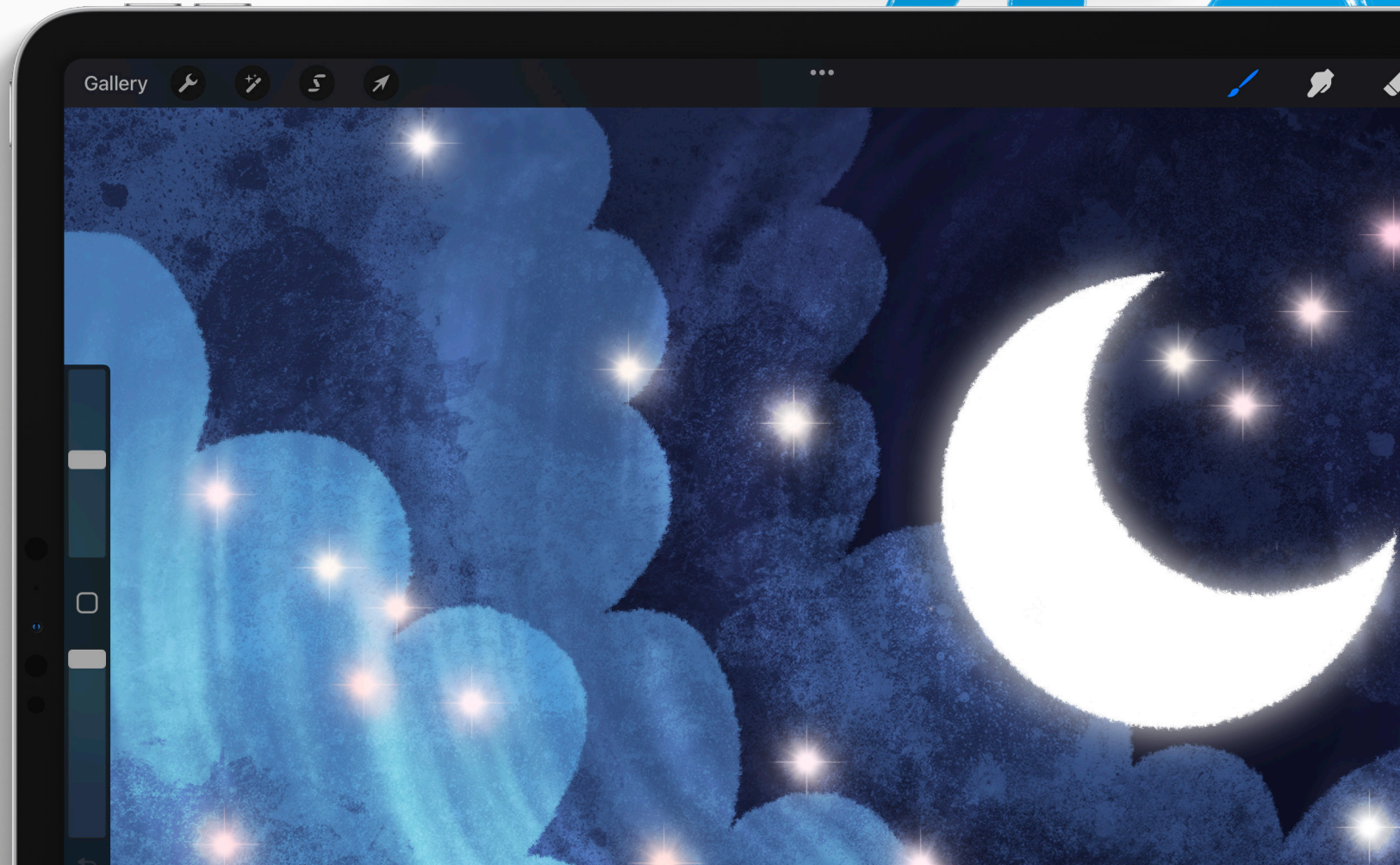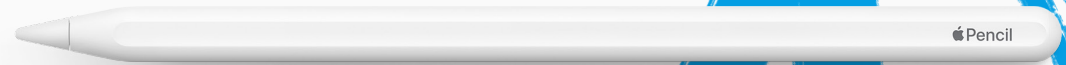BEGINNERS SERIES

Painting Tools

PART TWO

Learn with
Procreate®

Beginners Series

Whether teaching yourself or teaching others, the Beginners Series
is your resource for discovering the fundamentals of Procreate.
Perfect for anyone beginning their digital art journey.

To download all video and workbook resources, visit edu.procre.at/beginners.

Painting Tools

Take your new digital art skills and expand them by delving deeper into how Procreate's essential painting tools work.

Build a beautiful night scene step-by-step while discovering how to create type, use blend modes and layers, plus how to create you own brushes in Procreate.

Video duration: **18 mins**

Estimated lesson time: **45-60 mins**

IN THIS LESSON

✓ Students will master two of Procreate's painting power-moves, QuickShape and ColorDrop, to create and fill perfect shapes.

✓ Students will deepen their understanding of Layers, exploring Layer Options such as Alpha Lock and Blend Modes.

✓ Students will be introduced to Procreate's Editing Tools, including Blur adjustments, Text, and Transform tools.
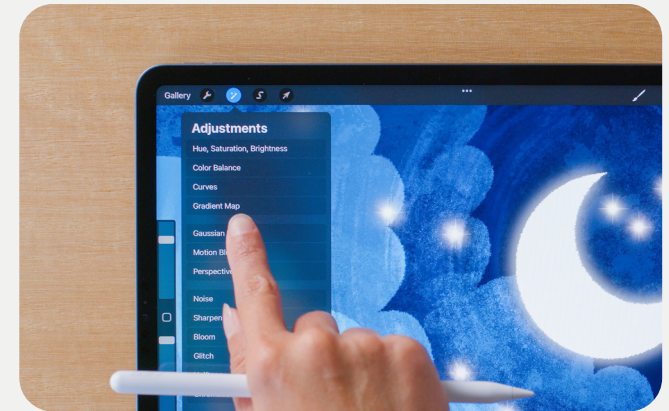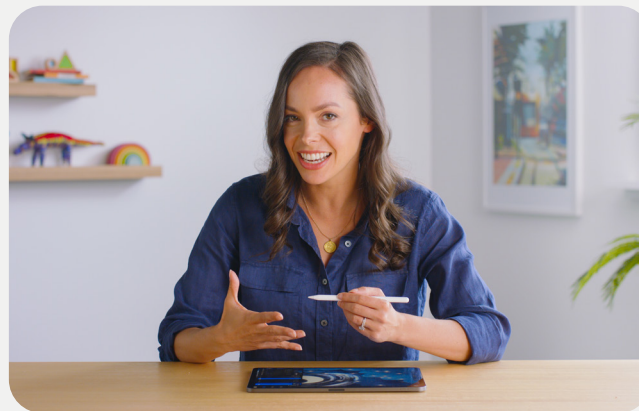
In this guide

CHAPTER 1

Color Palettes

Create a new artwork

Tap the + icon to create a new artwork. Choose *Screen Size* from the top of the list to create a new screen-sized canvas.

