



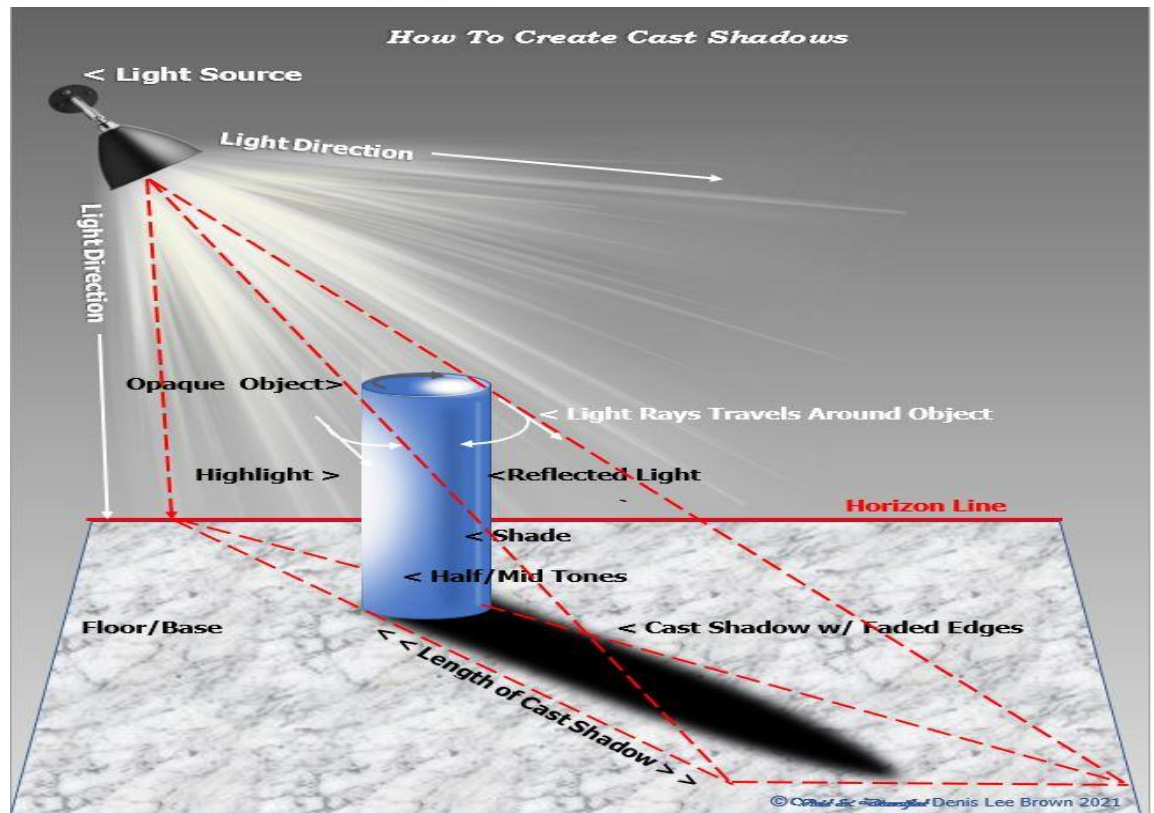
Dennis Lee Brown

Creating Cast Shadows

Light effects on an opaque object

There are two types of shadows. Form shadow is a shadow caused by the planes turning away from the light source. A cast shadow is caused by one structure blocking the light from hitting another object or thing. Example: A wooden block hinders the light from reaching the part of the table right behind the opposite side of the block. An object's cast shadow is the object's adjacent shadow in which its outline is distorted (softened/burred). A cast shadow is distinguished from a core shadow in that it is slightly brighter, and its edges are softer the further it gets from the object.

It is a critical part of any drawing or painting composition that all its' objects and/or subjects indicate light and shadows. The shaded side of the items in a drawing or painting depends on where its light source is found in the picture. Because "light



THE TECHNIQUE OF CREATING CAST SHADOWS

rays" hitting an opaque object is the factor that creates the "cast shadow" which lies on the base of the opposite side of the illuminated side.

