

Watercolor Painting in 20 Minutes a Day

Supply List

Before you begin, you will need a few basic supplies. This may look like a long list but, use what you have first, then add on!

1. A space to set up your supplies, to learn & create, and leave your supplies there without having to clean everything up each time you work.
2. Tubes of watercolor paint. Use what you have to start, but if you want to purchase a reasonably priced and very good quality brand, I do like [Daniel Smith](#) (pictured here!). If you don't have a lot of colors, ideally all you need are a warm and cool version of each primary color - at least those 6 colors. Those six colors should be a warm red (Cadmium or Scarlet), a cool red (either Quinacridone Red or Alizarin Crimson), a warm blue (either Prussian Blue or Phthalo Blue), a cool blue (Ultramarine Blue), a warm yellow (Cadmium Yellow or Gamboge) and a cool yellow (Lemon Yellow or Hansa Yellow).



3. Several sheets of at least 140# watercolor paper. This will give you the best results. Different brands vary a lot, but even with the least expensive stuff, 140# will be ok to start. Paper does make a huge difference. Canson is a lower quality. Strathmore is little bit better. Fabriano Aquarelle is one of the best. These are a few of the many choices out there. To start, if you don't already have a decent or good paper, try a [9" x 12" pad of Fabriano Aquarelle](#). They also make pads/blocks of [postcards](#)!



4. A small or medium sized pointed brush. My favorite is a [Da Vinci Casaneo Synthetic Squirrel Watercolor Brush - Round, Size 8](#). And a flat brush is also great for making big washes. You can still make clear washes with the pointed brush, unless you are working really large.



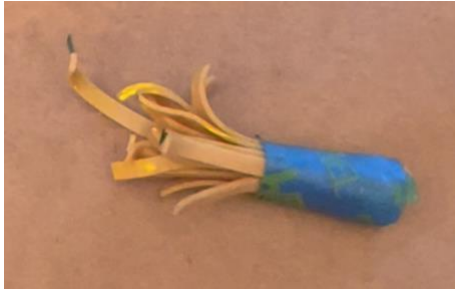
5. A soft, sharpened pencil.
6. A dropper. A friend gave me several droppers from a biology supply store, but you usually have to order several at a time. If you don't want to do that, sometimes children's medicine come with droppers or use whatever you can find.



7. A palette to mix on. A plastic or metal tray will work well.
8. A small spray bottle of water.
9. A bowl (or two!) of water to dip your brushes. I like to have two because I keep one clean and the other for rinsing off the paint on my brush.
10. A roll of painter's tape or a not-too-sticky tape. Blick makes a [nice one that comes in many colors](#) and it's made for using on all types of art paper. You don't want to use just any tape because it may damage your paper.



11. A “funny brush”. This is simply some rubber bands cut and bound together with tape.



12. A portable watercolor set for painting in a different setting. You don't absolutely need this – you may be able to take your regular paints with you, but it is so handy if you like to paint when you are out and about! I love the [Holbein Half-Pan Set of 12](#). This may seem pricey, depending on your budget, but I can tell you, the colors are gorgeous and last a long time!



13. Oh yes – let's not forget a board or hard surface to tape your paper down on. I sometimes use a piece of fiber board, but a very hard cardboard or other board will do. Also, Kleenex or another brand of tissue for blotting out or wiping off paint.



14. Last, but not least - a good cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate to savor as you create.



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