

Beginning Watercolor Supply List

PAINTS

We recommend you buy artist grade paints (not 'student' or 'academic'). Artist colors have more pigment and better quality. Make sure to buy transparent watercolor paint, not gouache. Winsor & Newton paints, Daniel Smith, Da Vinci are some of the better brands commonly available.

This is a basic palette of 8 colors used in class.

Cadmium Yellow (medium yellow)

Alizarin Crimson (cool red)

Cadmium Red (Warm red)

French Ultramarine Blue

Paynes gray

Sap green

Raw sienna

Burnt sienna

Good to have (especially for flowers)

Opera Rose (Bright pink)

Violet or purple

Phthalo Blue

BRUSHES

You can paint using only few brushes, but these must be watercolor brushes. Synthetic brushes work well and are reasonably priced . Don't buy brushes that are too small. We recommend these basic brushes

1- or 2-inch flat wash brush

#6 or #4 and #10 or #12 round brush

#1 or #2 rigger brush for details

PAPER

Good quality 140 lb cold press finish watercolor paper meets most needs. (Arches is a good brand or Strathmore 500 series). Watercolor Papers are available as sheets (large sheet is cut as required), wire bound pads, or blocks. 9x12, 8x10, 10x10 are good paper sizes to start. *Do not buy cheap art pads.*

OTHER BASIC SUPPLIES

Watercolor palette for mixing colors: white butchers tray or large white plate

sketching pencil

Kneaded rubber eraser

Masking tape

Plastic water containers (big yogurt containers are excellent)

Four "binder"-style clips. Helps to hold paper flat
Roll of paper towels. ('Viva' brand is good)
Support board (plexiglass works very well to tape down watercolor paper)
Spray bottle
Graphite transfer paper

A suggestion about finding supplies:

There are excellent discount stores online, such as [DickBlick](#), [CheapJoes](#), or [Jerrysartarama.com](#).