Procreate

Select   Import   Photo   +

Untitled Artwork
2732 × 2048px

Petals
4000 × 3000px

Chef's Nap
4000 × 3000px

Blue Monaco
4000 × 3000px

New canvas

Screen Size	P3	2732 × 204...
Square	sRGB	2048 x...
4K	sRGB	4096...
A4	sRGB	210...
4 × 6 Photo	sRGB	
Paper	sRGB	1...
Comic	CMYK	6...
FacePaint	sRGB	2048 x...
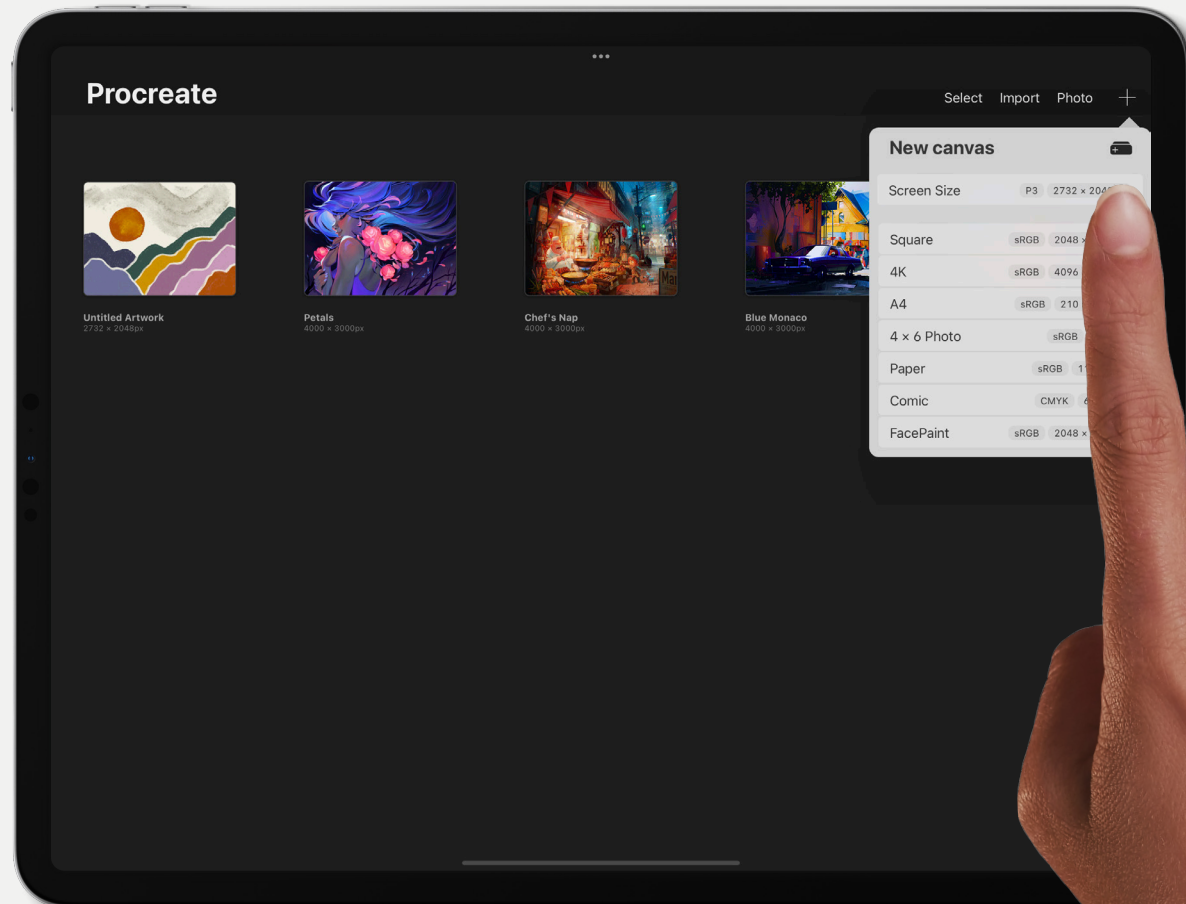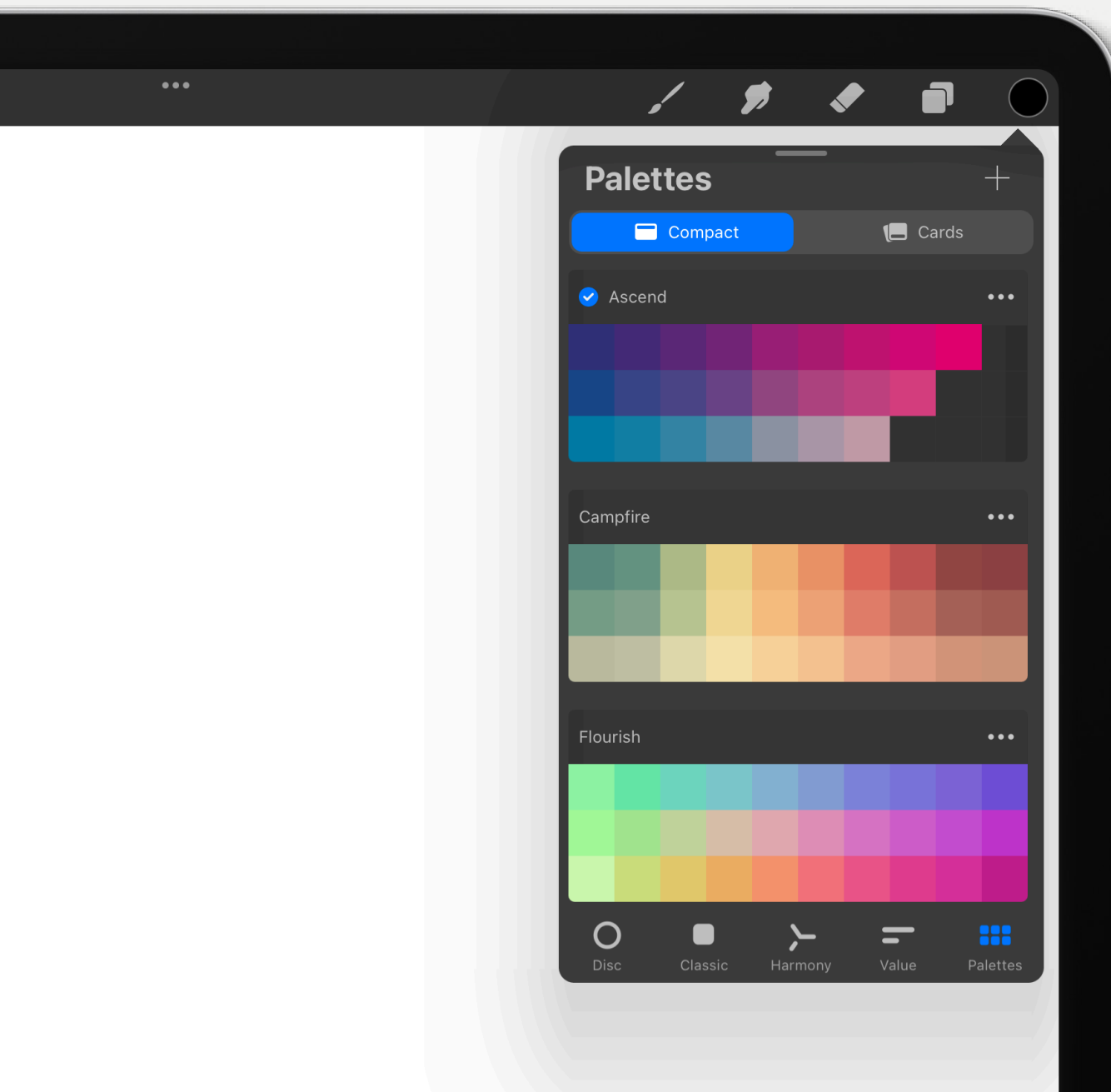
Color Palettes

1 Tap the *Active Color* in the top right to open the *Color Panel*. Across the bottom of the *Color Panel*, you'll see five different ways to explore and select new colors: *Disc, Classic, Harmony, Value* and *Palettes*.

2 Tap *Palettes* to switch to the Palettes interface.

HOW PALETTES WORK

Palettes give you access to sets of color swatches. Procreate includes several standard palettes. You can also import palettes, or create your own.

The current default palette will have a blue tick next to it. If you swap *Color Panel* modes, the default palette will stay at the bottom of the panel so you can add colors to it.

Create a new color palette

1 In *Palettes*, tap the + in the top right to create a new palette.

2 Tap where it says *Untitled,* and use the keyboard to name your palette 'Night'.

3 Tap *Disc* at the bottom of the *Color Panel* to switch back to *Color Disc* mode. Here you'll see your empty 'Night' palette at the bottom of your *Color Panel* ready to add color swatches to.
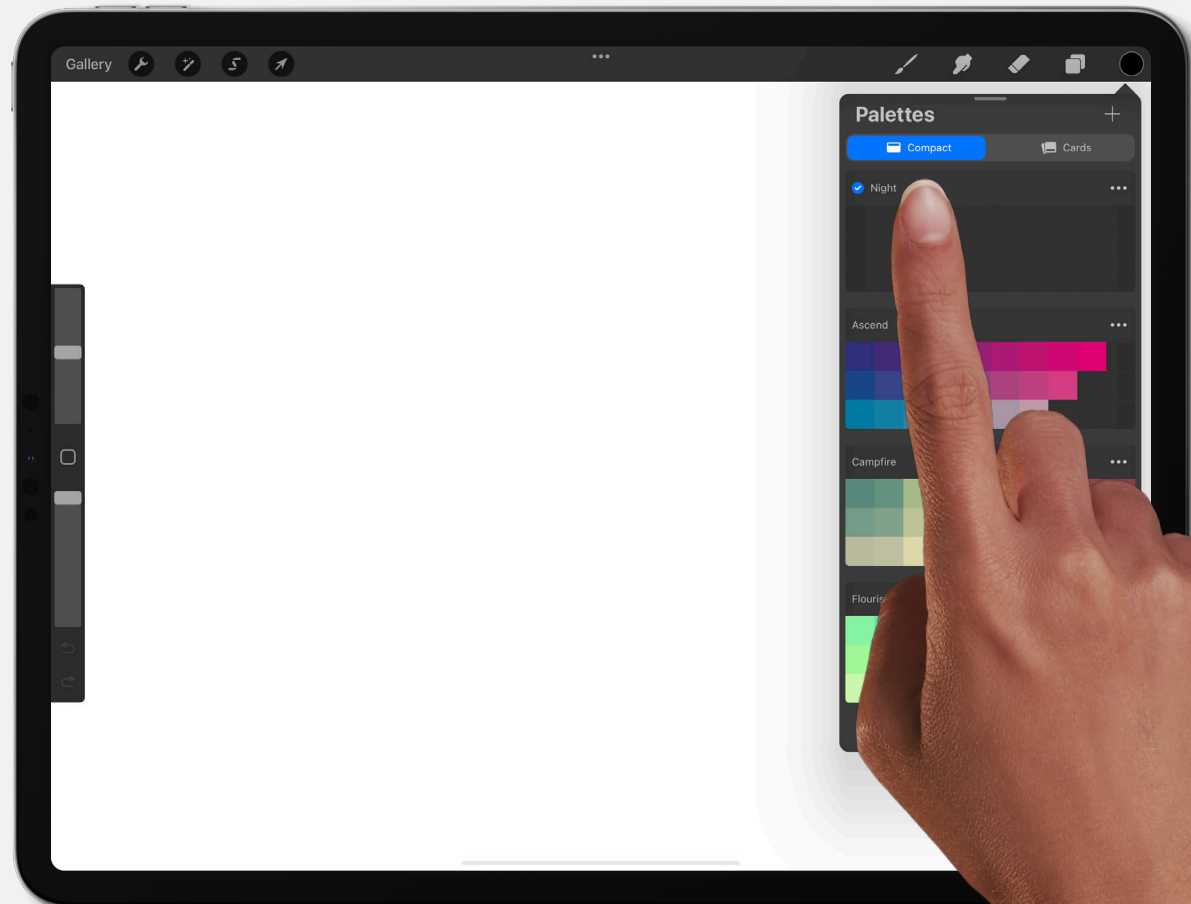
Add swatches to your palette

Add five shades of blue to your color palette, working from light to dark.

1 Drag the reticle in the outer ring to set the *Hue* to blue, at about 7 o'clock, between deep and light blue.

2 Drag the shade reticle towards the top of the inner circle to find a light shade of blue.

3 Tap into the top-left of your palette to save a swatch of that color.

4 Repeat until you have four more shades of blue, getting darker as you go. In addition to dragging down the shade reticle, you may also like to nudge the *Hue* to the right. The deeper hues of blue will help create rich tones for your darker shades.

