

Watercolor & More – Supply List

Liz Walker, Instructor

Certain brands are suggested, but if you already have some supplies, use what you have of comparable items. First, a few general considerations:

Watercolor Paints – Winsor & Newton Cotman watercolor paints are a good student-grade paint. Da Vinci is also a good budget paint and comes in a generous sized 37 mil tube. If you can afford it, Winsor & Newton Artists Watercolors are professional grade and worth investing in. Get tubes rather than pans. 14 mil tubes are often a better value than 5 mil tubes, especially if you think you will be doing a lot of paintings. If time permits, consider mail ordering paints from an online source (such as Cheap Joe's or Jerry's Artarama).

Brushes – Watercolor brushes traditionally have short handles (compared to oil and acrylic brushes). Quality brushes can make a difference in watercolor painting, but they don't need to be expensive Kolinsky brushes. Several good quality but economical brushes are: Golden Fleece brand (from Cheap Joe's), Winsor & Newton Sceptre Gold series 101 (from Jerry's Artarama or Cheap Joe's), or Robert Simmons (from Art Media). The Art Media brand of watercolor brush is also great--I own one!.

Paper – Quality watercolor paper is probably the most important “tool” for the watercolorist. Arches 140# cold press (CP) paper is excellent all-around quality and is recommended for the studio work in this class. The spiral pad is for color exercises – any inexpensive spiral pad that contains watercolor paper is ok (or you can make your own sample book by cutting up watercolor paper into small pieces).

Bring what you can of LIST A items for the first session. You may wish to try these supplies first before expanding into the LIST B items, and I will answer any questions about supplies during the first session.

LIST A (basic supplies necessary for this course)—unless noted otherwise, the color names are Winsor Newton brand:

- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil)- Ultramarine Blue
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil)- Permanent Rose
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil) Scarlet Lake
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil)- Permanent Alizarin Crimson
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil)- **One** of the following: Hansa ,Transparent Yellow, or Aureolin—(not cadmium yellow)
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil) - Winsor Blue (green shade is preferable) (also called pthalo blue)
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil) - Winsor Green (blue shade is preferable) (also called pthalo green)
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil) – Burnt Sienna
- 1 tube (either 5 mil or 14 mil) – Quinacridone Gold (Daniel Smith brand is the best--other brands of this pigment are acceptable, but have been recently reformulated).
- #12 and #24 round watercolor brush
- ¾-inch OR 1-inch “wash” or flat watercolor brush
- Stiff cardboard approx. 14 x 18 inches covered with plastic Contact paper (you will tape your watercolor paper onto this while you paint). “Gatorboard” is also acceptable.
- 1 full-size sheet Arches #140 cold pressed (CP) watercolor paper (you can cut this into 4 smaller pieces for class use)
- 1 roll of masking or white artist tape
- 1 spiral watercolor paper pad (about 10” x 14” or 7 x 10) or scraps of watercolor paper
- 1 pencil and one kneaded eraser
- 1 rectangular watercolor palette with mixing areas of approx. 4 inches , preferably with cover; overall size approx. 9” x 12”
- 1 plain kitchen sponge
- 2 water containers (32 oz. yogurt container is good)
- Viva paper towels and kleenix tissues

LIST B (expanded list of supplies that are optional or not needed until later in this course)

- Other useful colors (tubes): Cobalt Blue, Manganese Blue Hue
- 1 small notepad (about 5”x 8”) regular drawing paper (for quick sketches and value studies)
- 1 or 2 more sheets of Arches 140# CP paper as needed

Art Stores and Suppliers

Retail stores like Art Media are convenient local suppliers, but when you are buying more than a few items, you will often find much better prices through mail order art supply companies. When using mail order companies, however, it helps to consolidate your order as much as possible in order to keep shipping and “small order” fees to a minimum. Below is a list of mail order art suppliers I have used. Some have web sites (and often the websites contain sales that aren’t in the catalog!). A word of advice: if you don’t have the printed catalog but would like to order over the phone, trying using the website first to look up the product numbers, etc. and then you can call your order in.

Cheap Joe’s Art Stuff

Boone, NC
1-800-227-2788
www.cheapjoescatalog.com

Jerry’s Artarama

Raleigh, NC
1-800-U-ARTIST

Daniel Smith

Seattle, WA
1-800-426-6740

Artists’ Connection

Iselin, NJ
1-800-851-9333

Books

You don’t need to buy a book for this course, but here are a few useful titles. The first book gives information about drawing technique. The others are all good general references on watercolor technique. If you don’t wish to buy these books, try checking them out from your local library.

Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain

Betty Edwards
Target/Perigee

Watercolor for the Serious Beginner

Mary White
Watson Guptill

The Big Book of Watercolor

Jose M. Parramon
Watson Guptill

The Art of Watercolor

Charles LeClair