

## Technique 17

### Human Features



It is a lot of fun stenciling the human face. It can be a bit tricky at first, but just practice a few times and it will come easily. The trick is to use Easy Blend Charcoal Grey and a B3 brush to soften the edges of facial details after removing the stencils. The openings define the facial shapes like noses and lips, by creating a sharp edge on one side of the opening that should remain unsoftened, and the area that doesn't define the shape that needs to be blended into the surrounding skin tone. Since the main body parts and details are stenciled with acrylic that dries really fast, the addition of the Easy Blend oil crème paint allows you to refine the shading without the skin tones becoming muddied. The instructions are good as far as how to apply and where to soften, but as you become familiar with these angles, you will find that you no longer need the directions and it will become natural to you.