CHAPTER 2

QuickShape

QuickShape

QuickShape is Procreate's shape tool: it snaps hand-drawn lines and shapes into perfect forms in the blink of an eye.
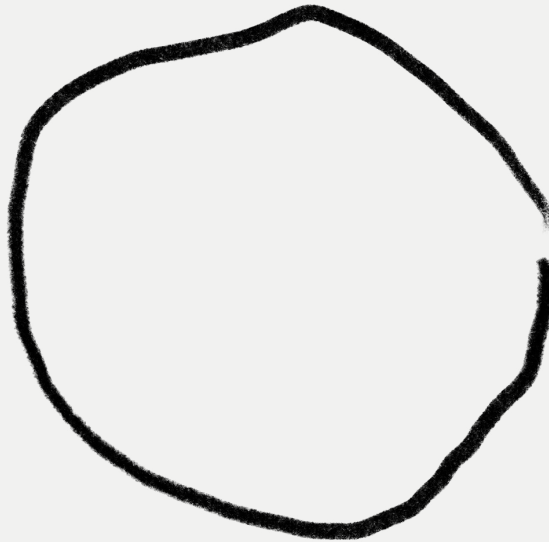
Draw

Draw a shape with your finger or Apple Pencil.
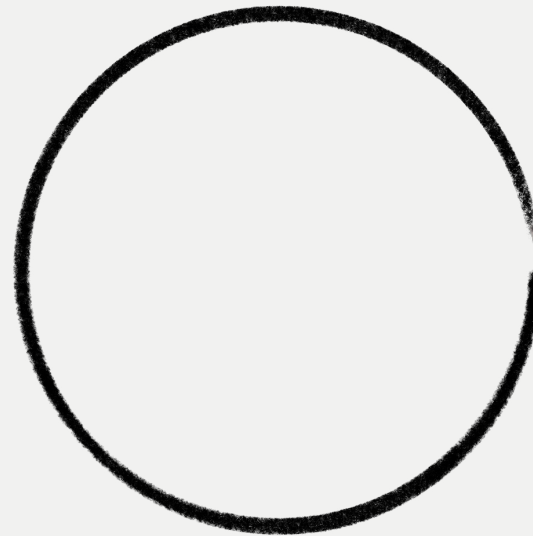
Hold

Hold for a second at the end to make a perfect shape!

QuickShape

There are 6 different types of shape you can draw with QuickShape.

PERFECT LINE

A straight line.

ARC

A curved line.

POLY-LINE

A line made up of multiple straight lines.

ELLIPSE

An oval, or circle.

TRIANGLE

A shape with three sides.

QUADRILATERAL

A shape with four sides, like a rectangle or a square.

BRUSH LIBRARY   COLOR PANEL
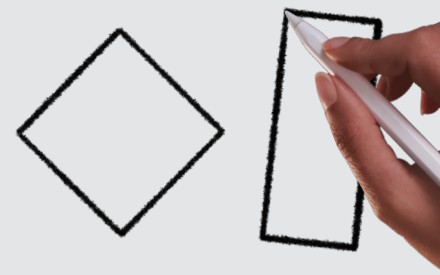
Try it out

1   Tap the brush icon to open the *Brush Library*. Tap to open the *Inking* set, and select the *Ink Bleed* brush. Set your brush size to about halfway.

2   Tap the *Active Color* in the top right to open the *Color Panel*, and set the color to white by double-tapping in the white section in the top-left of the inner disc.

3   Draw a circle and keep your pencil held on the canvas.

4   While still holding your pencil down, place a finger on the canvas to snap your shape to a perfect circle.

✳   Make sure there are no gaps in your circle. Remember you can tap with two fingers to undo if you need a few tries to get it right.

SIZE

Gallery
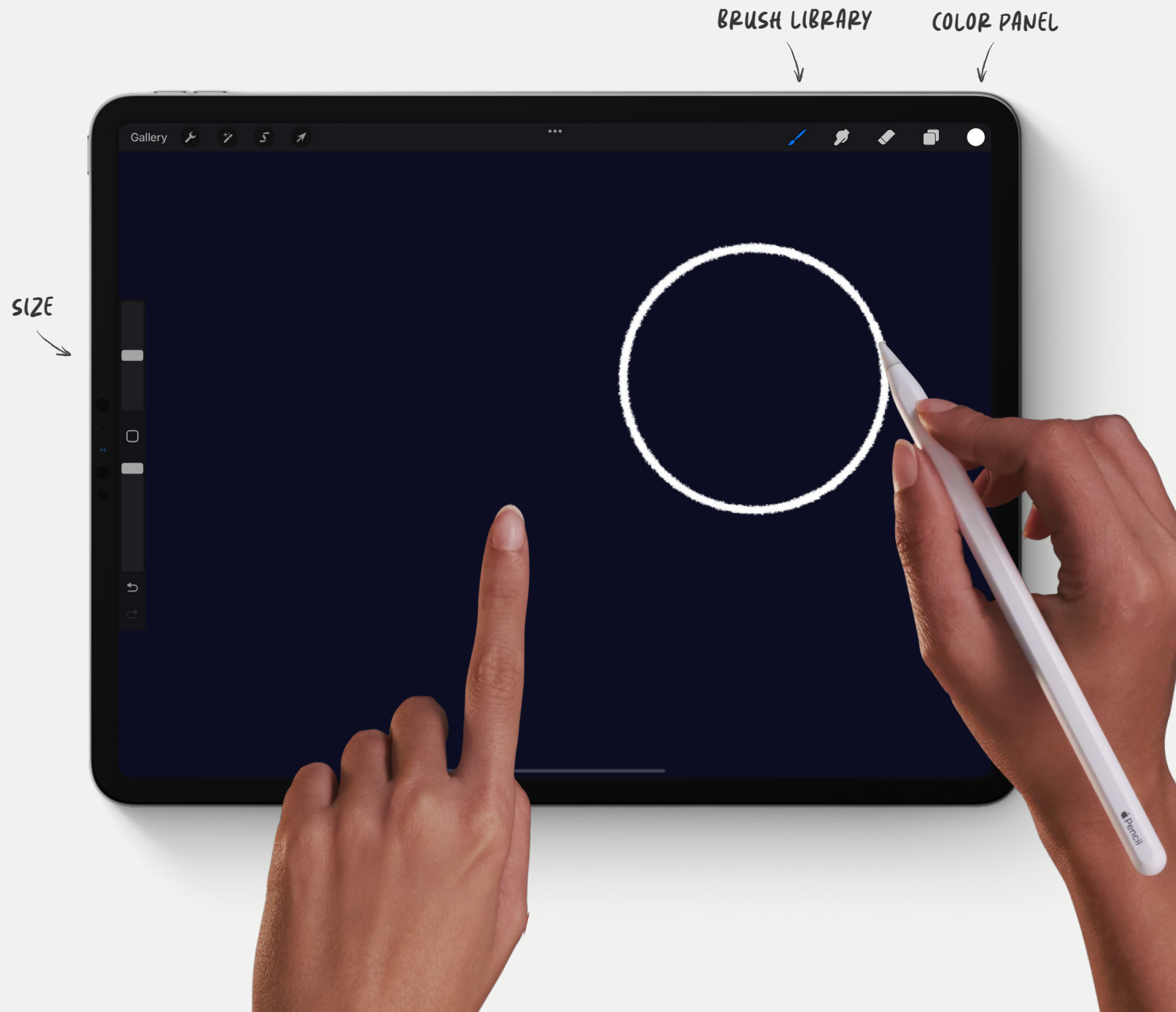
CHAPTER 3

ColorDrop

ColorDrop

ColorDrop is Procreate's tool for filling areas with color,
or recoloring areas you've already painted.

DRAG-AND-DROP

Drag the *Active Color* from the top-right into any area of your artwork. Release it to flood-fill that area with your selected color.
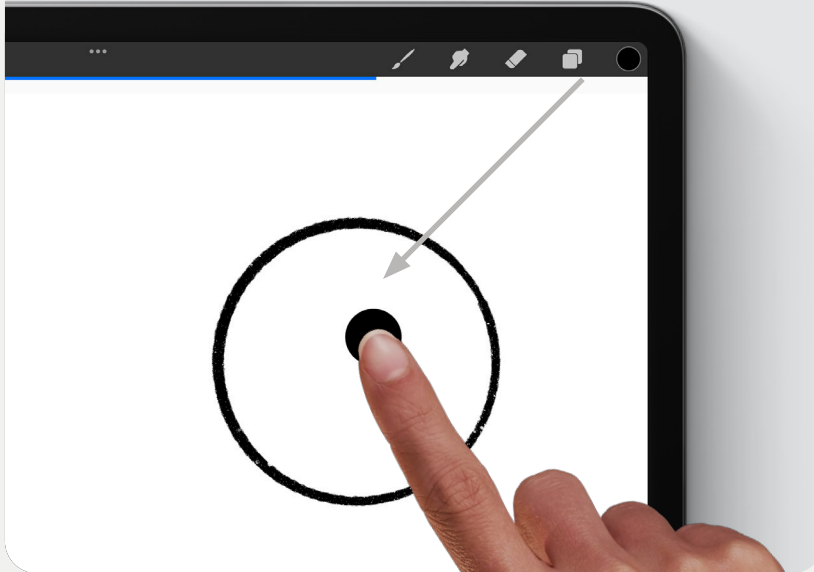
ADJUST THRESHOLD

ColorDrop Threshold controls how much your color bleeds into and over the edges of your artwork. After using ColorDrop, keep holding your finger down and drag left or right to adjust the threshold of the fill.

ColorDrop Threshold 79.6%
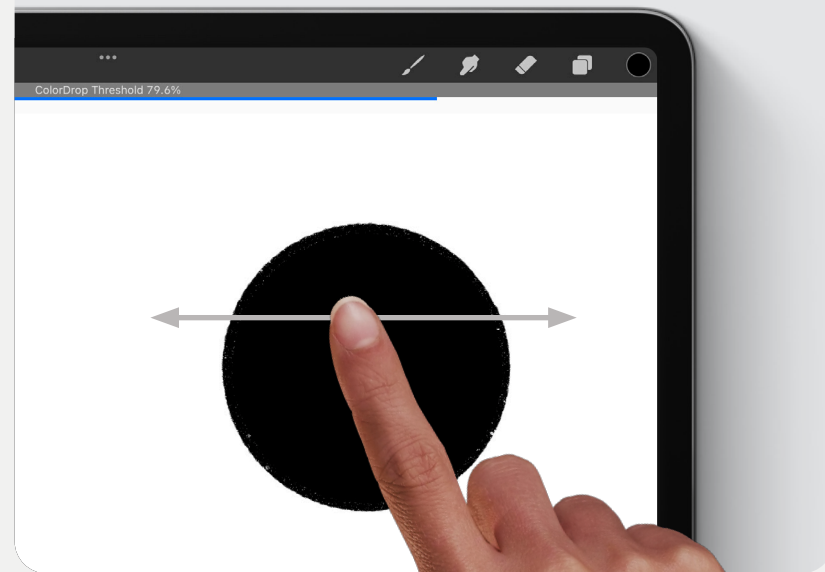
ACTIVE COLOR

Try it out

1   Tap-and-hold the *Active Color*, and drag it into the circle to fill it.

2   While still holding your finger down, drag left-to-right to make sure your color floods the circle fully, and doesn't leave any jagged edges around your line.

