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Opening extract from

Steampunk Machines

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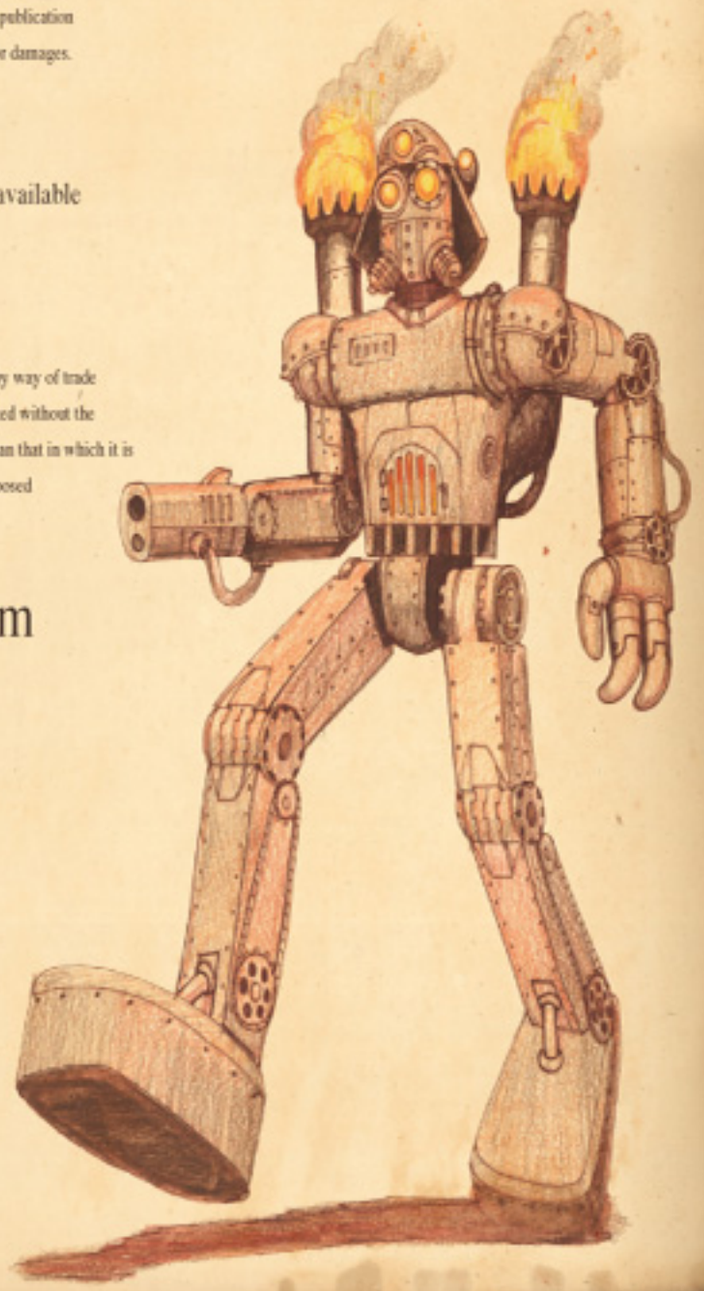
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INTRODUCTION

Steampunk is a popular artistic movement that spans many genres. The inspiration for this form of Victorian futurism, with its sepia-tinted world of havoc-wreaking machines and fantasy gadgetry, was originally born from the masters of science-fiction literature.

You can start an artistic adventure and use this book as your secret weapon to learn how to draw and colour your own gargantuan Steampunk creations.

Massive machines are integral to the Steampunk world, from gigantic Dirigible Balloons to Aquatilus Submarines. Create the unimaginable using a variety of drawing and colouring methods and tools. This book will provide you with step-by-step guides and handy tips, as well as the knowledge and enthusiasm to launch your own Steampunk universe.



DRAWING TOOLS

Learn about the many tools and materials that you can use to translate your inventive speculations onto paper. You do not need lots of equipment – the basic pencil is the most versatile tool. Explore different ways of making marks to discover your own style.



Ink pens are ideal for sketching. Develop different tones by building up layers of shading.



