

Why Schmincke's Pastels are not „pastel crayons" – Silky smooth with a touch like velvet.

Working with Schmincke's finest extra-soft pastels leads you back to the origin of colour and is a real painting experience rather than simple drawing.

The unsurpassed smoothness and quality of Schmincke's finest pastels are legendary among experts, however occasionally the terms "crayon" or "chalk" come up in this connection. And no wonder, because many producers of artist pastels use chalk as a key ingredient in their manufacturing process, also Schmincke pastels confusingly are often called "pastel crayons" even though they do not contain any chalk.



The use of chalk may impair the quality, which becomes apparent through the lack of smoothness of the pastels when applying the colour. This is where these pastel crayons differ from Schmincke's unique velvet pastels which contain no chalk.

They contain only the purest 'medium fine' ground artists' pigments, which are in the highest possible concentration. Contrastingly, the binding agent content, is kept to a minimum, which ensures a stable compound:

In order to guarantee the highest quality it is necessary to manufacture our pastels using special recipes which avoid the use of machinery during manufacture.

'Worm extruders' form the pre-kneaded dough into round skeins, which are then detached by hand and cut in a wire-strung frame. The damp sticks have to dry for around eight days before they can be labelled and packed by hand.



This is a costly and time consuming process, however it is the only way Schmincke can guarantee homogenous quality and smoothness in all the production cycles, in order that the artist can be assured of his favourite colour shade is consistent throughout our range of 400 finest extra-soft artists' pastel colours.

Only this sophisticated manufacturing method can guarantee the artist that Schmincke pastels are

silky smooth with a touch like velvet.

The described product attributes and application examples have been tested in the Schmincke laboratory. The information is based on our current state of technical findings and experience. Due to the diversity of applications in terms of painting techniques, materials and working conditions, as well as numerous possible influences, this information is based on a general application range. A legally binding guarantee of specific attributes or the suitability for a specific usage purpose cannot be derived from our information; therefore the use of the products must be adapted to the users' individual conditions and tested in trials. For this reason, we cannot provide a warranty for product attributes and/or assume liability for damages that occur in connection with the use of our products.

By the way: Specifics for handling and product safety you will find on our website www.schmincke.de (e.g. download/safety data sheets).

For special questions please don't hesitate to ask our team in the lab!
The best way to get in contact with them is via mail at:
laborteam@schmincke.de.