Gallery

ColorDrop Threshold 80.0%

ERASER

Crescent moon

1 Tap-and-hold the *Eraser* in the top-right to select the eraser tool with the *Ink Bleed* brush you were just painting with.

2 Use *QuickShape* to draw another circle in the top right of your moon to cut out a nice crescent shape.

3 Now you have your shape, erase the rest of the inner circle to make a crescent moon. You can boost your brush size to erase faster.

SIZE

Gallery

LAYERS PANEL   ACTIVE COLOR
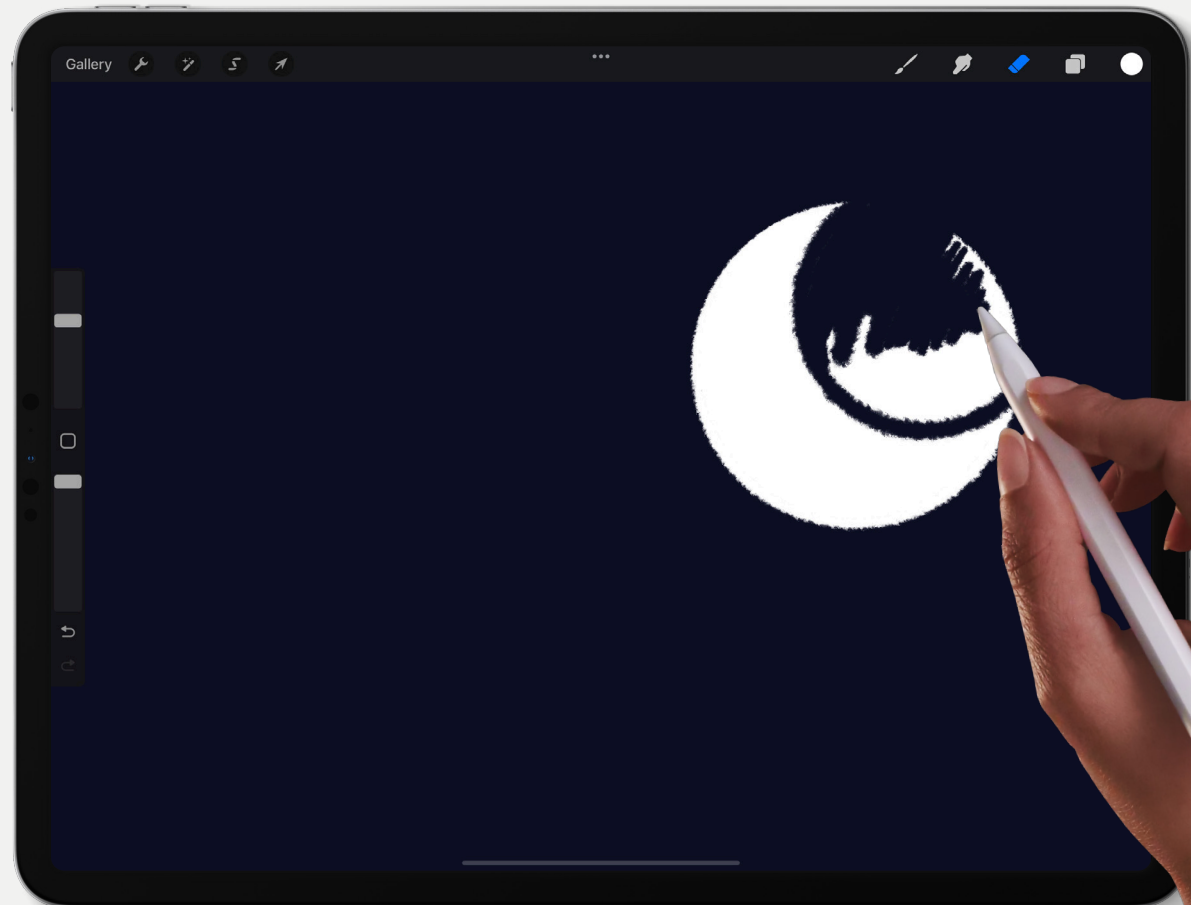
Color Companion

1 Tap to open the *Layers Panel*, and tap the + icon to create a new layer.

2 Next tap your *Active Color*, and you'll see a small gray bar at the top of your *Color Panel*.

3 Drag from the gray bar to pull your *Color Panel* to the bottom left of your canvas. Notice how it collapses into a smaller version? This is called the *Color Companion*.

4 Tap the *Palettes* icon on the bottom right of the *Color Companion*, and you'll see your 'Night' palette, ready to go!

Gallery

Palettes

Compact   Cards

Night
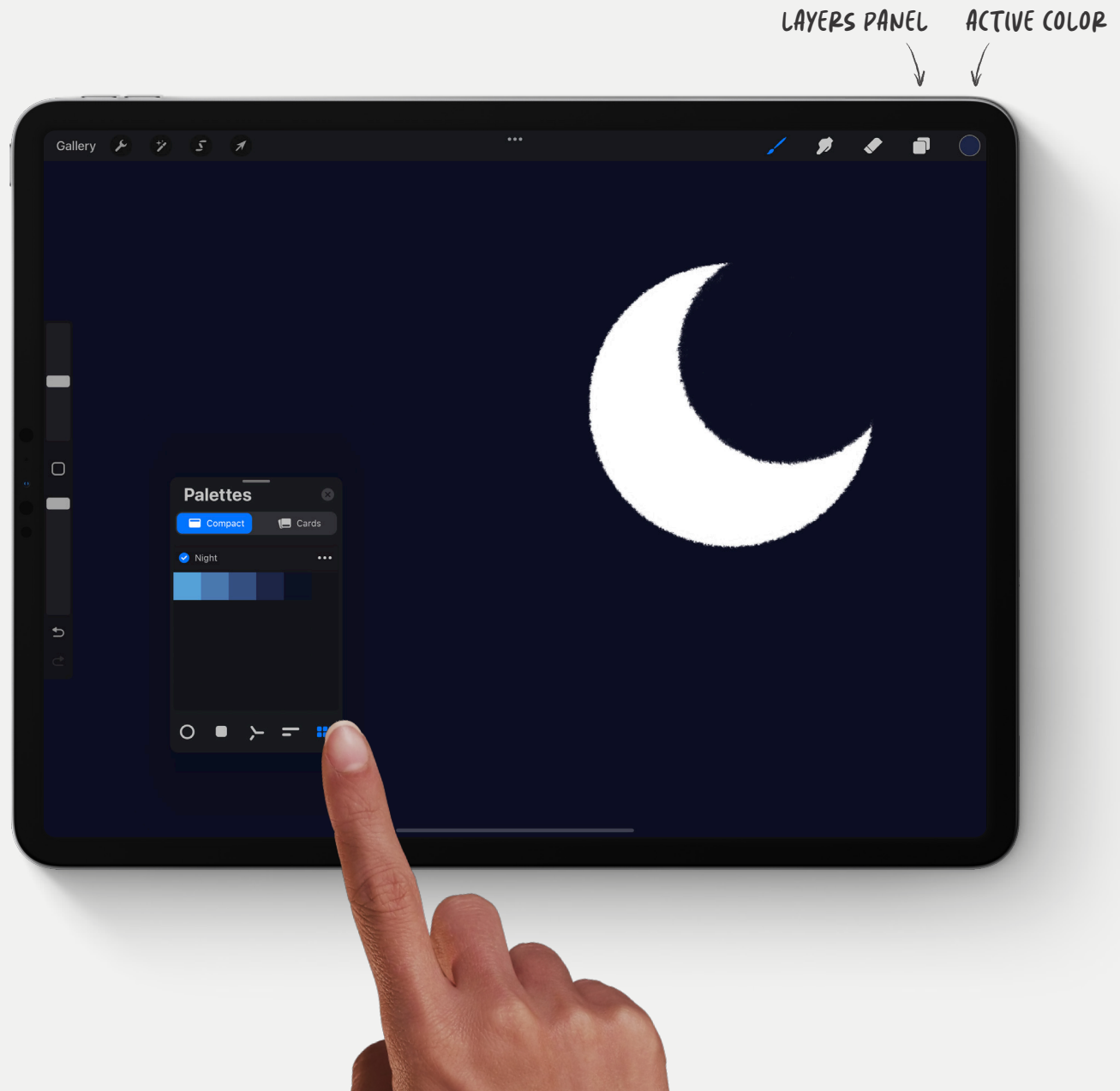
Draw some clouds

1 Tap the fourth blue in your palette, and pinch your fingers slightly on the canvas to zoom out a little.

2 Now draw some clouds, starting at the top-center of your canvas, and finishing at the center-right. Make sure you have some variation in your curves, and draw right to the edge of your canvas.

3 Tap to open the *Layers Panel*. Tap-and-hold the cloud layer and drag it below the moon layer, so your moon is at the top of the layer list.
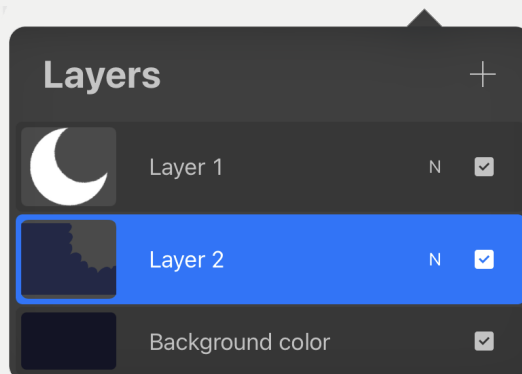
Repeat

Draw two more clouds, each on their own layer using the second and third blue from your palette.

