Watercolor Workshop Materials List

**Ruth Korch**, Instructor

Generally speaking, the better your materials, the better the outcome will be. So, get what you can afford for now and plan on adding, as your budget allows. The longer I’ve painted the more convinced I’ve become on the importance of using good quality materials. And I want to set you up to be as successful as possible!

**BRUSHES:**

Sable is best and most expensive, but there are some great synthetic options. A size # 8 or #10 round is a great size to start with. Escoda, Princeton-Neptune, and Princeton-Heritage are all good brushes. I really use my Escoda a lot. It’s a sable synthetic mix and performs really well. If it’s your birthday or you have a patron (:>)) and you want to invest in top of the line, go for pure Kolinsky Sable - Winsor Newton Series7, Rembrandt, or Da Vinci Maestro are lines you can check into.

The reason a good brush is so important is that it delivers a good amount of paint from the palette to your paper. If it doesn’t, you’re left with going back and forth into the paint and consequently too many strokes.

**PAPER:**

We will be using 140lb Cold Press. 140lb refers to the weight of the paper and while you can purchase 90lb or 300lb in the other direction, this140lb is considered standard. “Cold Press” refers to the texture of the paper. In addition we want to purchase paper that is 100% cotton, which makes a huge difference in the absorbency of the paint on the paper.

**PAINTS:**

You can empty the bank when purchasing “professional grade” watercolors, but you’ll love the results (as compared to student grade). The good news is that you don’t need a lot of colors to start with. I’m recommending a small set of Daniel Smith paints – just six colors. These six will allow us to mix and explore a whole range of the color wheel, which is such an important (and fun!) part of the learning process. You can always add more colors as you go along, but these are six foundation colors.

**PALETTE**:

I’ve listed two palettes as possible options. They both have a good number of wells (so you can add more colors later), a low price point (under $20), good mixing space and a lid. If you already have a palette, go for it. Just make sure there is room for mixing.

**SHOPPING:**

Please check with your neighborhood art store first. If possible let’s all support our local business as best we can. Here in Santa Cruz, Lenz Arts has these items in stock (or on order) and on sale. For your convenience and for those without a good art store nearby, I’ve also listed these online links.

**Escoda Brush**:

<https://www.amazon.com/Escoda-Prado-Watercolor-Acrylic-Synthetic/dp/B004K4C4MO/ref=sr_1_5?crid=1U851IHC0W57O&dchild=1&keywords=escoda+watercolor+brushes&qid=1592333264&sprefix=escoda+%2Caps%2C210&sr=8-5>

**Paper**:

<https://www.amazon.com/Canson-Heritage-Watercolour-Pad-Sheets/dp/B01N3AXHMJ/ref=sr_1_9?crid=32T068ZAF5KGK&dchild=1&keywords=100%25+cotton+watercolor+paper+140+lb+cold+press&qid=1594153535&sprefix=100%25+cotton+wat%2Caps%2C377&sr=8-9>

or

https://www.amazon.com/Handbook-Paper-Fluid-Watercolor-Pochette/dp/B00US4UTIQ/ref=sr\_1\_1?dchild=1&keywords=100%25+cotton+watercolor+paper+140+lb+cold+press%2C+fluid+100&qid=1594179240&sr=8-1

**Paints:**

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00WT5VRF6/ref=dp_cerb_1>

**Palette**:

<https://www.amazon.com/Mifuner-Portable-Watercolor-Palette-Areas，Large/dp/B082257NQC/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=Mifuner%2Bportable%2Bwhite%2Bwatercolor%2Bpalette&qid=1592333792&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-2&th=1>

I also really liked this one. Nice that the paint is all on one side and that it is leakproof:

<https://www.amazon.com/MEEDEN-Airtight-Leakproof-Watercolor-Palette/dp/B07GPTQNXV/ref=psdc_2933685011_t1_B082257NQC>