

Watercolor Supply List

PAINTS (the most important supply –use only “Artist Grade” not “Student Grade” (e.g. Winsor Newton, NOT Winsor Newton's Cotman brand).

The following are just suggestions based on what I use. Everyone discovers the colors and materials they prefer. It's very individual. I list the colors and brand I use. If you've found paints you prefer, use them instead! You're welcome to try my brushes, paints, and paper to see which you prefer before buying too many items.

It's good to have at least one cool and one warm of each primary color (red, yellow, blue) plus Burnt Sienna (7 tubes of paint) so that you can mix clear secondary colors (orange, green, violet) and good darks. But you can do very nice work with just one tube of each primary color and Burnt Sienna.

You can start with the * options and add the colors marked with a + later. WN = Winsor Newton, DS = Daniel Smith. NOTE: **Cadmium** colors are somewhat easier to use, but also more opaque, more expensive and toxic if consumed.

Blue:

- *(**warm to medium blue**) WN French Ultramarine Blue
- +(**cool blue**) Phthalocyanine Blue (also called Thalo Blue. I use Winsor Blue Red Shade)
- + (opaque sky blue) WN Cerulean Blue (very useful color)
- +(middle to warm blue) WN Cobalt Blue (expensive, nice but not necessary)

Yellow:

- *(**middle to warm yellow**) very transparent: <WN Indian Yellow or DS New Gamboge> (exact same pigment) OR <Cadmium Yellow or WN Cadmium Yellow Pale>
- +(**cool yellow**) WN Winsor Lemon, OR DS Hansa Yellow, OR Cadmium Lemon

Red/Violet:

- *(**cool red**) WN Permanent Rose or any brand of Quinacridone Rose
- +(**warm red**) Cadmium Red Light OR WN Scarlet Lake OR Winsor Red
- + (**cool purple**) WN Winsor Violet (pigment: Carbazole dioxazine and other brands call it carbazole or dioxazine violet.) Very useful color for mixing strong darks.

Earth colors:

- *WN Burnt Sienna
- +WN Yellow Ochre (opaque) or WN Quinacridone Gold (transparent)
- +WN Sepia (for dark darks)

Green:

- +WN Winsor Green (I use Winsor Green Yellow Shade) Very useful color for mixing darks.
- + Sap Green (useful for mixing greens)

BRUSHES:

- I prefer rounds and use them most of the time. Start with 2 to 3 brushes between a size 5 to a size 12 round.
- My favorites are inexpensive: "**Golden Fleece**" brushes from Cheap Joes <<http://www.cheapjoes.com>>. Other good brushes include Da Vinci Cosmotop Spin and WN Sceptre Gold II. If you can afford the best, nothing beats a Winsor Newton Series 7 Kolinsky Sable (very expensive). Most art stores have a pot of water and special non-absorbent paper available to try out brushes before buying.
- Optional inexpensive 2" Japanese Hake brush or other large soft brush such as Skyflow or big mop brushes for wetting the paper.

WATERCOLOR PAPER:

- Arches 140 Cold Press full sheets (22x30) or half sheets torn to size (I will demonstrate and you can tear yours in class). You can bring 1 or 2 sheets rolled up to class or you can buy it already in half-sheet size. If you prefer a watercolor block (paper glued on one side in a stack with a firm backing), bring that instead.

PALETTE:

I like the Robert E. Wood plastic palette. It has lots of room for mixing and storing paint and a lid to keep things moist and clean. The Pike palette is also good. But you could use anything from a white kitchen plate to a white enamel baking pan. You could also use a small folding "travel" palette since they close up nicely but take a bit more work to make nice juicy washes.

DRAWING SUPPLIES:

- Sketchbook such as Aquabee Super Deluxe (I like the 6x9) for thumbnail sketches, testing colors, ink and watercolor sketches.
- Any drawing pencil you like or use one of mine--an ordinary #2 pencil is just fine.
- Kneaded eraser
- Artist tape (like masking tape but won't tear the paper)

EVERYTHING ELSE:

I have plenty of drawing boards, pencils, sharpeners, rags, paper towels, Kleenex, water containers, etc. and will be happy to share them.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES for working on your own

- Board for working on: Gatorboard is excellent but masonite or even cardboard works
- Rags (old diaper, bar or dish rag, old face towel) and/or paper towels for wiping brushes
- Small Spray bottle and small squirt bottle (for moistening paint and making juicy washes)
- Winsor Newton Colorless Art Masking Fluid (NOT the permanent kind)
- Small Cheapo student throwaway brush to use for Masking Fluid
- Saral Wax Free Transfer Paper-black or blue (for transferring sketch to watercolor paper)

MOST IMPORTANT SUPPLIES!!!

- **A sense of adventure and curiosity and playfulness.**