✳ Try not to follow exactly the same shape as the first cloud – variation is good.

✳ Make sure to draw right to the very edge of your canvas, otherwise *ColorDrop* will fill the entire canvas.

Layers

🌙	Layer 1	N	☑
	Layer 4	N	☑
	Layer 3	N	☑
	Layer 2	N	☑
	Background color		☑

Gallery

Palettes

Compact   Cards

☑ Night
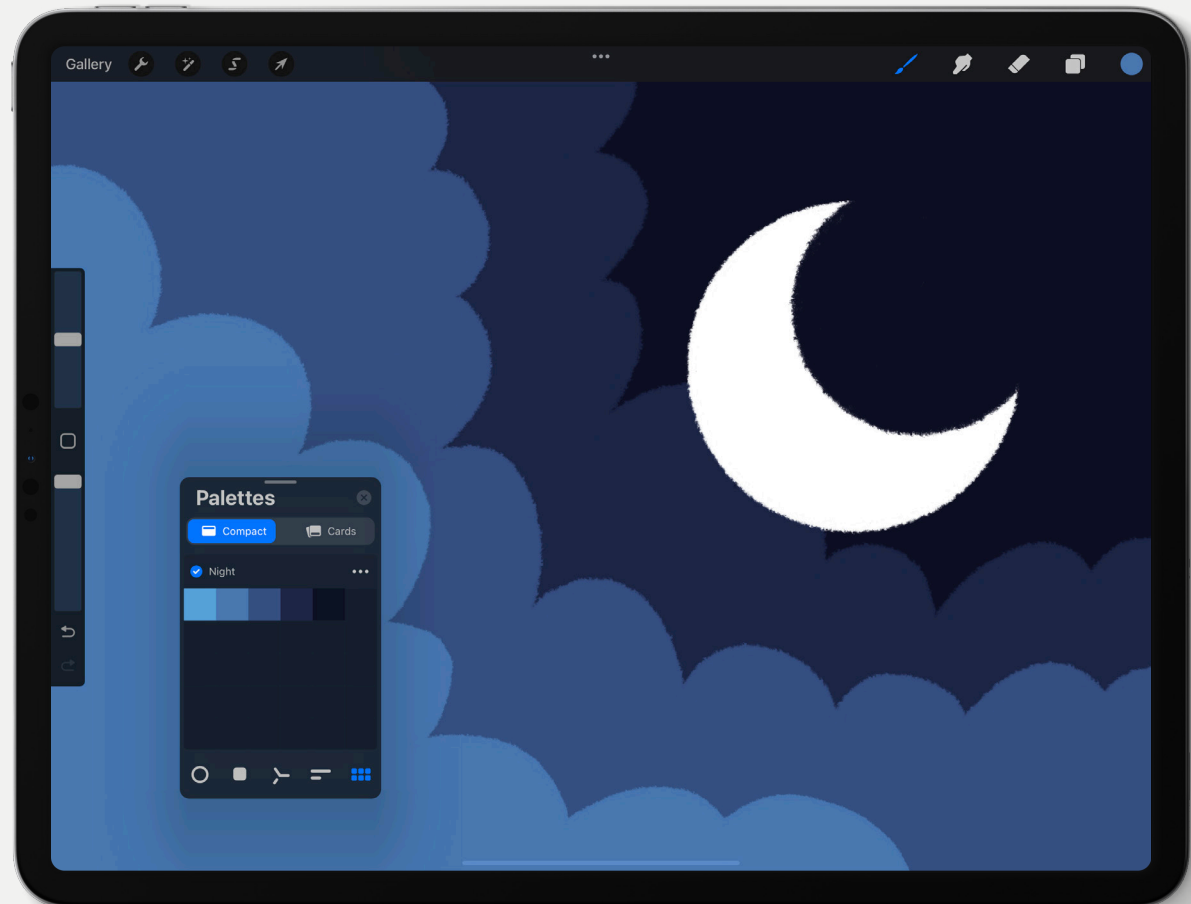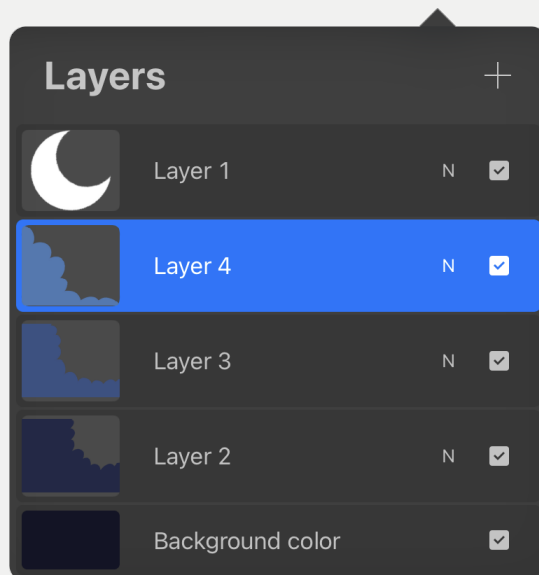
CHAPTER 4

Layer Options

LAYERS PANEL

Tap to open Layer Options

1 Tap to open your *Layers Panel*.

2 Tap your moon layer to select it, then tap again to open *Layer Options*.

3 There are many options here to explore, but we'll just focus on two: *Rename*, and *Alpha Lock*.

Gallery

Rename
Select
Copy
Fill Layer
Clear
Alpha Lock
Mask
Clipping Mask
Invert
Reference
Merge Down
Combine Down

Layers   +

Layer 1   N ☑

Layer 4   N ☑

Layer 3   N ☑

Layer 2   N ☑

Background   ☑

Rename your layer

1   Tap *Rename* in *Layer Options*, and
a keyboard will appear.

2   Rename the moon layer 'Moon'.
You might like to rename the cloud
layers as well, or choose to leave the
default titles.

LAYERS PANEL

LAYERS PANEL

Alpha Lock

Alpha Lock is ideal for adding texture, detail, or shading to a part of your artwork without painting outside the lines. This means transparent parts of the layer won't be touched by new paint, and you'll only paint over areas that already have color on them.

1 Tap the top cloud layer to select it. Tap it again to open *Layer Options*, then tap *Alpha Lock*.

2 Tap the brush icon to open your *Brush Library*. Tap the *Industrial* set, and choose the *Rusted Decay* brush.

3 Choose the lighter blue in your palette and make your brush size large. Lightly add some texture to the crest of your first cloud.

4 Grab the third shade of blue, and add some shadows to the inner part of the cloud.

Gallery

Palettes

Compact   Cards

Night

Keep going!

Repeat this process with your remaining two clouds using a lighter shade of blue from your palette for the crest of the cloud, and a darker shade for the inner part of the cloud.

✳ For your second cloud, use the second and forth swatches in your palette.

✳ For your third cloud, use the third and fifth swatches.
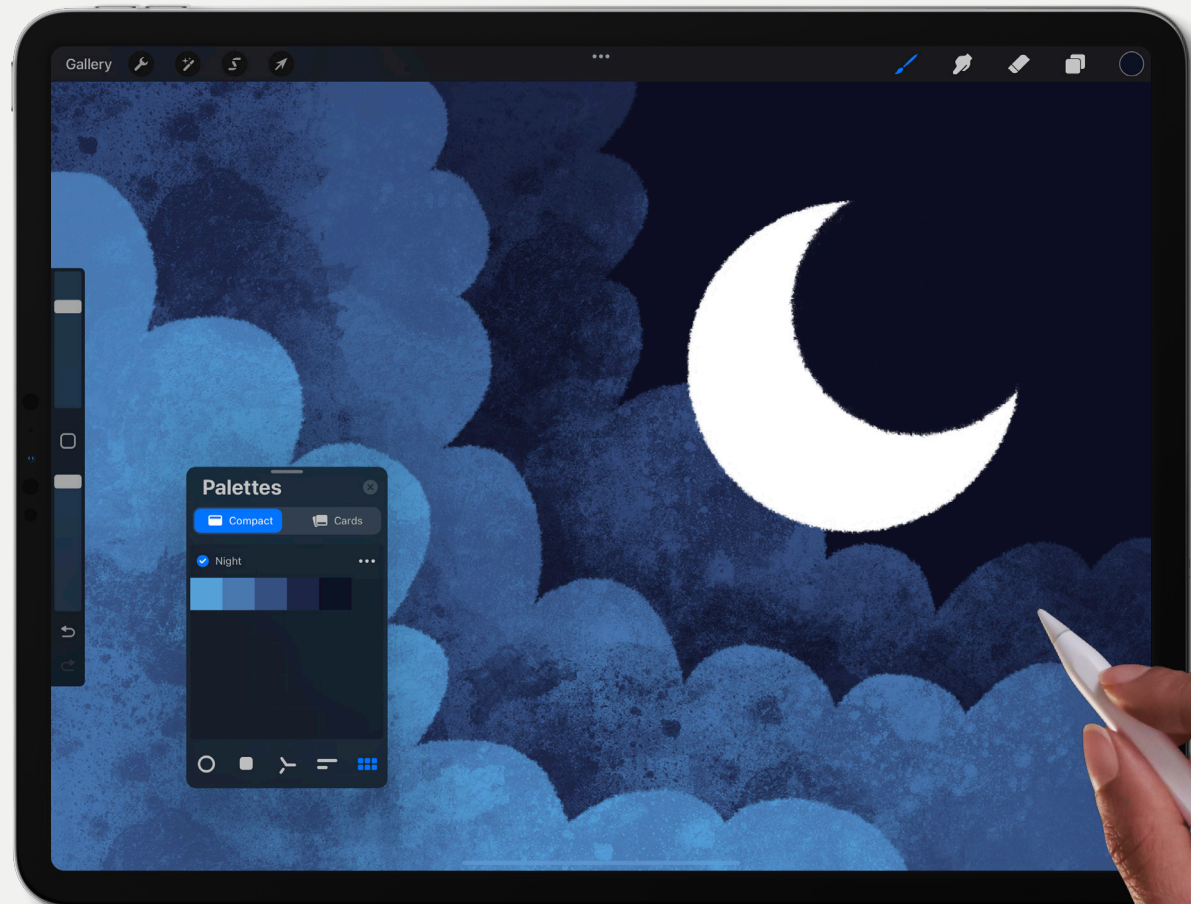
Add texture to the sky.

