**Who was Degas?**
Edgar Degas was a French artist who loved to draw and paint people doing everyday things. He’s most famous for his beautiful pictures of **ballet dancers**, **musicians**, and **racehorses**.

**💃 What is the Degas Style?**

Degas’ art is:

* **Full of movement** – it looks like people are dancing, stretching, or rushing past.
* **Soft and light** – he often used gentle colours and made his pictures look like they were glowing.
* **Not too perfect** – sometimes he left parts unfinished to make it look natural.
* **Real life moments** – he liked to catch people when they weren’t posing.

**🎭 Tips to Be More Like Degas**

* Watch people move and try to draw them quickly.
* Use soft, smudgy colours.
* Capture **moments**, not just poses.
* Practice sketching over and over—Degas did hundreds of drawings!
* Look at shadows and light on clothes and skin.

**🎨 What You’ll Need:**

* A pencil and rubber
* Coloured chalk, pastels
* Paper (he liked to sketch a lot!)
* A picture of dancers, horses, or musicians to look at – or use your imagination!

**Step 1: Choose a Moment in Motion**

Think about someone **moving** – maybe a ballerina spinning, someone brushing their hair, or a horse galloping. Degas liked action!

**Step 2: Sketch Lightly**

Use your pencil to draw the shape of the body. Don’t worry about small details yet—just show the **movement**. Is the arm stretched out? Are the legs pointed?

**Step 3: Add Soft Details**

Once your shape is right, start adding more:

* flowing hair
* twirling skirts
* stretched arms and toes
Keep it **gentle** and light.

**Step 4: Colour Like Degas**

Degas loved to use soft colours—pinks, browns, greens, and creams. If you have chalk or pastels, rub them gently on the paper and **blend with your finger** to make it soft and smooth.

**Step 5: Keep It Natural**

Don't worry about making it perfect. Degas liked it when it looked like a quick glimpse into real life. Sometimes he didn’t finish every part—**and that’s OK!**

**🩰 More fun ideas!**

* **Draw a Ballerina Backstage -** She might be tying her shoe, stretching, or waiting to go on stage. Imagine the soft light and quiet moment before the dance.
* Watch a ballet performance online and draw your favourite moment.
* Can you make a little dancer in clay?