

# Dream Portfolio Assignment

---

## Description

Build a 20 page portfolio that gathers together the BEST work you can find. You will use this as a guide to develop your personal style.

## Purpose

The reason for putting this portfolio together is to try and see a pattern for the kinds of things you like. There is so many different styles and techniques in the world that it can be overwhelming to look at everything out there. This process forces you to make some decisions and edit carefully. Hopefully this process will help you see the direction you should go.

## Instructions:

**Step 1:** Gather together no more than 20 images of the very best work you can find. Keep the number limited. You have to force yourself to edit out all the noise and find the work that is really pulling you in a certain direction.

Don't try to pull all 20 images together at once. Take your time. This should be an enjoyable exercise. During the building of the portfolio, you will be adding and also probably taking some things out along the way.

Once you have 20 images that work for you, look at them very carefully. Show them to other people (artists and non artists) and talk about them. Is there a thread that holds all the work together? Are many of the artists using a similar palette? or line? or painting technique, etc.?

**Step 2:** Pull together up to 20 of your own images. Pick work that you like. If you don't have 20, then just use the ones that you do like.

Now compare your images to the one's in the dream portfolio. How are they similar? How are they different? Is there something that the artists are doing in the Dream Portfolio that you could be doing?

**Step 3:** Now comes the time to put in some work. Grab the best images from the dream portfolio and do some master copies. Try to be accurate and really nail it in terms of matching the source. Analyze along the way to see what they are doing (ie, don't try to do a master copy while also watching a movie). This is a thinking assignment as much as it is a technical one.

**Step 4:** Try to rework some of your images based on what you have learned. It's easier to start with existing images than to create totally new ones. You can, however, do totally new ones if that makes you more motivated (sometimes people want to leave the old work behind and that is understandable).

Have fun with this. This project is intensely personal and each person will have a different experience during it. Resist the urge to get frustrated with "I'll never be this good" kind of thinking. Learn from your hero's and then find your own way.