

WATERCOLOR SUPPLY LIST

Note: If you already have your own supplies, and you are happy with them, there is no need to buy any of my following suggestions.

Local stores; you can find many of these products @ H. lobby or Michael's, some prices may be similar, but most more expensive locally than online.

I order from **dickblick.com**. They are efficient & they Deliver quickly.

Just go to their website & type in these product names, or call them on their toll-free +1-800-828-4548.

Paint pallet with lid.

Buy decent quality plastic so it washes & paint doesn't crack & peel, so you can re-activate later. You want plenty of mixing areas, also. Lid for dust cover & transporting is best.

Mijello Fusion— 18, 24, or 33 wells available @ Blick's. 11.99-24.99.

(H. Lobby has the 18 wells version-for almost 20.00—way higher!)

Tube paint— buy the small 5ml. Size

I have learned by experience It does not pay to buy student grade. The colors are off, they won't perform properly, & you will only get frustrated.

(Once you become familiar with your favorite colors you'll use more often, it's more economical to buy the 14ml. Size for those special colors)

I use 2 brands: Winsor Newton and Daniel Smith, based solely on the variance of color between brands. Prices are very similar for both. Both are great.

For painting emergencies H. lobby sells WN, & Michaels has both brands, though both stores have limited colors available, & you will definitely pay more than online.

I will suggest a dozen of my favorite colors to get you started.

If interested I can send you a complete list of my colors.

Just search for each of these brands in watercolor tubes, then scroll down to the lists of separate tube colors & choose the smallest 5ml. Size of each of the following colors:

Daniel Smith, (average price 6.31)

Burnt umber

Indigo

Phthalo turquoise

Pyrrol scarlet

Sepia

Ultramarine blue

Winsor Newton (average price 6.17)

Burnt sienna

Cadmium yellow

Olive green

Opera rose

Manganese blue

Permanent alizarine crimson

Dr. Martin's bleed proof white

This is important. You can fix mistakes or add to your colors to create an opaque paint. You will not need any other white ever that covers like this or any guache paint..
Blick's has this for 7.31.
H. Lobby 7.99.

Paper.

Paper matters. Again, inferior paper will only cause you frustration.
Pads of paper need to be taped down.
Blocks do not.

Arches cold press 140 lb. Watercolor pads.

(Eventually you will want to order 300 lb. Large sheets in either rough or cold press.
But for now start with 140 lb. pads.)

Blick's has Arches cold press 9 x 12 tape-bound pads 140 lb.-12 sheets for \$19.66.
You can order larger if you'd like, or rough instead of cold press.
But not hot press as it is too smooth with no texture.

Arches cold press 140 lb. Watercolor pads.

No need to tape to support, will always dry flat.
9 x 12 -20 sheets \$43.23 @ Blick's.

Canson Montual watercolor blocks.

Best block & value next to Arches, according to reviews.
9x12 cold press 140 lb. 15 sheets. \$14.89 @ Blick's.

Strathmore 400 series watercolor cold press pads.

Less expensive option, but still good. 400 is top of the line Strathmore.
The 9 x 12 140 lb. Cold press pad only comes wire-bound for \$7.42, (which means you'll have to slice the tops off.)
But they do have a 12 x 12 tape-bound pad 140 lb. Cold press for 8.65.
All pads have 12 sheets.

Strathmore 300 series watercolor cold press pads.

Also good because you can buy the 9 x 12 tape-bound instead of wire-bound. \$6.57.

Artist's tape.

White artist's tape, buy at least 3/4" x 60 yds. \$6.87 @ Blick's.
Strong enough tack to hold your paper down to your board, will not damage your paper.
Many artists use painter's tape (H. Depot or Lowe's)—probably more reliable, but comes in blue, not white. I find this very distracting. Your decision.

Support.

This is the back board to tape your paper to.

Any smooth board that is impervious to water. I keep this simple to buy & cut—I use white foam core board from H. lobby. 20x30 is \$2.99.

Cut it an inch or 2 larger than your paper size to leave room for tape.

You'll need an exacto knife or mat knife, a metal ruler, & a safe cutting surface underneath to do this. Note: If you decide to buy a watercolor block instead of a pad (pricey, but nice), you won't need any cut boards or tape.

Some artists like to use heavier Masonite or plexiglass, cut for you @ Home Depot or Lowe's. I used to, but now find this an unnecessary weight & expense.

Pencils & erasers

For sketching your drawing on watercolor paper use a 3H to 5H drawing pencil-any brand, a pencil sharpener of some sort, or a mechanical pencil instead.

You will also need a "kneaded eraser".

Paper towels

I use Brawny "tear-a-square."

Inexpensive, not much lint, & the only paper towels whose halves tear into 4ths! Some artists prefer Viva.

Brushes.

For now, you can use my brushes in the classroom!

When buying your own, Choose short handle "rounds" with good spring to the touch, fine point, & a good belly to hold watercolor.

Selection of sizes range from 4, 6, 8, 10, to 12. And tiny one for fine detail. To start you will need at least the 6 & 10.

Avoid stiff bristles for oil & acrylic, & Avoid too soft also, becomes limp with water.

My favorites are Princeton series 3950 velvet touch short handle synthetic rounds. Moderately priced @ Blick's. I've tried more expensive, but often still use the Master's touch brushes I find @ Hobby Lobby. And some of their Flats(straight flat across the top). Also their Cotman(Winsor Newton) brushes.

I suggest you try my class first, then just go to to one of the local stores in person & stroke the brushes against your palm, see if they have enough spring, or lose their point, or get too brushy or thick at the tip. You want them slim @ the tip. I'm not a big fan of buying brushes online where you can't feel them.

Small spray bottle

I will supply these, but you will need your own later. Should have a small, fine spray. I keep it filled with distilled water for re-freshing my palette.

2 water containers

I will supply these, but you will need your own later. Anything around your house, Tupperware or jars. One for cleaning brushes, one for clean water.

Block to create tilt

I will supply these. At home you will need something to use as a 2" block—I use styrofoam covered in shelf paper to stop my board from slipping. An easel is too high for watercolor—you just need a bit of a tilt.