

Beginning Watercolor Class Supply List

You will find that there is a very broad range in cost when it comes to buying art supplies. I recommend not buying the less expensive products, especially paper, because you will not be able to achieve some of the techniques we will be using. Try someplace in the middle to start with.

Paints – Below is a list of colors that I would recommend starting with. Buying them individually or purchasing a watercolor kit is fine as long as the quality of the paint is good. I use Daniel Smith, however there are lots of other brands that are perfectly fine and more affordable. I prefer tubes of watercolor paints, but if you already own cakes, those are fine.

- Cadmium Red
- Lemon Yellow
- Yellow Ocher
- French Ultramarine Blue
- Cobalt Blue
- Burnt Sienna Light
- Viridian Green
- Neutral Tint

Paper - 140 lb. watercolor paper is very important for the techniques that we will be using in class. I recommend using a cold press surface. Watercolor blocks are convenient because the paper is sealed down and ready to be painted. If you don't want to purchase a block, I recommend purchasing one sheet of Arches or equivalent quality paper. They come as a large sheet that can be cut down into many small workable size pieces. We will also be using "skill" paper which is inexpensive watercolor paper that is perfect for practicing on. You can find them in pads of 20 pieces and usually cost less than \$10.

Support board – if you are not using a block style pad of paper you will need some kind of ridged surface to tape your paper onto. It should be water resistant. I use a piece of corrugated plastic but there are lots of other options you can find around your house. A piece of plexiglass or even the back of a cookie sheet would work! Whatever you choose, make sure it is large enough for your paper to have a border around it. This will make it easier to tape down.

Tape white artist tape, masking tape, painters tape, or scotch tape

Pallet - a white plastic pallet with wells for individual colors and plenty of area to mix color in is great. If you don't have a pallet available, find a waterproof surface that has plenty of space to mix up color. It is very important that what you choose to use is white! A simple dinner plate or a

styrofoam butcher tray will do. Remember watercolor washes easily so you won't ruin whatever you choose to use.

Brushes – it is nice to have two round watercolor brushes (#8 and #14, or something similar) in your tool box but really a larger one that holds a nice point is enough. Watercolor brushes are very different than acrylic and oil brushes, they must have very soft bristles! The other required brush is one that holds A LOT of water. These are referred to as mop brushes. It doesn't have to be fancy or expensive but it needs to have ample amounts of soft bristles to hold water. A mop brush that also has a nice point will be very helpful.

pencil and sketchbook, soft eraser (like a kneaded eraser), removable masking fluid, paper towels, small spray bottle, hand towel, sponge, and one or two water containers (peanut butter jars or something similar works great), and a hair dryer