

Week 3

Keep it, Take it, Dump it.

We are now on the third week! We will now look at the **work that inspires us**, as well as **our own creations**. We'll start to choose the right puzzle pieces that will help us develop our style further.

This week will demand a bit more time, as the last task will also involve you getting back to the drawing table (*if you hadn't done so already!*). So get ready!



Before we begin, I just want to say that during this part of the road, it is very important not to get into a negative mindset. The shelter of the forest and unicorn hill is behind us, so your inner critic might come crawling. But keep walking and let the negative voice a few steps behind.

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes.
Art is knowing which ones to keep — Scott Adams

Assignment 3:

Task 1: *MY* Work (Baby Unicorns)



We are starting this week with analysing **our own work**. I'd like you to choose 3 of your own pieces that you **really like** (not what you think is good, I want you to feel happy/content when you see your work, *even if you know/think it misses something*).

Question 1: Why did you choose this piece? How does it make you feel?

Question 2: Can you describe your piece? What are we looking at? What materials did you use?

Question 3: What parts do you think are strong? (concept, colour choice, story behind, perspective, etc)

Before we continue, it is important to enter a new mind set. We are not looking for things "we do wrong" but we want to know how we can find our personality and voice in our work. In other words **make it even more interesting**.

When our inner critic shows up, a common insecurity is to think: "*Is this good enough?*"

This question already sets us in negative a position, since there is also no clear measure of what is "good enough"; and for whom exactly?

This is why I would like to invite you to change this question, when your inner critic arrives, into:

"Am I being creative enough?"

The answer to this new question, will let you see your work as an evolving matter and give you space to improve from a positive perspective, instead of constraining you between "good and bad".

Question 4: Where could I be more creative with this piece?

1 YOUR WORK



Blank writing box for step 1.



Blank writing box for step 2.



Blank writing box for step 3.



Blank writing box for step 4.

2 YOUR WORK



Blank writing box for step 1.



Blank writing box for step 2.



Blank writing box for step 3.



Blank writing box for step 4.

3 YOUR WORK



Blank writing box for step 1.



Blank writing box for step 2.



Blank writing box for step 3.



Blank writing box for step 4.



Task 2: My Hero's (Guiding Stars)

We now go back to the mood-board, choose your 3 favourite pieces. We will now analyse them, so **we can learn** from our hero's and understand their style. This exercise is again descriptive; please refrain from comparing yourself just yet.

So choose one to start with and answer the following questions:

Questions 1: What do you see? Describe the way the artwork looks. How does the artists employ form, colour and composition (to name a few).

Question 2: What is the subject matter? Is there a story

Question 3: How does it make you feel?

Question 4: What materials were used? Examine the way the artists uses his chosen medium or technique.

Question 5: Their voice: Is there a story, philosophy or aim behind the artwork?





Blank writing area for step 1.



Blank writing area for step 2.



Blank writing area for step 3.



Blank writing area for step 4.



Blank writing area for step 5.

Task 3: Steal Like An Artist

Let's start by stating again: **nothing is original!** We build on what has already been done before - and **that's ok!**

Our aim will be to **"steal like an artist"** as Picasso and Austin Kleaton say - this means we **are not imitating, we are collecting ideas and transforming them.**

So let's choose one of **our own** favourite artworks from Task 1, and we will call this a **baby unicorn.**

Next, choose an artwork by one of **your hero's.** We will call this one a **guiding star.**

The next part is one of my favourite "games" - **Keep it, Take it, dump it.** And it goes as follows:

- You will look at your work, baby unicorn, and place it next to one of your guiding stars and **decide what you want to keep (continue doing/using).**
- Next we look at the guiding star: **what would you like to take from it and add to your unicorn?** material wise or composition wise etc.
- Last, but not least, what will you put aside from your own work. **What is not working or what would you like to change?**

Do this for all 3 of your chosen artworks.