1 Tap your third cloud layer to open Layer Options again, and turn off *Alpha Lock*.

2 Lightly paint some final texture into the sky, using the fourth blue in your palette.

CHAPTER 5

Brush Studio

LAYERS PANEL

Add a little glimmer

Now we're going to edit one of Procreate's default brushes to add a nice smattering of stars to your night scene.

1 Tap the 'x' on your *Color Companion* to close it.

2 Tap the brush icon to open the *Brush Library*. Tap to open the *Luminance* set, and choose the *Glimmer Brush*.

3 Tap the *Glimmer Brush* again to open it in the *Brush studio*.

Gallery

Brush Library   +

Recent   Flare
Sketching
Inking   Lightpen
Drawing
Painting   Lightbrush
Artistic
Calligraphy   Pulse
Airbrushing
Textures   Bokeh Light
Abstract
Charcoals   Lightleak
Elements
Spraypaints
Materials   Glimmer
Vintage
Luminance   Nebula
Industrial
Organic
Water

TAP 'DONE'

Edit your brush

Brush Studio is where every single brush in Procreate is created. It may look complicated, but it is just a list of settings that make each brush unique.

For this artwork, just edit one brush setting to make the stars of the *Glimmer Brush* more spread out.

1 Drag the first slider, titled *Spacing*, to *Max*. Notice the preview on the right update as you adjust the slider.

2 Tap 'Done' in the top right to complete the change.

Brush Studio

Stroke properties

Drawing Pad   Cancel   Done

- Stroke path
- Stabilization
- Taper
- Shape
- Grain
- Rendering
- Wet Mix
- Color dynamics
- Dynamics
- Apple Pencil
- Properties
- Materials
- About this brush

Spacing   Max

Jitter

Fall off
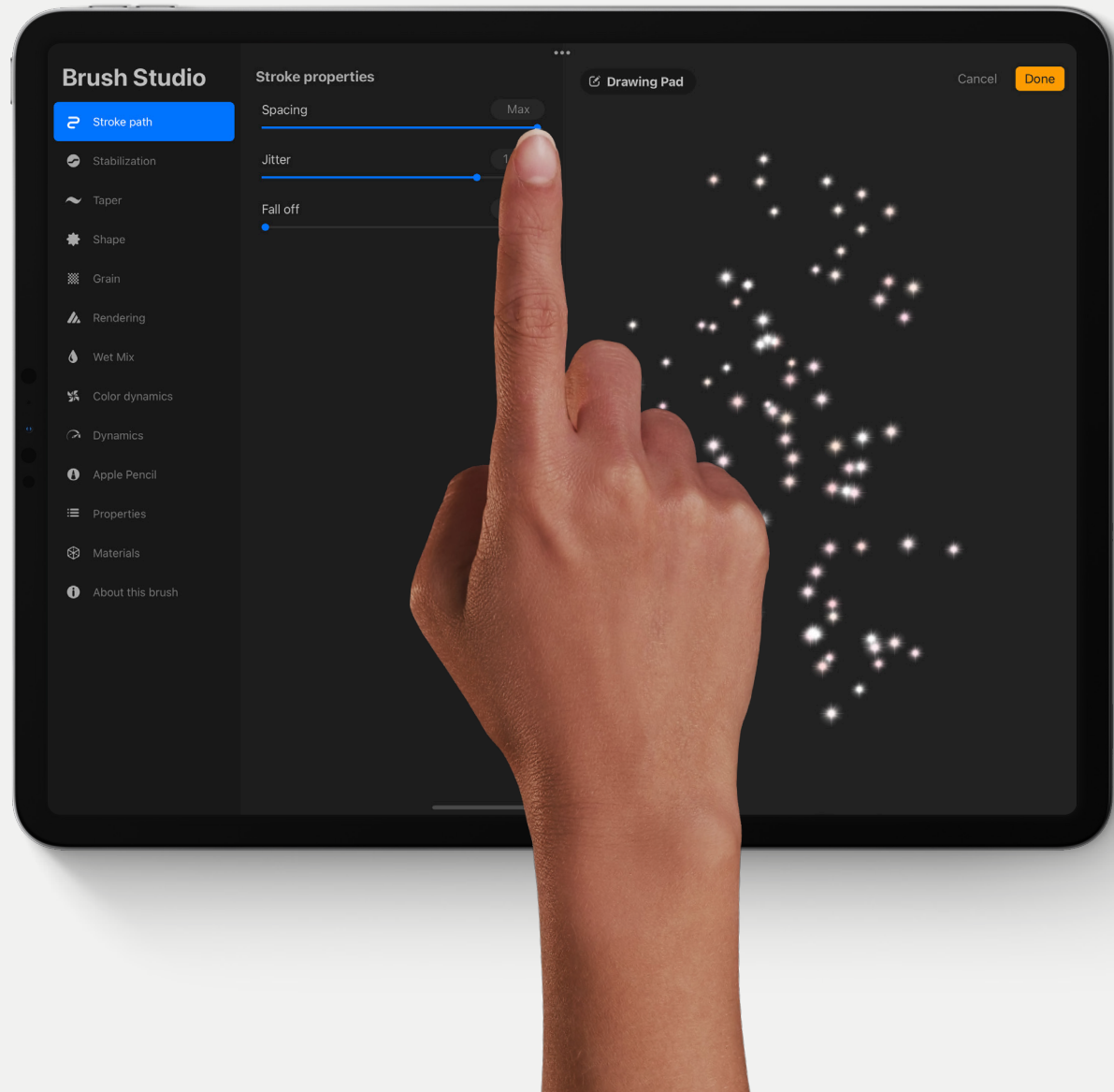
Add some stars

Create a new layer at the top of your layer list, and add a smattering of stars with your new *Glimmer Brush*.

Feel free to try a few times. You can always erase any stars that are too close to the moon or the edge of the canvas.

Save a copy

You can now save a copy of
this brush for later, and also keep
the original brush that came
with Procreate.

1   Swipe to the left on your edited
Glimmer Brush, then tap *Duplicate*.
You will see a small Procreate icon in
the top-right appear to indicate that
it is a custom brush.

2   To reset back to the original brush,
swipe to the left, and tap *Reset*.

TOP TIP

Duplicating default brushes allows you to
play with the different settings, and make
your own unique brushes. Experiment with
the different sliders, even if you don't know
what they do. You can't break them, and you
can always reset any brush if you don't like
your edits.

CHAPTER 6

Editing Tools

ACTIONS   ADJUSTMENTS   SELECTION

TRANSFORM

Gallery

Editing tools

Now is a great time to meet Procreate's Editing Tools, which live in the top-left of the user interface.

ACTIONS

The *Actions* menu has all the practical features you need to insert, share, adjust your canvas and any of the elements within it. Here you can also adjust Procreate's settings to make it work best for you.

ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments has filters and special effects you can apply to your artwork.

SELECTION

The *Selection* Tool has a few different methods for selecting a specific part of your artwork to work on.

TRANSFORM

The *Transform* Tool allows you to stretch, move, and manipulate your image for fast and easy edits.

LAYERS PANEL

Merge your layers

Combine your stars and moon onto the same layer.

1 Open your *Layers Panel*, tap your Stars layer to open *Layer Options*, and select *Merge Down*.

2 Swipe left on this layer, then tap *Duplicate* to make a copy.

Make your moon glow.

Use the *Blur* adjustment to create a glow around your moon and stars.

1   Tap your magic wand icon to open the *Adjustments* list.

2   Tap *Gaussian Blur*.

3   Tap on the arrow at the top and make sure *Layer* is selected. This will apply the blur to the entire moon and stars layer.

4   Drag your finger to the right across the canvas to adjust the strength of the blur. There will be a percentage value at the top – give it a blur of around 15%.

