

GOUACHE & WATERCOLOR MATERIALS

with Rosalie Haizlett





MATERIALS LIST

1. Watercolor Paints
2. Gouache Paints
3. Paper
4. Brushes
5. Palette
6. Water cup with water
7. Paper towel
8. Sketching pencil & eraser
9. Artist Tape (optional)

WATERCOLOR PAINTS

Watercolor comes in tubes and pre-made pans. The Winsor & Newton Cotman pan set was my first real watercolor set and I used it for years! The more expensive paints are typically more pigmented, so they will provide you with more intense and lightfast color.

In this class, I'm using a combination of Schminke and Daniel Smith Tube Watercolors that I squeezed into a Schminke mini travel palette and allowed to harden for a few days. Both brands are high-end and awesome!

The exact colors I'm using in this class are: Lemon yellow, Ultramarine blue, Yellow ochre, Sepia brown, Alizarin crimson, Sap green, Cadmium red light, and Phthalo blue (red shade). No need to have these exact colors, but you definitely will need the primary colors.



BEGINNER GRADE:

[Winsor & Newton Cotman Sketcher's Pocket Box](#)



PROFESSIONAL GRADE:

[Schminke Horadam Travel Palette](#)

GOUACHE PAINTS

There are several kinds of gouache paints that you might find at the store: acrylic, artist's and designer's. Artist's gouache and designer's gouache are extremely similar and I use both. Acrylic or "acryla" gouache is quite different and it is not possible to combine acrylic gouache and watercolor together since acrylic gouache is not water soluble. Once it dries on your page or your palette, you cannot reactivate it. It's great to use on its own, but not for this class.

I recommend getting a set of primary colors. Over time, you'll gain color mixing skills since you'll have to mix up your own colors instead of relying on pre-mixed colors. I use only primary colors in this class.



RECOMMENDED:

[Winsor & Newton Designer's Gouache Primary Set of 6 Colors](#)

PAPER

There are three types of watercolor paper: cold-press, hot-press, and rough. I prefer cold-press watercolor paper because it has a slightly toothy texture and is very forgiving when blotting up mistakes. Hot press is smooth and allows you to “wash” your paints across the page in a loose way, if that’s what you’re going for. Rough watercolor paper is extremely textured and I find that it’s hard for me to achieve the fine details with it.

Another option is mixed-media paper, which is more durable than sketching paper but not quite on the level of watercolor paper. I sometimes use mixed-media paper for practice paintings, but rarely for final pieces because it is too flimsy. The main thing I look for in paper is a thickness of at least 140 lb.

If you are using a watercolor block (like the mid-grade option to the right), you don’t need to tape your painting down to a table. However, if you’re using loose sheets, make sure to do so to ensure that your paper doesn’t bend or buckle too much.

BEGINNER GRADE:

[Strathmore 400 Series 140 lb. Cold-Press Watercolor Paper](#)



I use this Strathmore paper for all my practice paintings.

MID-GRADE:

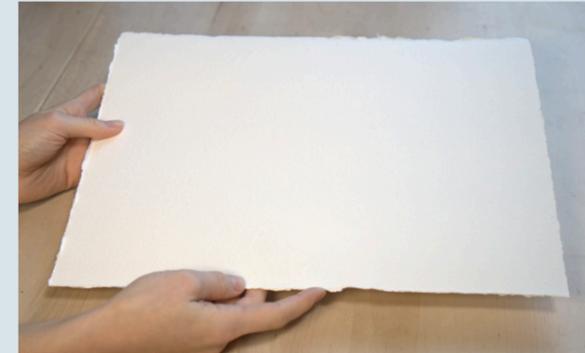
[Arches Cold-Press Watercolor Paper Block 140 Lb. 9x12 Inches](#)



I use this Arches paper for my smaller final paintings.

PROFESSIONAL GRADE:

[Arches 300 lb. Cold-Press Watercolor Paper in 22x30 inch sheet](#)



I use this Arches paper for all my larger paintings. This extremely thick paper is way more expensive, but the quality is amazing and so durable.

BRUSHES

For combining watercolor and gouache, you can choose between watercolor brushes, mixed media or acrylic brushes.

Mixed media and acrylic brushes have stiffer bristles which some people prefer since it helps them move the thicker gouache around the page.

Watercolor brushes have longer, softer bristles to hold more water and create a looser effect. For this class, I'm using a combination of watercolor and mixed media brushes.

I'd recommend a couple thin round brushes (between sizes 1-6) and one larger flat brush so that you can fill in large background areas.



BEGINNER GRADE:

[Princeton Select Artist Series 3750 Mixed-Media Brushes](#)

PROFESSIONAL GRADE:

[Etchr Professional Watercolor Paintbrushes - Set of 10](#)

or

[Princeton Heritage Series 4050 Synthetic Sable Paint Brush for Watercolor, Set of 4](#)



PALETTE

If you purchase a pan watercolor set, you don't need a separate palette since you can mix paint directly in the lid of your tray. If you're going with tube watercolors, though, you will need a place to squeeze your paint out into. The free alternative is simply to use a white kitchen plate!

The basic plastic tray will work well for painting at home, but I would go with a tray that closes if you like to travel with your paints.



Basic plastic palette from any art store

OR



[Metal travel palette](#) that you can squeeze your watercolor or gouache into to let it harden.

OTHER MATERIALS



CUP(S) OF WATER

You can choose to use one or two cups of water. The idea behind the two-cup strategy is that you clean your brush off with one cup and load it up with fresh, clean water with the other cup. However, I often don't adhere to this because I get distracted and contaminate my clean water cup!



PAPER TOWEL

This is the unsung hero of the painting toolbox. Always have one on hand to blot up mistakes and clean off your brush!



PENCIL & ERASER

Always have these ready to roll for sketching out your design. Choose a pencil that has a harder graphite (2H-4H) so that it won't leave too much smudgy graphite residue on the page. And remember to sketch gently so that you can fully erase your pencil marks.

For the eraser, any kind will work!



BLACK WATERCOLOR PAPER

If you'd like to experiment with gouache on black watercolor paper, [I'd recommend Legion Cold-Press Paper.](#)



ARTIST TAPE

Use this tape to attach your painting to your desk or an illustration board. This will help prevent your painting from bending or buckling as you add lots of water to the page. It's important to use artist tape because it's acid-free and more gentle on your painting than regular masking tape.

[Here is a good, acid-free tape.](#)

HAPPY PAINTING!

Remember, there are tons of supply options out there and you do NOT need these exact supplies. These are just ones that I've tested and liked and I want to make it easy for you to find what you need. :)



LET'S STAY IN TOUCH!

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