TAKE IT, KEEP IT, DUMP IT

LET'S USE OTHERS AS AN INSPIRATION AND NOT TO DIMISH WHO WE ARE!

BABY UNICORN



WHAT DO YOU LIKE FROM YOUR ARTWORK YOU'D LIKE TO KEEP?

GUIDING STAR



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE FROM THE GUIDING STAR ILLUSTRATION/ARTWORK?

BABY UNICORN



WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE OR WHAT IS NOT WORKING IN YOUR PIECE WHEN YOU PUT IT SIDE BY SIDE WITH YOUR GUIDING STAR?

Task 4: Sharpening our Tools

Finally we get to draw! Phew, I know that for a minute there you thought this was all boring theory!

Let's test our findings:

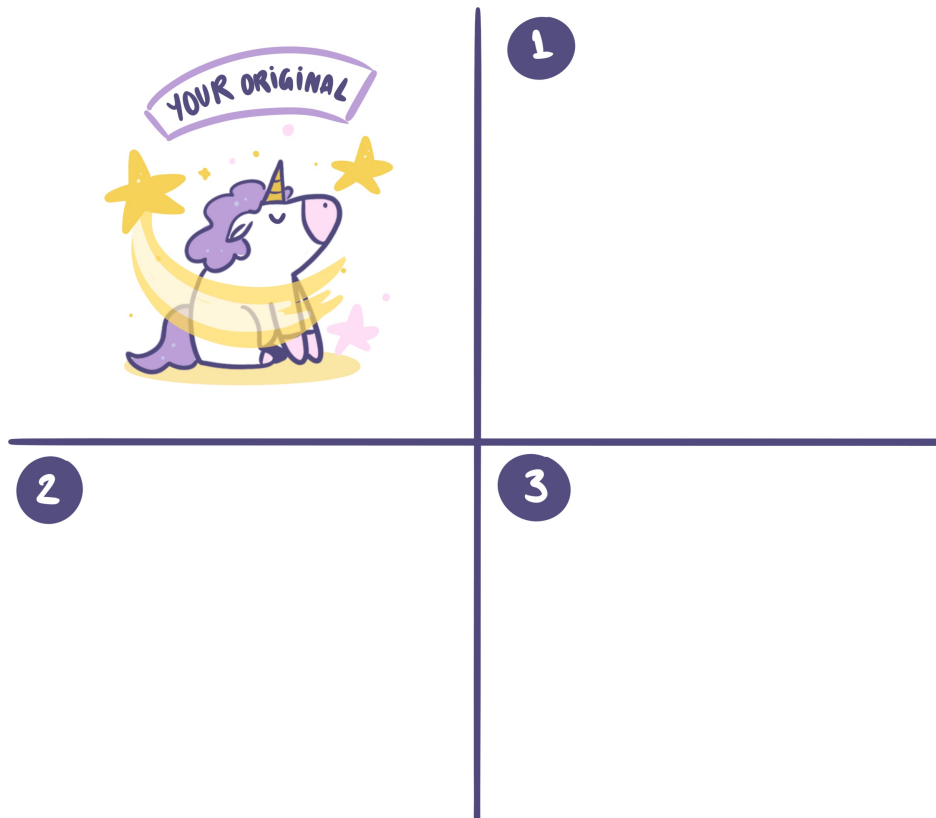
Step 1: Decide on something simple you like to draw.

Step 2: Select the methods you like most from your guiding star(s) - basen on the "take it" column.

Step 3: Draw your chosen subject 3 times, trying out the different techniques.

Remember: maybe this is the first time using this technique, so the result won't be flabbergasting, but it is about discovering what a tool has to offer - does it bring us closer to the look we want?

Once you have an answer to this question, the next step is to hone your skill. You need to learn how to use it effectively to provide you with the look you want.



Well done!



That's a wrap for week 3! You've earned your third shiny badge!!!
Let's mould those stars to make you shine bright!