ADJUSTMENTS

CHAPTER 6

Blend Modes
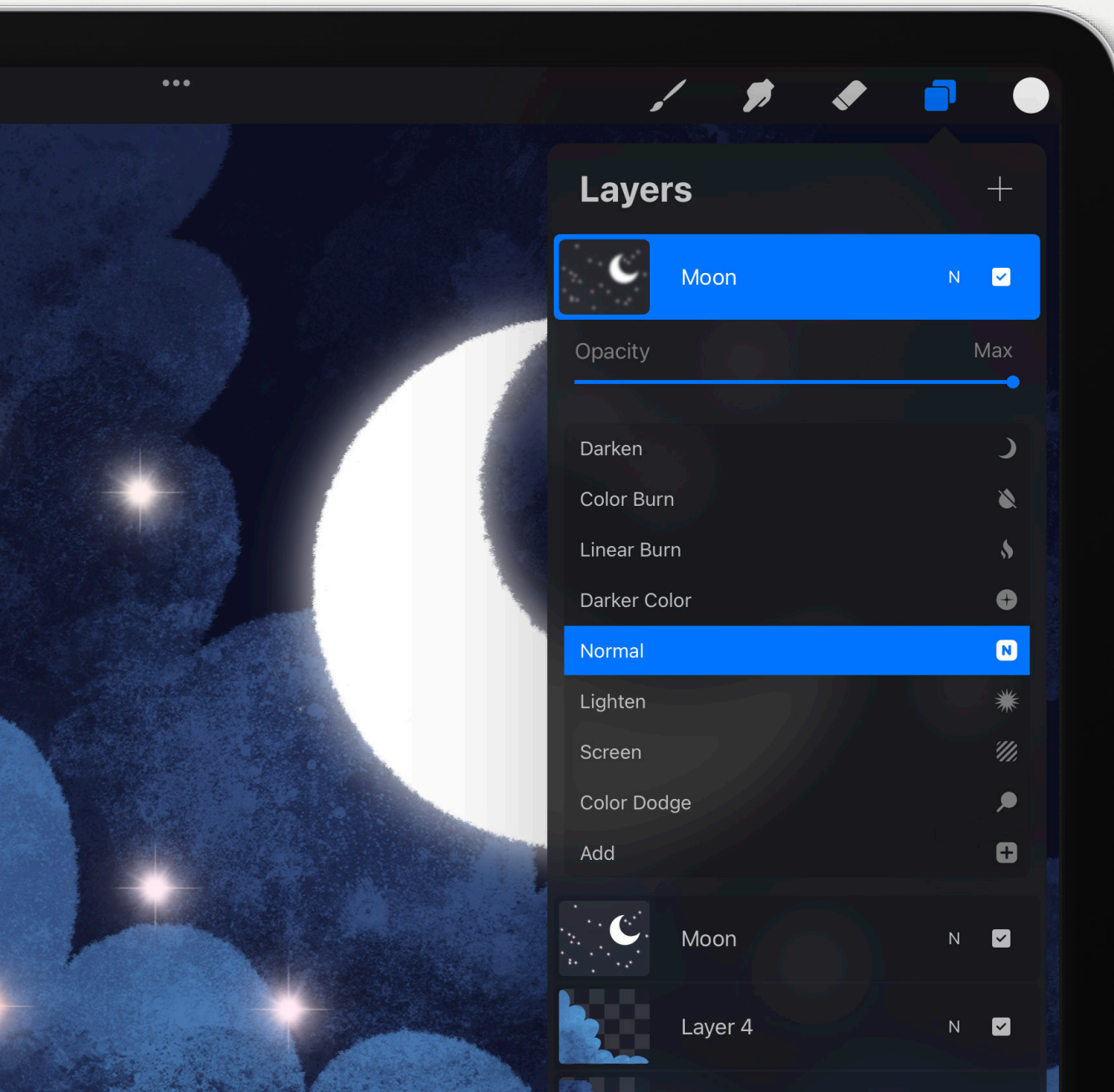
Blend Modes

Blend Modes change the way a layer blends with the layers beneath it.

In digital art, each color is represented by a number and *Blend Modes* use maths to calculate how the colors on this layer blend with colors below.

For example, in this artwork setting a layer with white paint on it to *Subtract*, makes the moon and stars almost black because you are removing white from the bright colors. *Add*, brightens because you are adding white to the light colors. There are many interesting and complex effects in between.

TOP TIP

It's well worth scrolling through the list of *Blend Modes* to see what happens. This is what professional artists do too.

Layers

Moon	N	☑

Opacity — Max

Darken	🌙
Color Burn	⊘
Linear Burn	🔥
Darker Color	⊕
Normal	**N**
Lighten	✸
Screen	▨
Color Dodge	🔍
Add	⊞

Moon	N	☑
Layer 4	N	☑

BRUSH LIBRARY

LAYERS PANEL

Try it out

Add some swirls around your moon.

1 Open the *Layers Panel*, and tap the *+* icon to add another new layer at the top of your layer list.

2 Tap the brush icon to open the *Brush Library*. Tap to open the *Painting* Set, select *Old Brush*.

3 Make sure your *Active Color* is white.

4 Paint few swirls around your moon. You might like to increase your brush size while doing so.

Gallery
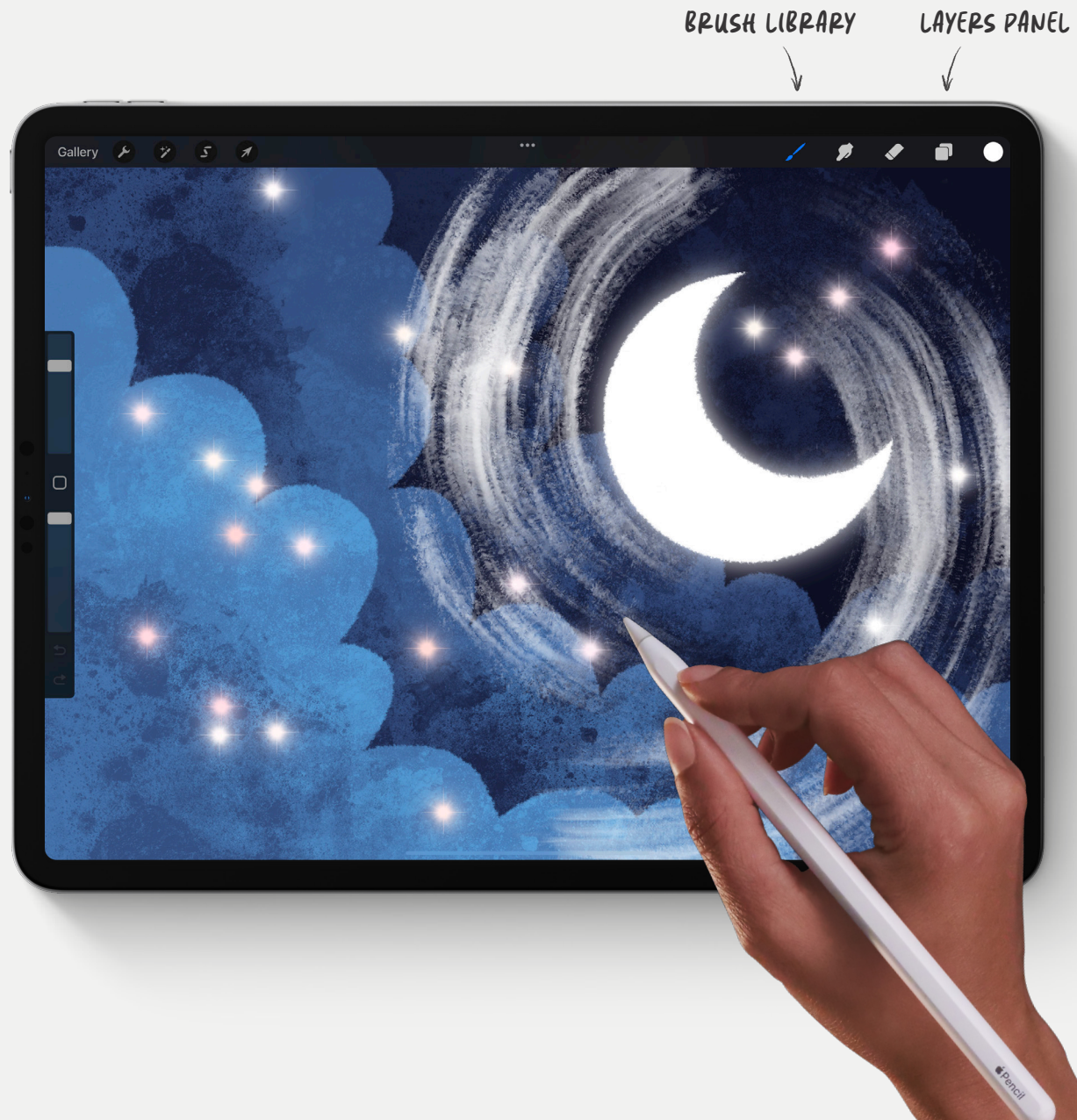
LAYERS PANEL

Set a blend mode

1 Tap to open the *Layers Panel* again, and tap the little letter *N* on the swirls layer. This reveals the *Blend Mode* menu where we can change the layer's *Opacity*.

2 The *N* stands for the *Normal* Blend Mode, where the layer sits on top of the layers beneath with no effect. Scroll through the list until you get to *Overlay*. In this artwork *Overlay* makes the colors below this layer brighter and more vibrant.

3 The slider above the list of *Blend Modes* is the *Opacity* slider. We can use this to make our layer more transparent. Drag the slider to 70%.

Gallery

Layers

Layer 6   o ☑

Opacity   70%

Screen
Color Dodge
Add
Lighter Color
Overlay
Soft Light
Hard Light
Vivid Light
Linear Light