When light hits an object, and as it travels passes it, if it is opaque (impenetrable), the light traveling goes around it (passes by) and the light is blocked directly behind the object. That area has no direct light, creating a dark

area, described as a "cast shadow". To calculate the the length and direction of a cast shadow, follow the steps described in the sequences of illustrations shown below. Further examples of how cast shadows work show you what happens in a variety of lighting and compositional situations. Knowing how to do this is useful when

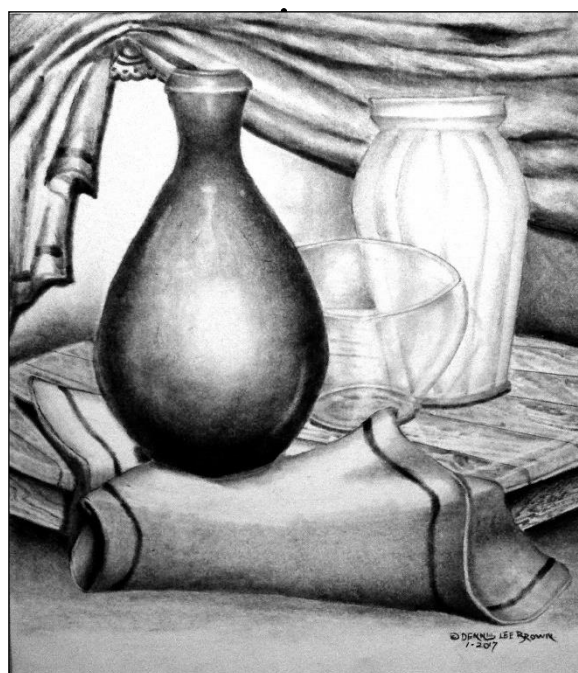
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Art Techniques

Skillful Art Abilities

*"Create Artwork
that is far
beyond the next
level".*

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A BLACK AND A WHITE VASE
10" X 14" Graphite on Bristol 12-2016

In the Gallery

*New Collections & Exhibits
Coming Soon to the Gallery*

Come now to the art gallery to discover the featured original drawings and paintings of Dennis Lee Brown's works in Charcoal, Graphite, Pastel, Acrylic, and oil Paintings at [Dennis's Fine Art Gallery](#).

More Details

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Fine Art Techniques

The Techniques of Creating Cast Shadows

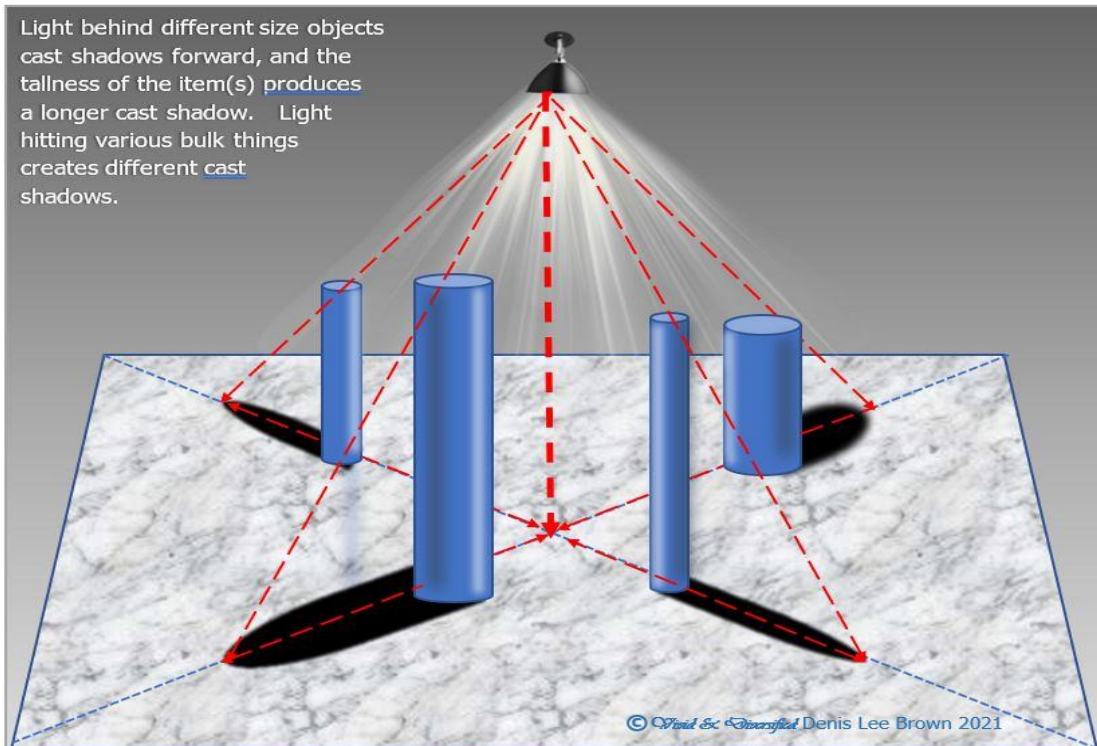
you are drawing from your imagination or when cast shadows are obscured by objects you don't want to include in your picture.

Calculation Instructions:

To calculate the length and directions of a cast shadow, first,

- locate the light center of the light source,
- then locate the point directly beneath the light on the surface (plane) receiving the cast shadow.
- Make a mark of the imagined point of contact.

