

Watercolor for Beginners--Materials List

I am trying to keep your materials to a minimum so you don't break the bank but there are certain tools you must have to paint. Here they are:

- ✦ PAINT – Bring what you have. If you don't have any, here is what to get. Purchase either Winsor Newton, Grumbacher, Daler Rowney or DaVinci. Student grade paint has less pigment and you have to use more of it to get the affect you want. I almost always get Winsor Newton paint because I know what it will do and how it will mix.
 - To start get Alizarin Crimson, Ultramarine Blue, New Gamboges, and Burnt Siena (get Winsor Newton Burnt Siena)
 - Add to this if you are able: Cobalt blue, Cadmium Red and Aurelian and Winsor Violet,
- ✦ PAPER – I prefer Arches 140# cold press. You can get a pad of this or a block. It should be at least 9" x 12". If you use a pad, bring a hard surface to place the papers on (see below) Bring enough paper to practice techniques.
- ✦ BRUSHES - Make sure you get watercolor brushes. One or two rounds (large and small). Make sure they hold a point. One or two flats of different sizes. (My favorite brush is Princeton; it is synthetic and fairly affordable) Hake brushes are not appropriate as a flat. They do have a use, however. (See Course Description)
- ✦ PALETTE – White with individual wells and a place to mix paint. One with a cover is better. I use a "Double Take" palette. It is priced reasonably and keeps the paint longer. The little round palettes don't give you any place to mix paint; I would avoid them.
- ✦ MISC.
 - A board to mount your paper. I use gator board but anything that gives the paper support will work. This helps stabilize your paper. If you buy a block, there is no need for a mounting board.
 - Artist's Tape (WHITE no colored tape) to mount the paper to the board. (no need with a block) Never use blue or green painters tape as it will throw your eye off when painting.
 - Two water buckets. One for dirty water, one for clean. These can be any empty clean container.
 - Pencils and a good eraser (white or kneaded)
 - Paper Towels – Viva is the most absorbent but any will do.
 - An old tooth brush, plastic card (like an old credit card), masking tape.