



iPad & Apple Pencil Recommendations for Procreate

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Procreate App

The Procreate App works on the Apple iPad. To run Procreate on an iPad, you need **iPadOS 15.4.1** or later. The Procreate App for iPad is currently **\$12.99**. This is a one-time payment (no monthly fees).

- Procreate App for iPad ([Apple Store Link](#))

There is also a **Procreate app for iPhone** called Procreate Pocket. This iPhone app is a great addition if you want to be able to use Procreate or view Procreate files on the go. However, you can't use the Apple Pencil with it and functionality is quite limited. It's just a nice "add on" if you use an iPhone.

- Procreate Pocket App for iPhone ([Apple Store Link](#) | [Compare with Procreate](#))

Please note that Procreate is not available for Android devices.

Apple iPad

There are many iPads versions to choose from and new versions are always coming out. Landscape designers should consider the size of the iPad, storage capacity and RAM.

iPad Hard Drive

If you plan to store Procreate drawings directly on the iPad, you should purchase the largest hard drive possible. You should also have a system for storing your Procreate files safely on cloud storage or a system for regularly backing up your Procreate files.

- I'd recommend **128GB+ of storage** if you have the budget for it, but **no less than 64GB**.

iPad RAM

The iPad RAM determines how many layers you can have in a file in Procreate. So, the more RAM, the more layers you'll be able to make for your document.

- I'd recommend **8GB+ of RAM** if you have the budget for it, but **no less than 3GB**.

iPad Model

There are several models of iPads to choose from: iPad Mini, iPad, iPad Air and iPad Pro.

The most current models (as of August 2024) are:

- **2024 iPad Mini 7th Gen A17 Pro** (uses Apple Pencil Pro)
 - Best for: Those who want a small, pocket-sized option. The screen is small at 8.3”.
 - Released October 23, 2024.
 - Price: \$499 & up
- **2022 iPad 10th Gen** (uses Apple Pencil Generation 1)
 - Best for: Hobby users, great for casual use like web surfing, etc.
 - Price: \$299 & up
- **2024 iPad Air M2** (uses Apple Pencil Pro)
 - Best for: Serious users, good performance and lightweight design.
 - Price: \$549 & up
- **2024 iPad Pro M4** (uses Apple Pencil Pro)
 - Best for: Professional/Heavy users, most advanced technology available.
 - Price: \$929 & up

If I were personally selecting a brand new iPad today, I would choose one with an M2 or M4 chip that's compatible with Apple Pencil 2nd Generation or Apple Pencil Pro. Out of the lineup above, that would be:

- 2024 iPad Air M2 (Apple Pencil Pro)
- 2024 iPad Pro M4 (Apple Pencil Pro)

- 2024 iPad Mini Pro A17 (Apple Pencil Pro) - while not an M-chip, it's 2x faster than the previous mini (6th Gen). I personally enjoy the portability of the iPad mini.

Purchasing Older iPad Models:

You can also purchase a previous version of an iPad and this is a great way to save some money. I'd recommend the following:

- **iPad Pro 2022 6th Generation** (M2 Chip, Apple Pencil 2nd Generation)
- **iPad Pro 2021 5th Generation** (M1 Chip, Apple Pencil 2nd Generation)
- **iPad Pro 2020 4th Generation** (Apple Pencil 2nd Generation)
 - I'm currently using the 11" version of this iPad, with 1TB of Storage and 16GB RAM. It uses the Apple Pencil 2nd Generation.
- **iPad Air 2022 5th Generation** (Apple Pencil 2nd Generation)
 - This is a great option as it has the Apple M1 Chip and 8GB of RAM. I'd recommend the 256GB of Storage. It's compatible with the Apple Pencil 2nd Generation.
- **iPad Air 2020 4th Generation** (Apple Pencil 2nd Generation)

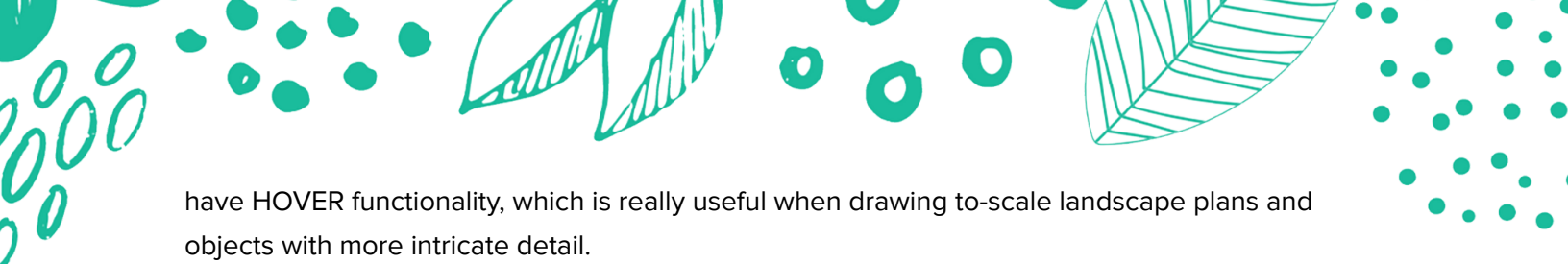
Stylus / Apple Pencil

There are different styluses available for the iPad.

I recommend the Apple Pencil. **The model of the Apple Pencil you purchase is determined by its compatibility with your iPad model.** It's not a choice. You need to pick the one that works with the iPad model you have. The exception to this is the new USB-C Apple Pencil, which I do not recommend for digital drawing because it lacks pressure sensitivity.

- Here's [a list of iPads & their compatibility with the Apple Pencil](#).

If I were personally selecting a new iPad based on Apple Pencil compatibility today, I would choose an iPad that works with Apple Pencil 2nd Generation or Apple Pencil Pro. These both



have HOVER functionality, which is really useful when drawing to-scale landscape plans and objects with more intricate detail.

*Note: Apple has recently come out with an Apple Pencil USB-C version. **I do NOT recommend the USB-C pencil** for digital drawing because it does not have pressure sensitivity. So, do not choose the USB-C Apple Pencil.*

These are all of the Apple Pencil models available:

- Apple Pencil USB-C - not recommended for digital drawing because there's no pressure sensitivity. Price: \$100
- [First Generation Apple Pencil](#) (what I used to record my [Great at Procreate](#) course) Price: \$80
- [Second Generation Apple Pencil](#) (what I use now) Price: \$100
- [Apple Pencil Pro](#) (what I hope to use in the future) Price: \$118

You can still follow along with tutorials using a stylus other than Apple Pencil. However, [some of the functionality](#) available through Procreate **will not work** on any stylus other than the Apple Pencil.

The Apple Pencil is compatible with Procreate for iPad and **cannot be used with Procreate Pocket for iPhone** (at the time of writing this document).