Category: Drawing

How to enlarge a photo

AGE
8+

LEVEL
Intermediate

Hello and welcome to another Mont Marte art lesson. Today let's learn how transfer an image from a photo. This is a very useful technique, you can use it to enlarge or decrease the size of your image on any surface.
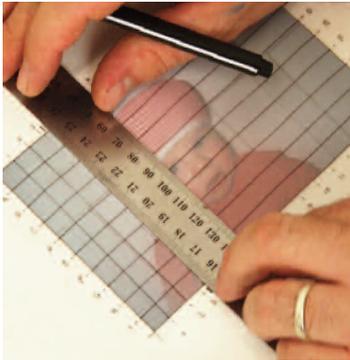
So grab your Mont Marte art materials and ...

Let's get into it!

Material List

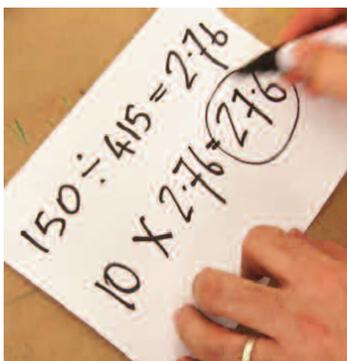|	
MPN0026	Mont Marte Drawing Set
MCG0038	Mont Marte 12pce Watercolour Paints 12ml Hanger box
MPB0055	Mont Marte Artist Brush Taklon Flat Wide 50mm
MSB0065	Mont Marte Watercolour Pad German paper A3
MSB0017	Mont Marte Tracing Paper Pad 40 sheet A4

You will also need

Water
Ruler

Step 1: Gridding the Reference Image

Take your reference material and tape it face down on to a sheet of Mont Marte Tracing Paper. Now turn it over, draw a line around the perimeter. Break the image in to equal proportions, in this case 1 cm squares. Rule up the grid and add numbers along the top and letters along the side of these points.

Step 2: Calculating the photo enlargement

Measure the length of your photo, in this case it is 150mm. Then measure the length of your intended art paper, which is 415mm. Divide the copy size (415 mm) by the reference photo size (150 mm) which will give us our enlargement conversion rate 415 / 150 = 2.76

Step 3: Finding the Square Size

Next measure an individual grid square on the reference photo, which in this case is 10 mm and multiply it by the conversion rate which in this case is 2.76 (10 X 2.76 = 27.6). This will give us the size at which to make each individual square on the artwork paper.

Step 4: Gridding the Artwork Paper

Measure out the points on to the copy then lightly rule up the grid. Number and letter these points like you did on the photo. We are now ready to copy the image by matching to the corresponding points. To draw your image, simply draw what you see in each small square. Breaking it up like this helps with proportions and placement of the elements in your picture.

Conversion Formula
Copy length **/** Original photo length **=** Conversion rate
Original photo square size **X** Conversion rate **=** Copy square size