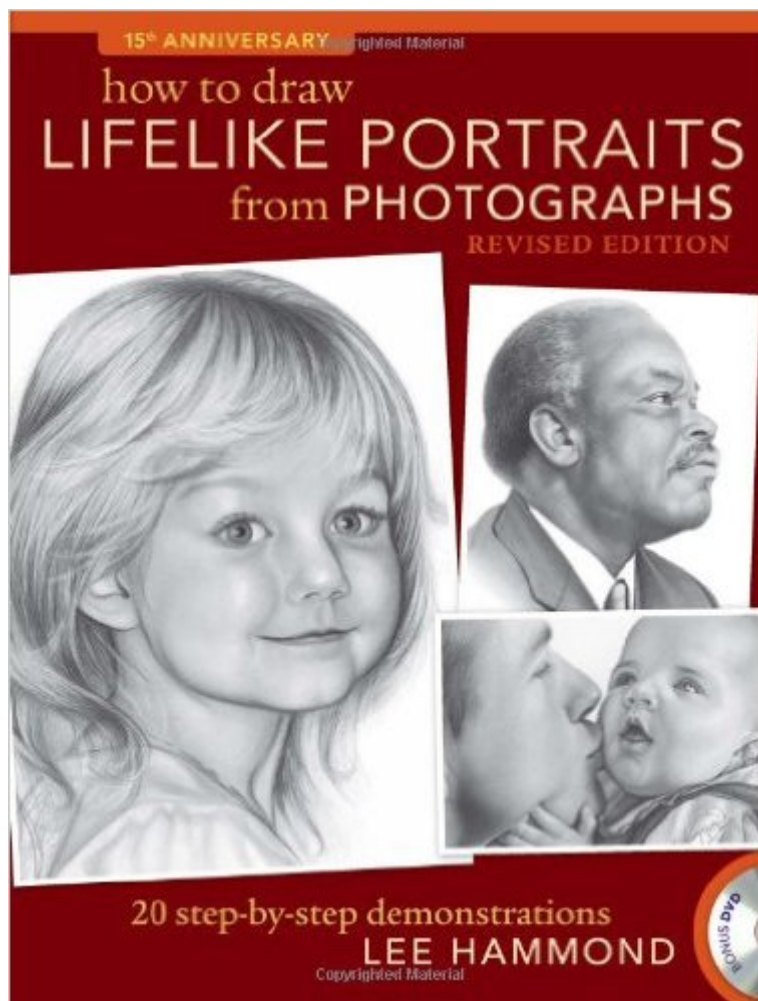


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# How To Draw Lifelike Portraits From Photographs - Revised: 20 Step-by-step Demonstrations With Bonus DVD



## Synopsis

How To Draw Lifelike Portraits From Photographs, Revised Lee Hammond is back and better than ever, featuring all new step-by-step demonstrations that will have you drawing your best portraits yet. Her secret to success? The "Hammond Blended Pencil Technique," a proven method of shading and blending that captures the soft tones and dimensional shapes of skin, hair and clothing. Focusing first on individual facial features, you'll follow her easy three-step process for realistically rendering even the most challenging eyes, noses and mouths. From there, you'll use Lee's basic grid techniques to master proportion and put the features together, then gradually blend and shade your way to amazingly lifelike portraits. It's that simple! This completely revised and updated edition of her bestselling book features people of all ages, personalities and ethnicities so you can find the specialized guidance you're looking for. There's even a bonus instructional DVD. Simply use your own reference photos and follow along one step at a time, or copy Lee's demonstrations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

First of all, let me just state that Lee Hammond's work is, as always, fantastic, and her instruction unparalleled. This review focuses on the presentation -- namely, the printing. I had (and still have) the original version of this book prior to purchasing this one, but needed this version since it covers a more ethnically diverse group of subjects than the original. I was extremely excited about getting this book (I was actually half way done with a portrait, and needed help with some of the features

not covered in the first version). I was, therefore, profoundly disappointed when it finally arrived, and I saw the inferior print quality. The original is printed in very high quality, so you can see all the details of Hammond's work. The same portraits, reproduced in this version, look sketchy and not at all up to Hammond's standards because of the inferior printing. Was it really worth saving a little bit of money to ruin an art book -- the whole point of which is what you see?! I would gladly have paid another \$10 to get a book of equal printing quality to the first. Instead, I am very much disappointed. I now only use this book for the ethnic-portrait instruction that was missing from the first; for everything else, I refer to the original (and its quality printing). 1/5 -- a fantastic product ruined by the company's cheapness

I started drawing portraits of my daughter from photos after losing her to cancer last year. Then I was given the name of this book and author and ordered it. It arrived the day before we were flying to Mexico and I read the whole book on the plane. I found a store in Mexico that sold the needed supplies and the first portrait I did was really good. Everyone liked it and thought I had potential. I have since recommended the book to others. With time I have improved in my drawing and I think this is a great book for those who want to draw very nice portraits. And I say if I can do it, anyone can. Go for it! I have read a super-critical, long-winded review of this book that told me that I will never be a great artist using this book. I say so what! I draw beautiful portraits that are pleasing to my subjects and myself. Since I am 71 years old I don't intend to be the "professional" that the long-winded reviewer pretends to be. People are happy with my portraits and so am I. I am very grateful to Lee Hammond for this book.

I was disappointed with this book based on the quality of the first one. Except for the copies taken from the original book, the illustrations in this book do not look real. They look to have been poorly cut and pasted. There is no new or (revised) information that I can discern, and the bonus DVD is a joke. To the author, I say shame on you. To potential buyers, I say buy the original (blue book) or keep looking. Good luck.

Buy this book for the video. I've bought lots of drawing books over the years. I've given most away to people I don't like. I keep books by Lee Hammond and Carrie Stuart Parks because they do the best job of explaining how to draw, and to learn to draw you really need a good book. The big difference between the two is that Hammond uses a grid to help you figure out proportion and Parks uses a measuring aid. Both methods work well and are complementary. But even the best book is

insufficient. You need to SEE HOW THEY ACTUALLY DRAW. And for that you need a video. It's like the difference between reading a book on golf and watching a golf video. And this book has a 24 minute video.

This is an excellent book on drawing portraits including facial features, hair, skin, clothing, backgrounds, and even hands. Lee will teach you how to make your portraits look real and smooth with her blending technique. Before purchasing this book I wondered what could be on the bonus DVD included with this book. Well, I found out. IT is an excerpt from her Lifelike Drawing DVD where she actually demonstrates how to shade to achieve smooth results. She also shades a sphere and this is important because facial features -- eyes, cheeks, shoulders, balls of noses - are all made of spheres. The tips I learned from this book are invaluable. If you have any questions, post a comment below and I'd gladly answer them. The materials you need are cheap and easy to find.

This is a tough review for me. I have watched Lee Hammond on Youtube to get of inspiration and a bit of guidance as I try my hand at learning to draw. There are others I use as well. This book seemed like it would be a good addition to my library. Especially with the added DVD of instruction. And that's where it fell apart. The DVD really adds nothing of value to this book. Instead you get the DVD version of something readily available on Youtube in which Lee shows you how to make a value line from darkest to lightest, and then demonstrates how to draw a sphere using her mechanical pens and her tortillions. All needed knowledge, but that's where it stops. There is no real demonstration of how she puts the "Hammond blending technique" (that's how it's billed) to use in an actual creation of a portrait from a photo. Very disappointed. Get the book if you must, but leave the DVD in its holder. You'll gain nothing from viewing it.

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