Painting Tools

Pencil and Brush tools are main painting tools in Photoshop. The Pencil draws free form lines with a hard edge while the Brush draws lines with a softer edge. It is also possible to draw distinct or fuzzy lines using Brush tool, but they will always be a little soft, because its edges are indistinguishable from the background, while the Lines drawn with the Pencil tool always have a sharp edge, because there is no interaction with the background.

Pencil / Brush tool

The Brush/ Pencil tool can be right-clicked to show the alternate Pencil/Brush tool as an option. Both are very simple tools that allow you to directly draw on top of an image. Select a color with the Foreground Color option on the tool bar, and select a brush size from the tool's sub-main menu, above. Click and drag across an image to draw on top of it.

Option Bar

1. Brush Tool option bar : The brush tool paints with smooth edges. The options bar looks like this:
Where,

- **Brush**: The size of the brush.
- **Mode**: The blending mode. For most work Normal will be the best option. Experiment with other modes to see what they do.
- **Opacity**: Anything less than 100% will allow the underlying image to be seen.
- **Flow**: Determines how quickly paint is applied. Lower setting produces lighter strokes.

- The **airbrush** option allows to apply gradual tones to an image, like a traditional airbrush.

2. **Pencil Tool option bar**: The pencil tool is just like the brush except that it has hard edges.

   ![Pencil Tool Options](image)

   The pencil tool options are the same as the brush tool, except:

   - There is no airbrush option.
   - There is an **Auto Erase** option: If opted, paints the background colour over areas containing the foreground colour.

### Working with Pencil or Brush Tools

To draw lines (free or straight) using the **Pencil** or **Brush tool**, the below steps should be followed:
Step 1- Choose a tool from the Toolbar, i.e. **Pencil** and **Brush** tool or press B or Shift+ B till you obtain the desired tool.

Step 2- Set the color with which colors will be drawn.

Step 3- Select a brush tip (size) from the Brush Preset Picker on the Options bar.

Step 4- Select a mode and also opacity from the choices on the Options bar.

Step 5- Choose the other parameter like AirBrush or Auto Erase for the chosen tool in the Options bar.

Step 6- Bring the cursor over the image in the photo editor.

Step 7- Press the left mouse button and, while keeping the button pressed, move the cursor across the image.

Step 8 - Click and Shift-click to painting straight lines, and hold down the Change key while dragging to constrict the Brush/ Pencil tool to straight or upright lines.

Step 9 - Press the Alt key as well as click a location of color to switch over the foreground color to that color.

*e.g. Painting with Brush Tool*
e.g. Painting with Brush Tool with Airbrush and some other settings in Option Bar

![Image of Adobe Photoshop interface with brush tool and Airbrush settings]

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e.g. Painting with brush Tool with Dissolve Mode in Option Bar

![Image of Adobe Photoshop interface with brush tool and Dissolve mode settings]
e.g. Painting with Pencil Tool with Auto Erase settings in Option Bar

e.g. Painting with Pencil Tool with Auto Erase & other settings in Option Bar
e.g. Drawing Straight line with Brush Tool using the Shift Key

Assignment

1. What are various options available with Brush / Pencil Tools?
2. What is the advantage of AirBrush option in Brush Tool?
3. How the Straight Lines are drawn using Pencil / Brush Tools?