Tone

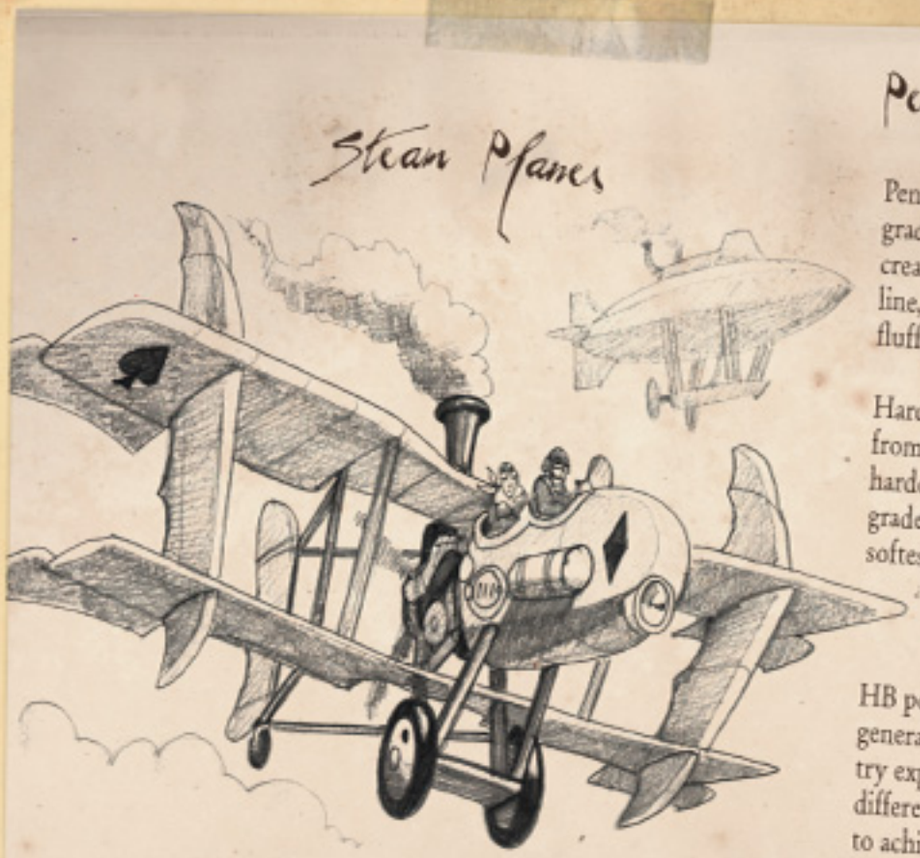
Using tone makes your drawings look more real and 3D. The darkest areas of your drawing can be inked in solidly but leave the lightest areas ink-free. Use cross-hatching for darker tones and hatching for midtones (see below).



Cross-hatching Hatching

Felt-tips are great for filling in areas of flat tone.

Dramatic use of light is called chiaroscuro – an Italian word for 'light–dark'.



Pencils

Pencils come in different grades of hardness and each creates a different type of line, from fine greys to soft fluffy blacks.

Hard pencils are graded from H to 6H (the hardest). Soft pencils are graded from B to 9B (the softest and blackest).

HB pencils are ideal for general sketching. But try experimenting with different grades of pencils to achieve a variety of tonal effects.

Draughtsmen's pens

Draughtsmen's pens and art pens are ideal for creating fine, regular lines and surface texture. A variety of pen nib widths are available.



Try out new approaches by experimenting with drawing papers. They are available in various surface textures from smooth to very rough. Rough paper is ideal for use with charcoal, whereas smooth paper is best for fine line drawings.

IDEAS

Steampunk is an artistic movement with endless creative possibilities. Its roots are in the Industrial Revolution: an era of great change, from manufacturing techniques to transport, offering plenty of new technology from which to draw inspiration. Be inspired by lost items from the gaslit past and use old photographs to let your imagination run full steam ahead!



Inspiration

Let the Industrial Revolution ignite your artistic speculation. Victorian transport included the steam train, horse and cart, steamboats and sometimes even cars. Why not visit a steam rally for inspiration?

Machinery

Steampunk art draws heavily on Victorian machinery. Cogs, wheels and rivets appear in abundance. Try searching through second-hand shops for old-fashioned mechanisms or watches to whet your Steampunk appetite.



Reinventing equipment

Modern equipment can be reincarnated in a fictional Victorian age. Imagine your digital equipment and techno mechanisms driven by steam and clockwork!



Instruments

Dream in brass. Take inspiration from unlikely items such as musical instruments or veteran cars.

Decoration

Steampunk blurs the line between tool and decoration. It is a design aesthetic that values detail, detail and more detail! Think brass and copper, glass and polished wood, engraving and etching.



Inventions

The Victorian and Edwardian eras, while filled with traditional values, were a playground for invention and discovery. Take inspiration from inventions like the lightbulb and dream up your own zany mechanical miracles.





