

Exploring Watercolour Class Supplies List

Buy the best supplies that you can afford and what works for you. You will enjoy working with the materials more if you do not have to fight with the tools! Feel free to bring and use supplies you already have.

Sketchbook, Pencil and Eraser

- Practicing to draw goes hand in hand with learning to paint, but a sketchbook is not essential for the class.
- Look for coil bound books, and choose a size you are comfortable with.

Watercolour paints

- Available in tubes (wet paint) or in pans (dry paint).
- They come in individual tubes/pans or in sets.
- If you prefer a set look for one that has at least one red, blue and yellow. Reeves set of 12 or 18 are a good beginner set, as they are inexpensive but are a decent student grade quality. Other sets range from \$6 to \$80.
- If you prefer individual tubes, buy at least one red, blue and yellow.

Here are some good colours to start with:

You **do not** have to buy all of these, but make sure to have at **least one red, one blue and one yellow** (the ones with the stars are a good start).

We will look at colour mixing and using two yellows, two reds and two blues to make the whole range of colours.

*Cadmium yellow (warm yellow)

Lemon Yellow (cool yellow)

*Cadmium Red (warm red)

Alizarin or Quinacridone Rose (Cool red)

*Ultramarine blue (warm blue)

Phthalo Blue (cool blue)

Other colours that are nice to have:

Sap green

Viridian green

Cadmium orange

Dioxazine purple

Burnt Sienna, Raw Umber,

Yellow Ocher

Palette

- make sure it is white and has deep wells. Plastic, ceramic or enameled metal.

Brushes

- Taklon has synthetic bristles and are well priced and long lasting if cared for.
- Sable has natural bristles, but can be very expensive.
- Do not use brushes that have been used with acrylics or oils. Look for a nice shaped head without splayed bristles.
- look for a set of assorted brushes or buy at least:
#3 round (a small), #8 round (medium), #12 round (large), ½ to 1 inch flat (numbers are not important, just a nice range of sizes)

Paper

- watercolour paper comes in pads, gummed pads (edges glued together) and in sheets. All of these are good. Look for paper that says at least 140 lb.
- 9x12 is a good size, you can go bigger or slightly smaller if you wish.
- Strathmore, Canson and Arches are good brands
- Cold press means rough, hot press is smooth, get whichever you prefer.