

## **Procreate and iPad Pro: the go-to digital tools for the travelling artist**

Step aside, Adobe, Procreate's coming through, hand-in-hand with iPad Pro.

Released in 2011, Procreate is a raster digital painting app released specifically for iOS and boasting several features such as 136 brush options, blend modes, brush editing and numerous other features a digital artist would find handy. Along with its formidable list of brushes, the nifty software also possesses animation and text capabilities, ultra high-definition canvases that goes up to 16k, and 64-bit color.

Alongside it comes iPad Pro, the device most commonly used with Procreate. Praised for its sleek design and high-quality audio, iPad Pro is a common pair-up alongside Procreate, together with the Apple Pencil (which Procreate is specialized for). However, despite Procreate's relatively cheap price, the iPad Pro is expensive, and together with the Apple Pencil can burn a sizeable hole in your wallet or bank account.

Ever since its release, many professional and hobby artists have been lauding its abilities and seamless UI interface. Procreate's fluid strokes and simple UI (user interface) has had many artists, beginners and professionals alike, crowing its praise from the rooftops.

According to artist Kyle Lambert, he used the iOS-centered painting app to create the promotional poster for the iconic series *Stranger Things*. While he did the color work in Photoshop, the lineart and sketch were all accomplished in Procreate.

"I chose to use the iPad Pro for the drawing stage of the poster because I find that I am able to sketch in a very natural way on the device using the Apple Pencil." Lambert explains in regards to the process. "The device in general is nice to hold for long periods of time, it is really portable and Procreate, the app that I used, has some really great Pencil brushes for drawing with."

Other artists have turned to using Procreate for large-scale projects as well, such as designing things for entertainment and architectural purposes. Procreate is also used in-house at Disney and Pixar, and according to animator Jeff Ranjo, the iPad's slight textured roughness (or "tooth") made it good to use with the Apple Pencil.

With so many praising the wonders of the simple yet efficient drawing app, are there any listed drawbacks?

Apparently so. Procreate can only be used with iOS hardware, and with its restrictive platform and the pricey hardware that's required to use it, not everyone can afford it. The iPad Pro is also

rather fragile and brittle, so one wrong step (maybe literally) can send your money and your projects flying into the sun.

Apart from that, the Procreate app is flexible, intuitive, and an overall popular tool loved among hobbyists, animators, and designers alike. Winning several accolades such as Apple's "App of the Year" award, the app has flourished and its company, Savage Interactive, has released several other variants of Procreate, including Procreate 2.0 and Procreate Pocket.

And if you still prefer Photoshop, fear not- Procreate's files can be used on Photoshop, as part of its adaptability and fluidity.

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