

Supply List for Plein Air Painting – Painting Outdoors in Oakville

This supply list includes the special needs for outdoor painting followed by the basic supply list for painting.

Outdoor Painting Equipment

If you already have plein air equipment and experience, please bring it.

**** Easel:** Most importantly you will need a portable easel (not supplied). There are numerous styles on the market. To view artist critiques and comments on products available, go to <http://www.pleinairmuse.com/>

Traditional French folding easels in full box or ½ box are available. Easyeasel EASyL, pochade box, Soltek easel are other names. Information can be found on line to make home made boxes.

Some people fashion easels on camera-like fold-down tripods (also available for purchase). You may need to hold your palette in your hand, but a fold up TV table, or a stool will provide a good base for your palette. Study pictures of plein air painters on the internet to see how they are set up with equipment on location.

Camera, camera phone or ipad – to capture reference photos for in-studio work if needed.

Portable boxes/carts or a large case with shoulder straps will be needed to move supplies to location.

Clips, clamps, and/or masking tape (in case of wind). Always consider wind; your panel and easel may be lifted by wind if not secured properly or protected from wind. Consider weighing down your easel with your equipment bag; or rocks put in a bag and tied to it.

Sunscreen, bug spray as needed.

Good hat with visor (that won't blow off)

Umbrella just in case. Advanced painters may have an umbrella set up on their easel.

Water for hydration; snacks

Suitable shoes and clothing for landscape and weather.

Plastic bags for trash; and for possibly weighing down easels (fill with rock).

Sit down painters.....you may bring a fold up chair and table.

Thrift store ideas: Fold up organ stands, tv tables, foldup cart mover or cart with wheels.

Paint (Oil, Water-Soluble or Water-mixable Oil Paint; or Acrylic)

PLEIN AIR NOTE: Traditional oil paint and water-soluble oil paint are the preferred medium for plein air painting due to slow drying time. Acrylic painters are recommended to use drying retarders, spray bottles, and be experienced with the characteristics of your paints (potentially fast drying in sun and wind is a fact)

Titanium White

Cadmium Yellow Light

Sap Green

Cadmium Red Light

Ultramarine Blue

Alizarin Crimson

Optional additional colours from your palette or as you prefer. Cadmium yellow medium, Cerulean blue, cobalt blue, viridian green, quinacridone reds are versatile additional colours.

Brushes: Use the brushes you have and prefer. If purchasing new ones, buy the best brushes affordable; they are one of your most important tools. Recommended brushes are:

Filberts, long handle, **bristle**: # 6 (about 1/2 “ across of bristles) (one or two)
Flats, long handle, **bristle**: # 6, (about 1/2” across of bristles)
Round, long handle, bristle or nylon: # 4
Rigger, nylon: #2 (for lines and signing)
Inexpensive 1 or 2” brush for toning the canvas



Left to right: round, flat, filbert with curved edge, rigger. (caution: there are small brushes with the same numbers, so be sure to have about 1/2 “ across of bristles on the filbert and flat. The brush should feel firm and springy (have a good “tooth”); not soft and smooth.

Palette: Paper palette tablet – disposable tear off sheets (easy clean up) or the palette made for your portable easel.

Painting Knife (not palette knife). One painting knife metal pointed blade, inverted handle.
The diamond shaped metal blade will be about 1/2” wide by 1;5” long. Trowel shape.



Colour Wheel available at most arts and craft stores; or can be accessed through a variety of sites on the internet and saved to a file on your computer and printed out.



Painting Panels:

Canvas – Canvas Boards (so light does not show through) or if using mounted canvas; cut cardboard to put behind it to block any backlighting. Maximum size recommended 11x14

Brush cleaning container plastic or can (no glass). 1-2 cup size is ideal. Tight lid for travel so no spills.

Towels/rags Roll of paper towels or box of facial tissue as preferred.

Plastic bag and tape for waste towels. A clip, clothespin or tape may be useful for handy placement.

Optional:

Brush container, case or box. Good brushes can be costly and you will want to protect them from damage.

Plastic sheets: optional for floor or work area at home (provided in studio) and you may want to line your vehicle storage compartment for moving wet canvas (oil)

Medium: Optional for water-soluble oils. No solvents or nut-based products.

Drying retarder: recommended for Acrylics

Small hand held mirror

Plastic Wrap for oil: optional - can cover palette with plastic to continue work at home.

Apron or smock – optional and if a personal preference to protect clothing

Vinyl gloves – optional. Some artists like to use a glove on the hand holding paper towels; and cleanup.