

Basics of Watercolor Supply List

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The following supplies can be found: For in person shopping - Blick Art Supplies in Dearborn, Royal Oak and Detroit, or Michaels (but you won't find as much and can be overpriced). Online- Blick.com, Jerry's Artarama, Amazon as well as other online merchants. If you shop at Michaels, **avoid** the "Artist Loft" brand (poor quality).

Supplies

Watercolor paper - Cold Pressed 140#. I like **Arches** or **Fabriano**, or even **Blick's** own brand of **premium** paper, but they are expensive. That being said, I would buy the best you can afford. Paper is so important. The better papers have more cotton in them (Arches is 100% cotton) as opposed to wood pulp. Too cheap of a paper will be difficult to work with. I have been exploring online other options that are 50 – 100% cotton, but at a lower price than Arches. A couple I have tried that are good are 1. Meeden, 2. Fingraspuro, and 3. Legion Stonehenge. Feel free to explore! **Canson and Fabriano Studio**, among others, are fine (avoid Strathmore) to get if cotton papers are out of your price range.

Watercolor paints -They can be purchased in sets or individually. When buying individual tubes, I recommend these **brands: Daniel Smith, Windsor Newton or Blick's Artist grade** Watercolors (these are brands I've used and are **good quality**). If purchasing a **set**, I recommend **WN Cotman Watercolor set** or **Grumbacher Academy Paint Set** (12 colors).

IF YOU BUY INDIVIDUAL TUBES: Recommended colors: Basically, it's a good idea to have a warm and a cool version of the primary colors. These are suggestions, but different brands may call the same color something different.

1. Alizarin Crimson OR permanent rose **2.** Cadmium red OR Pyrrole red, **3.** Ultramarine blue, **4.** Cerulean Blue, **5.** Hansa yellow light, **6.** Hansa yellow medium, **7.** Burnt Siena and **8.** Sap green. Other colors to consider- cobalt blue (what we often think of as regular blue), burnt umber, yellow ochre There are just so many!

Brushes- At the minimum, have one round (with a good point) and one flat $\frac{3}{4}$ " - 1". For the round I like **Silver Black Velvet 3000** and **Kingart Premium Original Gold 9020** (there are other options, these are just ones I have and use). I mostly use a size **10** or **12**. I don't bother with the really small brushes because these both have a good point for getting detail if needed.

Water container (large yogurt container or small bucket). I often use two.

White artist tape or Painter's tape (avoid the "low tack" artist tape)

Large palette (one with a lid is best) -since we travel to and from class, one like the **Mr. Pen Airtight 18 well Palette** works nicely. I also use one like the **Robert E. Wood palette**.

Lightweight board to tape your paper to while painting (Search: hardwood panels, Masonite board, or gator board $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick). Cardboard is not strong enough. Approximately 18"x24"

Drawing pencil HB or 2B and **White eraser and/or kneaded eraser**

Small spray bottle

Toothbrush and small sponge – optional