Moon   N ☑
Moon
Layer 4
Layer 3
Layer

ADJUSTMENTS

Add a blur

1 Tap the magic wand icon to open the *Adjustments* menu.

2 Tap *Gaussian Blur,* and drag your finger across the canvas until the blur amount is set to 7%.

3 Tap any another tool to apply the blur.

Gallery

Gaussian Blur 7%

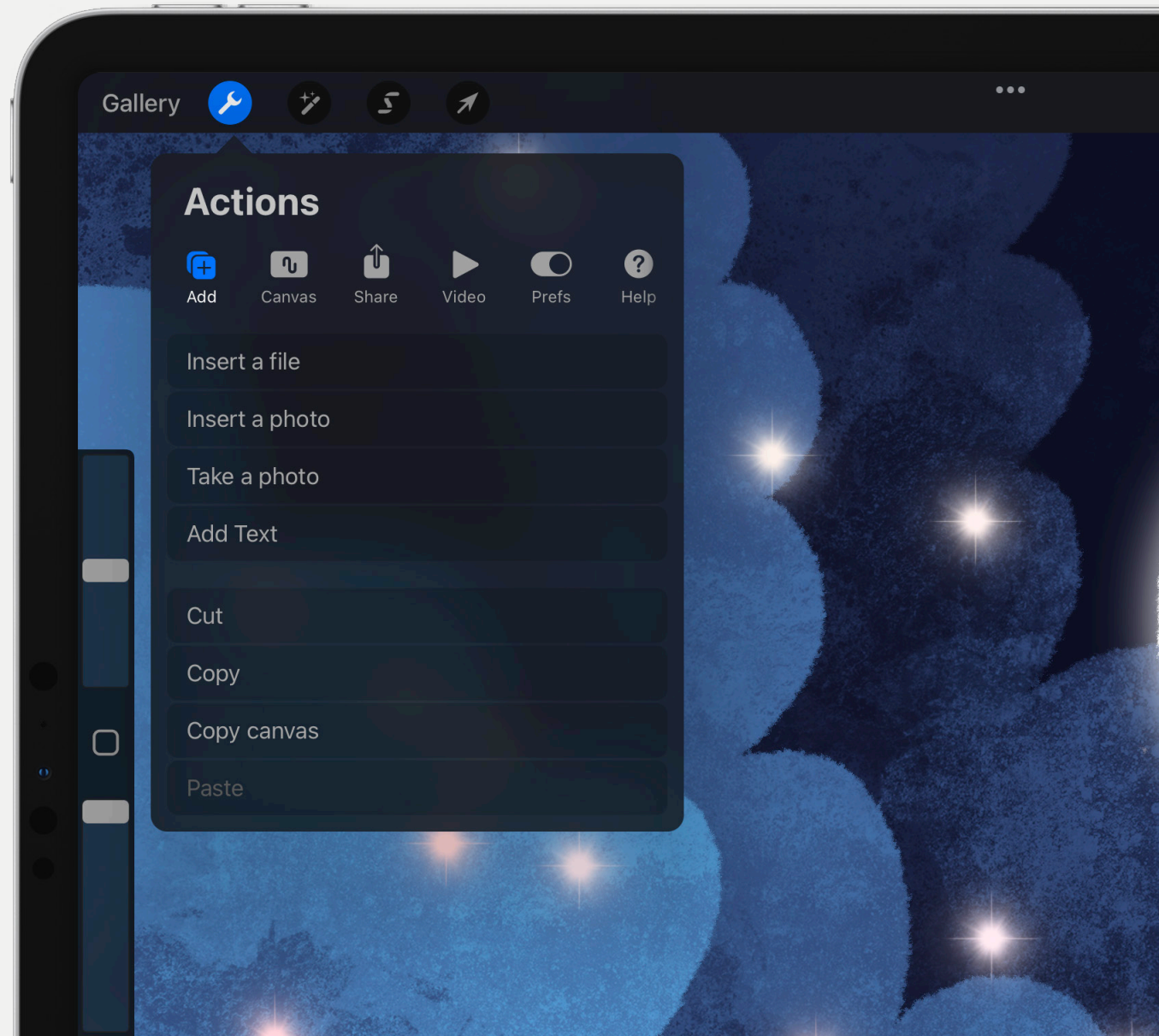Layer   Pencil

CHAPTER 7

Add Text

ACTIONS

Text

Procreate allows you to add text and access all the typography tools you need in one versatile panel accessed through the *Actions* menu.

Gallery

Actions

Add   Canvas   Share   Video   Prefs   Help

Insert a file

Insert a photo

Take a photo

Add Text

Cut

Copy

Copy canvas

Paste

Add text

ACTIONS

1   Tap the wrench icon to open the *Actions* menu. *Tap Add*, and choose *Add Text*.

2   The iPad keyboard will appear. Type 'Dream'. Double tap with your finger to select the text.

3   Tap the *Aa* icon at the top-right of the keyboard to bring up all the text options. Here you can change your font, style, design and attributes.
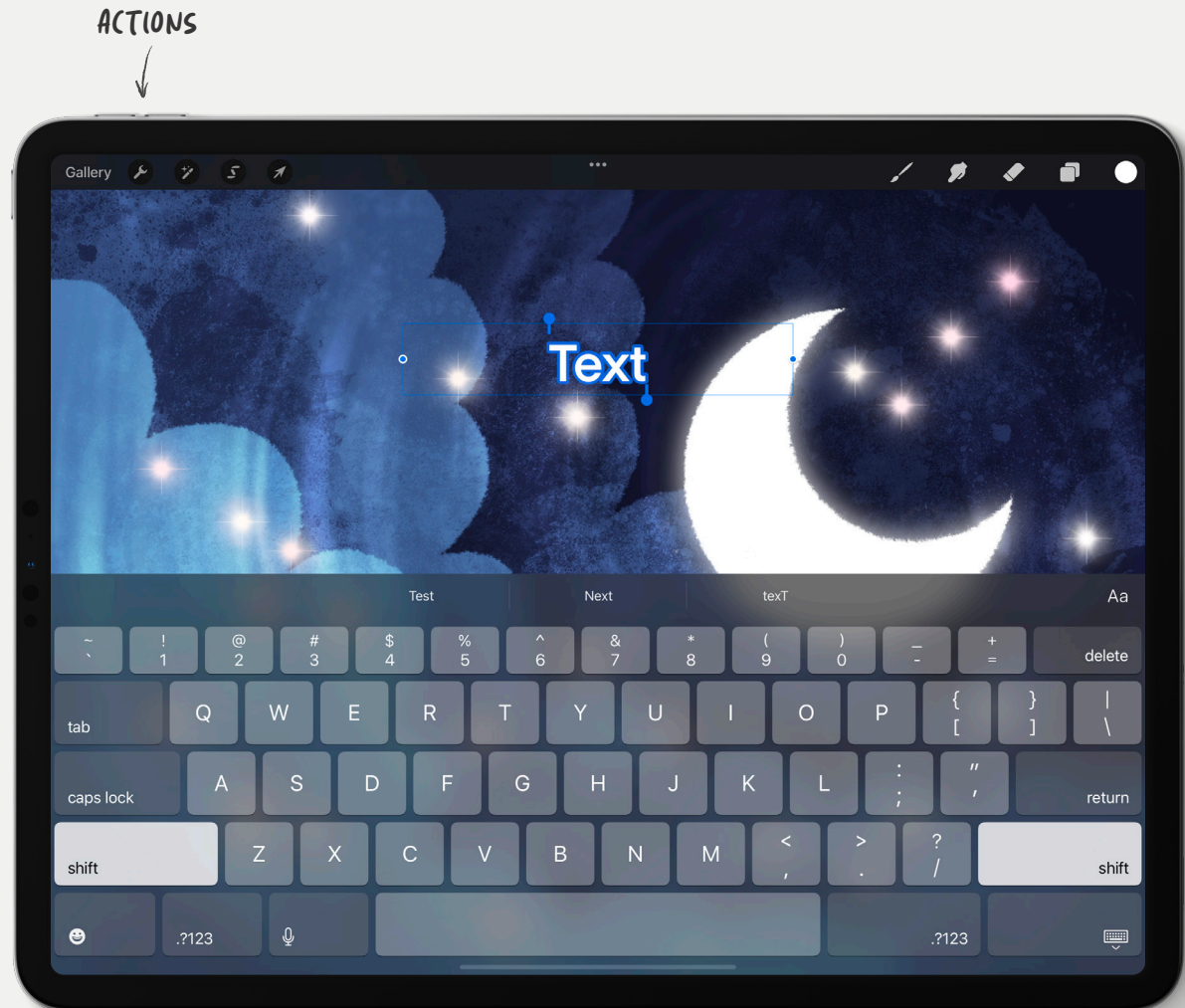
Edit text

1   Use the font list on the left to scroll and change the font to 'Futura'.

2   Drag the *Size* slider to the right to increase the font size. Drag the *Kerning* slider to the left to decrease the space between the letters down about 5%.

3   Tap "Done".

TRANSFORM

Transform text

Use the *Transform* tool to move your text around.

1 Tap the arrow icon in the top-left to enter *Transform* mode. This will make a bounding box appear around your text. This bounding box allows you to change the size of the content by tapping and dragging any of the corner nodes.

2 You can also move the text around by holding either inside, or outside the bounding box and dragging.

3 Once you're happy with the size and position of your text, tap the *Transform* icon again to commit the change.

Gallery

Dream

| Width | 400px |
| Height | 873px |

Freeform | Uniform | Dist... ...rp

Snapping | Flip Horizontal | Flip Vertical | Rotate 45° | Fit to Can...

Text layers

1 Adding text creates a new layer, which you can see in the *Layers Panel.*

2 Tap-and-hold to drag the text layer down the layers list to below the first cloud.

3 Tap the *N* on the cloud layer and drag the *Opacity* slider to the left slightly, so you can just see the 'Dream' text beneath.

4 When you're happy with how the text looks on your layer you can leave it as is. If you liked your artwork without text, you can always uncheck the *Visibility Checkbox* to hide it.

CHAPTER 8

Time-lapse

Time-lapse

Time-lapse videos in Procreate record every step of the creation of your image and compile it into a high-speed video replay. You can go back and see the complete journey to your final piece in any artwork you create.

1 Tap the wrench icon to open the *Actions* menu. Then tap *Video*, and *Time-lapse Replay*.

2 Drag your finger across the canvas to scrub through the time-lapse.

3 You can export a full length video, or 30-second version of your time-lapse, to share with friends, or on social media.
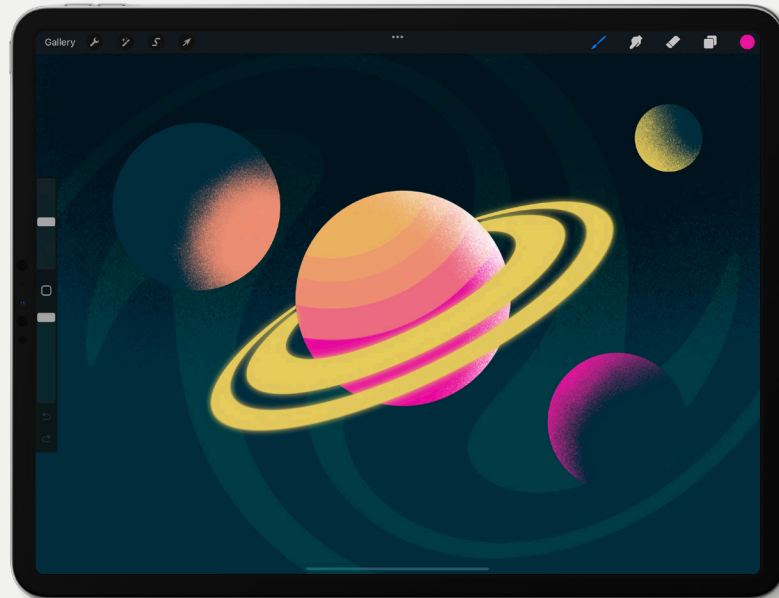
Ready for Part 3?

Take your new skills and discover how they work with Procreate's Editing Tools. Learn how to transform, select, adjust, and use actions while making a simple but stunning intergalactic artwork.

Create.

Artistic expression helps make education
meaningful, memorable and fun.
Find more creative lesson ideas at
education.procreate.art

To see see the full creative potential
of Procreate, visit our Handbook
procreate.art/handbook

Learn with
Procreate®