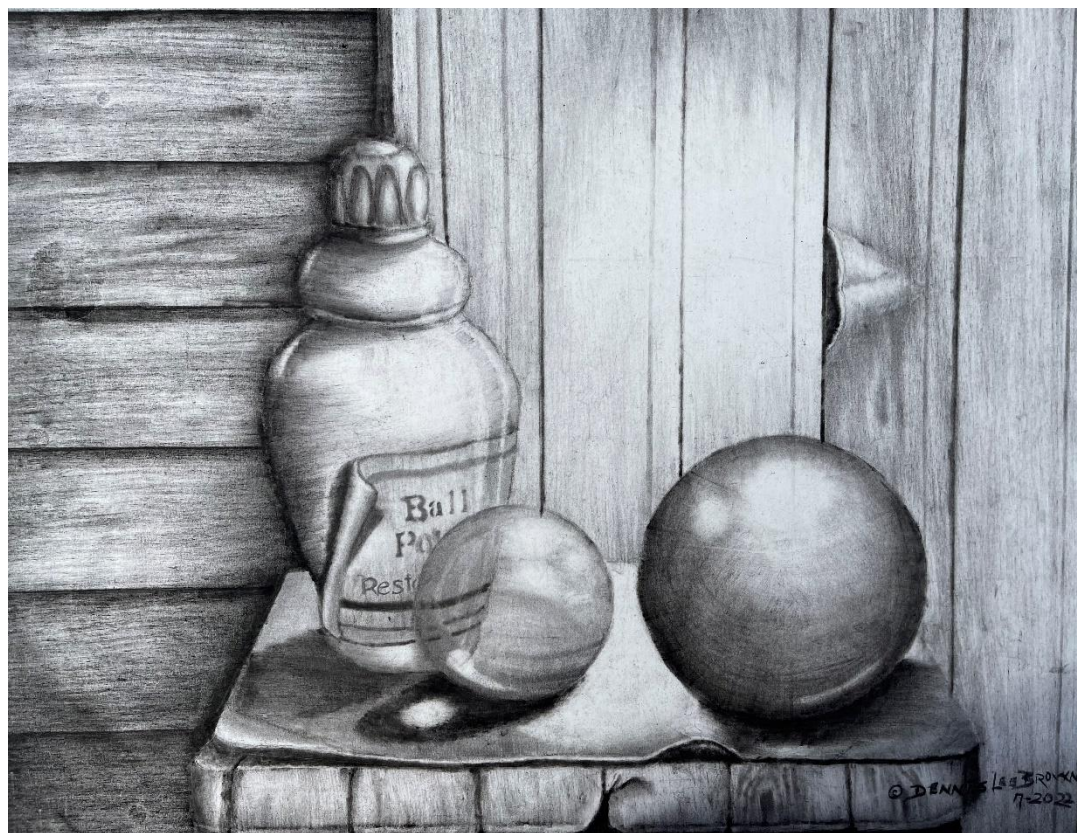
(When the sun (light) is close to the horizon, the horizon is the point of contact.)



Central Lighting and Object Placement

Skillful Art Abilities

Take Your Art Far Beyond the Next Level



CLEAR BALL & A JUG
17" w X 14" h Still-life Charcoal & Graphite on Bristol
© Dennis Lee Brown 11-2022 Dennis Fine Art (ARR)
Winter Drawings of 2022 IMG-3509-595USD

If the light source is central to a group of objects, all the cast shadows will radiate from that central point. The cast shadow will be created by the passing light at a different position in the layout.

When the light source is off the page, its position must be imagined calculating the length and direction of cast shadows within the picture.

Notice how a cast shadow can be calculated even when the surface receiving it changes direction.

To find a point along the perimeter of the cast shadow, draw a vertical line from the point on the object you want to locate to the ground beneath it. (In the first of these examples, the tree trunk is the vertical line, and the top of the tree is the point we want to locate.) Then draw lines from the light source and the point beneath the light source (you may have to imagine the exact location of this point on the ground) through the top and bottom of this vertical line. Where these lines cross will be that particular point in the cast shadow. This helps locate the corners of cubes in cast shadows or the shadows of floating objects, and in plotting the cast shadows of curving objects.



