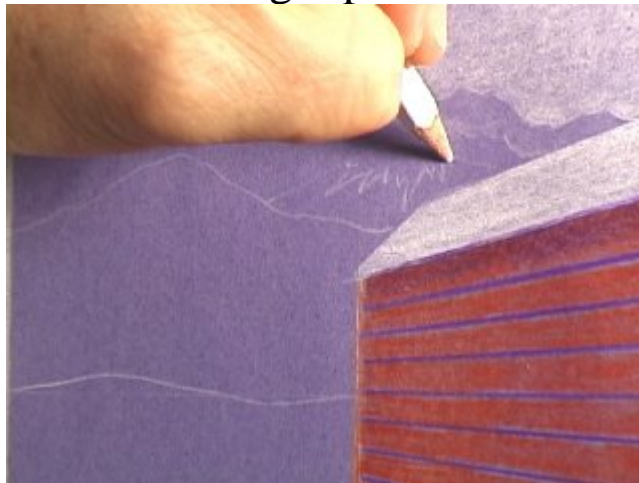
The snowcaps are made with another random pattern but unlike the clouds the snow is made of small, medium and large points instead of curves.



The snow should all be about the same height on the mountains and you should press lightly.



Find some spots to put small shapes of snow that are not with the larger patches.



The mountains that are farther away must be lighter.



You can also leave places in the large snow patches where triangles of rock are slightly exposed.



As you color in the snow with white you can change the shape slightly so it looks more natural and less like a star shape.



Use your violet and color in the mountains. Make them slightly darker at the base and lighter as they reach up to the snow.



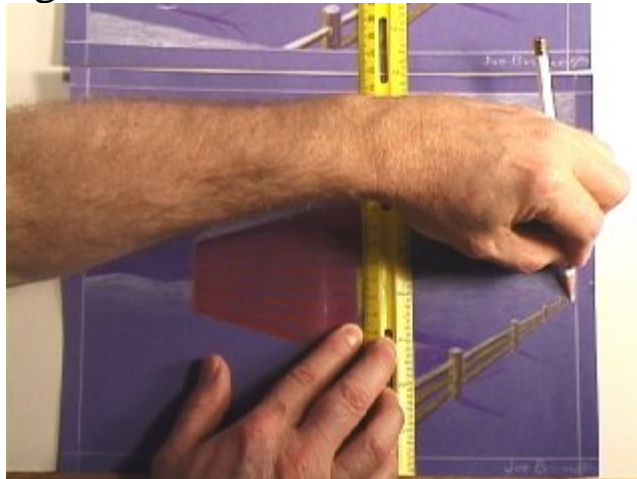
Remember that the light is coming from the left side of the picture so you will make slightly darker shadows on the right side of the long points of snow.



Indicate that one mountain is in front of another by extending a violet shadow across like this.



Now use the side of the white pencil to color the hill shapes. Press harder at the top and lighter as you move down the hill. Don't go down below the base of the barn.



Carefully fill in around the fence lightly.



Make a slight curvy line from near the fence at the bottom of the page over to the left border.



Fill it in.



Use your violet to make a thick line close to the snow bank you just made.



Let the line get thinner as you move up creating a tree branch.



Add branches the same way but remember that branches are thinner than the branch from which they grow.



Use the white to make a little smile shape at the base of the tree and snow on top of each branch.



Use the violet to draw a light shadow roughly copying the shape of the tree facing the same direction of all the other shadows.



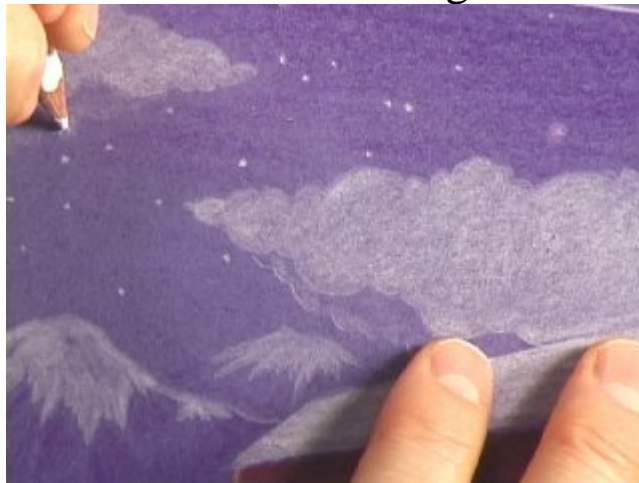
Use the violet to add a darker value to the top of the sky. Press harder at the top of the sky and don't color over the clouds.



Press lighter as you move down the sky and don't color all the way down to the barn roof. This creates the illusion of distance using value.



Now carefully twist your white pencil on the sky to add stars in a random pattern. Let some be close together and some far apart.



On two or three of the stars you can add a very light circle of hazy white.



Maybe for variety you can make one stare sparkle by making short quick marks radiating from the center.



If you wish you may make one of the stars into a comet or meteor by adding a short curving tail.



Finally you should look over your picture and see if there is anything you will wish to add or do differently next time. I'm sure you did a fantastic job. Go outside and quickly sketch a house so you will remember the things you learned today.