

## Before & After

### Stage 1 - Blank Sheet

After being provided with an image/photo to work from I often need to enlarge it or enhance the photo using Adobe Photoshop CS3.

By making small adjustments to the photo it allows me to sketch a more accurate picture, which will in turn lead to a nicer looking painting.

I never adjust the physical properties of the photograph; only enhance the tones, contrast or saturation.

If requested I can adjust any photograph/image to your requirements. I've been using Photoshop for years and can easily enhance the photo or remove any unwanted content prior to painting.

### Stage 2 - Initial Sketching

At this stage I will sketch the photo and enlarge it slightly to cover an A4 sheet of paper.

At this stage I will identify similar colored sections from within the photo and sketch around them. This stage takes the longest time as it's essential to do a quality work as it will later use it to paint the final artwork.

### Stage 3 - Further Sketching

After completing the initial sketching, I will then work over the sketch and add further detail and make adjustments where needed.

You can see already the sketch resembles John Travolta. There is still a lot of work to do before it is finished.

### Stage 4 - Adding Tone

At this stage I will begin to add tone to the sketch to make sure it looks good before I start work on the canvas.

Much of the detail would still be left out from this stage of the sketch. The sketch is merely a guide for me when I start painting on the canvas.

### Stage 5 - Further Tonal Work

The photograph to the right shows further work to the sketch. I have used water-colour pencils in this example; they come into a world of their own when I'm doing colored work. But for this example they are not so important.

### Stage 6 - Detailing

After the water-colours have dried I then run over the image adding detail with a pencil. These are the final touches before I start work on the canvas.

## Stage 7 - Finished Initial Sketch

The photo to the right shows a basic initial sketch. The John Travolta image I used was simple to work from as I wanted to demonstrate the necessary stages it takes to produce my artwork. That being said, from start to finish this took me 1.5 hours.

Some artwork I have produced in the past has taken me in excess of 4 hours to reach this stage of the painting.

I will now use this sketch to guide me whilst painting.