Dennis's Fine Art Gallery

Draw This Series

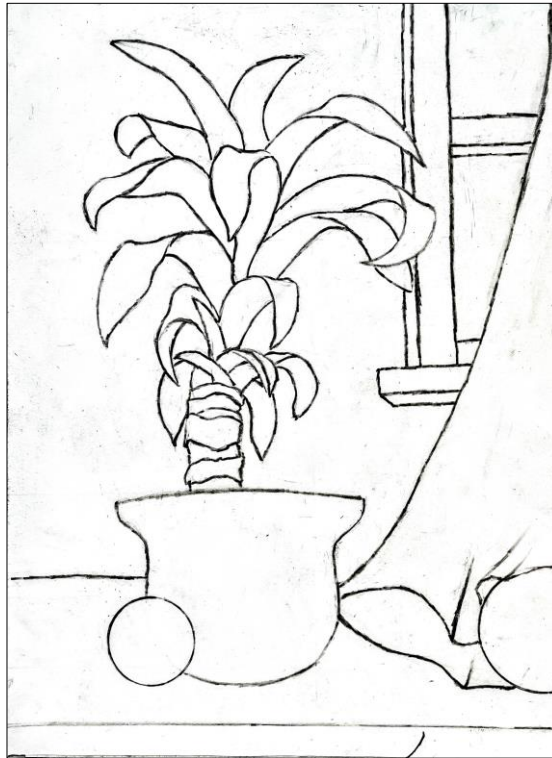


Welcome to Dennis's Fine Art - **Draw This Series!** Here you can download some of my original sketches and turn them into your own original work of art using your choice of charcoal, colored pencil, graphite, or pastels. Take on the challenge and let your creativity flow as you draw masterpieces. With the right set of techniques and art principles with a little bit of inspiration, anyone can create amazing, unique artwork. Download my sketches and start...
As an artist, I know how important it is to find inspiration from various sources.

[Read More >](#)

[Downloads outline sketches](#)

Turn This Sketch



Apply your drawing skills to make this sketch come alive as a piece of art.

Into a Work of Art



CANE IN A POT
14" w X 17" h Stilllife Charcoal & Graphite on Paper (C) Dennis's Fine Art 12-2021 IMG-1291-395USD
Collection: Drawings of Winter 2021

Bulletin from the Artist

The latest Update



Dennis Lee Brown
Vivid & Diversified
Contemporary Artist

Welcome to DENNIS LEE BROWN'S ART, where passion for creativity and art come together to offer you a unique and vivid collection of original charcoal & graphite drawings, and oil paintings. Here you can find pieces of art that capture the beauty of nature, the vibrancy of life, and the subtleties of emotion.

From landscapes to florals,

still-life to abstracts, life-like portraits, and everything in between, my works are vibrant and diverse. I make sure that each piece is unique and employs all the methods and principles of art created from the highest quality materials. I invite you to explore my collection and find the perfect artwork that speaks to you.

At DENNIS LEE BROWN'S ART, I create diverse masterpieces that capture the vibrant colors and textures of life. As a lifelong artist, with over fifty-five years of learning and teaching art, I strive to create vivid and distinct paintings and drawings that bring to life the beauty surrounding us.

Whether it is a portrait, landscape, or still life, each of my works of art is crafted with attention to detail and designed to capture its' beauty. I invite you to browse my collection and discover the vivid & diversified art.

DENNIS LEE BROWN'S ART is an exclusive collection of original drawings and paintings that span a range of different genres. The artwork you will find here reflects my life experiences and travels. My paintings and drawings are a true expression of my creativity.

The artwork I create inspires viewers to take a step back and reflect on the beauty of the world around them and I hope you enjoy exploring my art as much as I enjoy creating it.

"Drawing is a relaxing, calm activity that stimulates the mind."

- Dennis Lee Brown

Dennis's Fine Art Gallery

Featuring Original Fine Art Drawings, Oil Paintings, and the Photography of Dennis Lee Brown, a Vivid and diversified Contemporary Artist <https://www.dennisfineart.com/>

Art News

Dennis Lee Brown, Editor, Publisher, Photographer, & Designer



ANTHURIUM FLOWER Beautiful Blossoms
© Dennis's Plant Gardens IMG-E0015

Current Botanical Exhibit

Dennis's Plant Garden - Botanical Gallery! It is a unique portfolio of photographs and artwork featuring plants and blossoms grown by his green thumb. Our gallery highlights lush plants and vibrant blossoms that have grown in Dennis's home gardens in an array of vibrant colors and textures, with every single blossom and leaf with extreme remain carefully photographed and documented in the beautiful photography by Dennis Brown, providing a unique insight into what nature has to offer.

Our gallery also offers free downloads of the photos so you can use them as wallpaper on any device. Explore our gallery today and bring the beauty of nature to your home!

Not only can you browse the gallery for houseplant and/or gardening inspiration, and green thumb-growing tips, but you can also download Dennis's stunning botanical photographs for free and use them as wallpaper backgrounds for any device. It is a fantastic way to bring a bit of nature into your private surroundings. So, if you are...

[Dennis's Plant Garden - Botanical Gallery.pdf](#)

[Explore the Botanical Garden's Gallery of Blossoms](#)



DEWDROPS ON HIBISCUS ROSA-SINENSIS
© Dennis Plant Garden IMG2366
Collection: End of Summer 2019