

# Painting Waves with Pastels

## Lana Ballot

ONLINE SELF-STUDY COURSE

### Materials List

The links below are to [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com) so you can see the details, but you can search other online stores and compare the prices.

#### Papers:

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##### Non-Sanded Papers

Some **non-sanded mid tone gray paper**, 9"x12" - mostly for the exercises. You can also use it for grayscale value studies.

Brands I use: **Canson** or **Royal Talens**, either one will work (you don't need both).

**Canson:** Gray Tones pad or a few sheets of mid tone gray.

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/canson-mi-teintes-drawing-papers-9-x-12-gray-tone-pad-24-sheets/>

**Rembrandt by Royal Talens** pad, Toned Industrial Grey

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/rembrandt-toned-mixed-media-pad-industrial-grey-117-x-83/>

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##### Sanded Papers:

**UART sanded paper, 400 grit, neutral color (not black)** - for the projects. You can get 12"x18" sheets and then cut a sheet in two 9"x12" when smaller sizes are needed.

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/uart-sanded-pastel-paper-12-x-18-400-grit-single-sheet/>

If for any reason you cannot have UART paper, you can use another brand of sanded paper, just make sure it's either white or neutral - that's what is needed for the underpainting technique. Not all sanded paper can be used with liquid - water or alcohol might dissolve the adhesive that holds paper and grit together. It's best to run a quick wash test on a swatch of paper if I've never used it with the Wet Underpainting before. Good alternative is **LuxArchival Professional**

**Sanded Art Papers.** You can also use **Art Spectrum Colourfix sanded paper (white)** though it has somewhat rougher texture.

## **Pastels:**

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### **Hard Pastels**

Hard pastels are great to use with underpainting and one or two layers over it.

#### **NuPastels:**

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/prismacolor-nupastel-color-sticks/>

#### **Cretacolor:**

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/cretacolor-pastel-carre-hard-pastels/>

#### **Richeson:**

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/richeson-semi-hard-square-pastels/>

Here are some of the **HARD PASTEL colors** that I use most often.

#### ***NuPastel:***

Blue Violet 244

Harbor Blue 345

Iron Blue 225

Ultramarine Blue 265

Azure Blue 255

Light Blue 235

Violet 224

Hyacinth Violet 254

Orchid 304

Rose Pink 246

Prussian Blue 295

Ceylon Blue 365

Light Turquoise Blue 245

Neptune Green 418

Pistachio Green 288

Bottle Green 298

Dark Green 278

Hookers Green 228

Veronese Green 218

Palm Green 308

Olive Green 248

Light Sap Green 268

Light Naples Yellow 247

Sepia 293

Burnt Sienna 203

Indian red 263  
Coral 383  
Old Rose 316

***Cretacolor:***

48163  
48153  
48139  
48188  
48189

***Richeson Semi-Hard Square Pastels:***

48  
31  
25  
27

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**Soft Pastels**

See the section on Soft Pastels in the Materials List in my course on [teachable.com](http://teachable.com) where I explain how to make sure you have enough colors for painting seascapes (or anything else).

Those who are in the beginning of putting together their basic pastel collection can take a look at the Unison set

**Unison Handmade Pastels-Half Sticks, Set of 63** - they have a nice range of blues and greens which will be great for seascapes. Unison is a great brand and might be a bit easier to control for beginners since it's a bit firmer pastel.  
<https://www.dickblick.com/items/unison-handmade-pastel-set-half-sticks-set-of-63/>

If you need a base coastal set, you might consider **my theme set of Richeson pastels, Coastal Palette (80 pc)**. It's not specifically a seascape set - it includes the range of colors for painting dunes, rocks, grasses as well as waves. It's a good place to start, then you'll add more specific colors and brands along the way as you discover your preferences. Richeson are softer pastels, you'll need to practice to apply less pressure on a stick than with brands like Unison.

My Coastal set is available from Judson Art

<https://www.judsonsart.com/collections/richeson-instructor-sets/products/iana-ballot-coastal-palette-80-pc-set>

If you are looking to expand a certain color range, then I have a few suggestions below. Please note, that these mentioned sets are **not “must-have”** for this

course. It's up to you how you build your palette. Besides, it's just a fraction of what's available from different pastel manufacturers:

**Terry Ludwig, Best of Blues**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/terry-ludwig-soft-pastels-best-of-the-blues-set-of-30/>

**Unison, Blue - Green 1-18**

<https://www.dakotapastels.com/product/unison-18-blue-green-1-18?cat=270&idsku=10620>

**Mount Vision Soft Pastel Set - Blue, Set of 25**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/mount-vision-soft-pastel-set-blue-set-of-25/>

**Richeson Soft Handrolled Pastels - Turquoise Greens, Set of 20**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/richeson-soft-handrolled-pastels-turquoise-greens-set-of-20/>

**Richeson Soft Handrolled Pastels - Turquoise Blues, Set of 20**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/richeson-soft-handrolled-pastels-turquoise-blues-set-of-20/>

**Art Spectrum Extra Soft Square Pastels - Highlights, Set of 10**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/art-spectrum-extra-soft-square-pastels-highlights-set-of-10/>

## **Underpainting technique:**

**Synthetic brush, 3/4" or 1"** Don't use an expensive brush, the sanded surface will quickly ruin it.

**Isopropyl Alcohol** - I use 70%, but other % numbers can be used, the higher the number the faster it dries. You can also use water, if you cannot use the Isopropyl Alcohol for any reason.

**A couple of small jars or cups** (to hold small amounts of liquid)

## **Other Materials:**

**Soft Charcoal, White NuPastel or white charcoal** - for value studies

**Bristle Brush** - to remove pastel, to correct mistakes, etc.

**Toothbrush** - to create fine mist of the foam spray

**Foam Core Boards, 16"x20"** is good for small to medium size projects.

**Glassine Paper** - to protect the work from smudging.  
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/glassine-interleaving-paper/>

**Artists' Masking Tape**  
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/artist-tape/>

**Gloves** - if you use them.

**Paper towels**