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Materials List – Improve Your Paintings

Note: OPTIONAL SUPPLIES are IN ITALICS!

Bring to first class:

Notebook/pen for taking notes and doing value sketches

11 x 14 sketchbook

Winsor & Newton willow charcoal & kneaded eraser (*optional charcoal pencil*)

AND/OR graphite pencils (a variety of hard/soft) and white eraser

12” ruler or grid your photo with app GRID# or other software

REQUIRED: Table cover – \$ store shower curtain or something similar

Reference Photos: Your own photos that **you have taken yourself** OR a **copyright free** image printed in black/white on 8.5 x 11 photocopy paper NOT a glossy printout. Please bring at least 2 options for your subject. You will also need a colour printout (on photo paper), in addition to the B&W photocopy print or you can just use your laptop/tablet.

You can use a square or rectangular format in the exact proportions of your canvas/board and crop to those proportions. For drawing

assistance, a B&W printout of your subject is helpful in order to create a grid.

Try to keep your subject simple. Choose something you can divide into 4-5 main masses.

You can also bring paintings in progress for critique and assistance

OTHER SUPPLIES

Support: Gessoboard/canvas in 8x8 or 8x10. If using canvas boards, add two more coats of **acrylic gesso**. You can also use gessoed hardboard, canvas paper or primed un-stretched canvas taped to a board.

You can choose to work larger but may need more than one class to complete a painting and will not be able to work at the exact size of your photo.

Brushes: Bring what you have, including a few synthetic brushes about ½” to 1” width, long flats, with firm bristles and a sharp edge. One small synthetic flat or round is nice for final details and signing the painting. Bristle brushes need to be in good condition, not splayed out!

Palette: Large (at least 10”x12” square or oval shape) **wood palette** (middle tone is best) **OR** large size (12x16) **grey paper palette** – tape to 12x16 1/8” MDF board **OR** get ¼” glass cut to fit inside Masterson container <https://www.deserres.ca/en/masterson-artist-palette-seal-12x16> with mid-tone grey paper underneath **OR** wax paper taped to Masonite board – **no teeny palettes or white palettes!**

Palette knife: diamond shape blade, approximately 1.5 “ My favourite knife is from De Serres and cost less than \$5.

Medium: M. Graham walnut oil – NOT walnut alkyd medium (I put this in a small sealable, waterproof container at least 2” in diameter)

Brush Washer: Safflower oil or other vegetable oil in a sealed container – no need to bring this to class but have it on hand at home for cleaning brushes. Punch holes in an old tuna tin and put it upside down inside an old coffee can filled with oil to 1” above top of tuna tin. Use dish soap, bar soap or Murphy’s Oil Soap (great as it also conditions bristles) to clean brushes after getting most of the colour out in the oil. The oil then needs to be discarded as hazardous waste.

Table easel if you have one and like to sit, otherwise a **clamp** to help small attach canvas/panel to the school's metal easel

Paper towels: Viva brand or blue shop towels are best OR cut up old t-shirts

EXTRA STUFF: Plastic wrap (to cover leftover paint & wrap dirty brushes), Plastic trash bag, *Bungie cord to hang paper towel/trash bag*, recycle *an old phone book* if you have one, to clean brushes + save on paper towels!

Wipe Out Tool (not essential - convenient, fun item – not for acrylics)
https://www.currys.com/product.htm?Product=AA17309&Source=Category&Category=ART_ALTERNATIVES_MODELING_TOOLS

Colors for Oil Painters: Traditional Artist's Quality Oil Paints

Permanent Rose/Quinacridone Rose or Alizarin Crimson

Cadmium Yellow Light

Ultramarine Blue

Burnt sienna

Titanium White

Indian Yellow – ONLY BUY this particular colour in **Artist's Quality**

Winsor Newton, no other brands are the same or **Raw Sienna**

Cadmium Red Light or *Medium*

Phthalo/Thalo Blue (*necessary for turquoise/aqua*)

If you already have paints, use what you already own in addition to the first four tubes. Unless you already have them, do not buy water-soluble oils. Oil paints DO NOT CONTAIN SOLVENTS, they are pigment and vegetable oil, usually flax oil or safflower oil and I teach a method where no solvents are required.

FOR ACRYLIC PAINTERS (I demo in oils, give options for acrylics):

Bring supplies you own, including colours listed below (*italics optional*):

Permanent Rose/Quinacridone Rose or Alizarin Crimson

Cadmium Yellow Light

Ultramarine Blue

Burnt sienna

Titanium White or you can use Acrylic Gesso as your white
Raw Sienna or Yellow Ochre
Cadmium Red Light or Medium Red
Phthalo/Thalo Blue (necessary for turquoise/aqua)

*Container of gel, gloss or matte **medium** plus **Retarder** to slow drying*

Large palette for acrylics such as: wax paper over a 12x16 masonite board or a stay-wet Masterson Box Palette
https://www.currys.com/product.htm?Product=SWP105&Source=Category&Category=STA_WET_PALETTE

Variety of **synthetic** brushes, medium size (1/2" - 3/4" wide) plus one small round or filbert brush for detail. Use brushes in good condition with no splayed out bristles!

Large plastic water container, spray bottle and other supplies mentioned above