

Mary Laury's Watercolor Painting Class Materials list

This is a list of things that I have found work especially well for painting and may help you to make choices when shopping for materials. A few things are quite specific, like the paper and a stiff oil painter's brush for texture. The colors are the colors that I use myself, but you are welcome to use your old favorites.

This list is the complete inventory of my own painting kit! I use nothing more than you see here. These same 5 colors and 4 brushes have seen me through hundreds of paintings!

Watercolor painting is an exciting medium; it flows and moves and does beautiful things. We will do landscapes and seascapes in this 4 week course - sky, water, rocks. If you have never painted in watercolors, we will start at the beginning. If you have painted before, you are welcome as well. We always learn from each other.

Materials list:

You can use whatever tube colors and brushes you already have. The only thing that I'm really a stickler about is the paper; it must be 100% cotton rag paper. If it's not, the painting will be a constant struggle. You won't need more than a few sheets of it.

Otherwise, I'm trying to keep this materials investment affordable. I use 3 or 4 brushes, 5 or 6 colors, and some good paper. That is all (or mostly that is all).

Paints:

I am using Windsor and Newton Tube Paints, and a limited palate. Cotman are ok and are cheaper. Shirley's has Cotman, I think.

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-cotman-watercolor-tubes/>

Stay away from the kits of colors. I've painted thousands of paintings and I never use any colors except these 5. Well, except a little white gauche to splatter flowers into a field.

These colors are good Maine colors.

- French Ultra Marine Blue
- Alizarin Crimson, (or cad Red Med.)
- New Gamboge Yellow (or Cad. yellow med.)
- Olive Green, (or Sap)
- Burnt Sienna

Brushes: Shirley's has some excellent and inexpensive ROYAL brushes (or use Cotman Series 111)

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-cotman-watercolor-brushes/>

- #2 round
- #6 round
- ½ or 1" flat
- Optional: if you have one already # 8 or 10 (flat) Hog Bristle brush - bright- (Robert Simmons Signet). If you can't find this brand, a good stiff oil painter's brush with fairly short bristles should do. If you like to paint small, then smaller is ok, too.

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/robert-simmons-signet-brush-bright-long-handle-size-8/>

Palate:

- A white pallet with adequate mixing surface, and a cover. Shirley's in Hancock has these, as well as most box stores. The small folding ones are fine.

Paper:

We will cut these large sheets into several pieces. Just get one sheet of each if you can. Shirley's has the Arches paper but not the Bristol board.

- Strathmore Bristol Board series 500 3 ply (20X30") (this is a favorite paper of mine and I encourage you to get to know it! Either smooth or regular surface work equally well. Different papers for different effects.) <https://www.dickblick.com/products/strathmore-500-series-bristol/>
- Arches 140 pound cold press
<https://www.dickblick.com/items/arches-natural-white-watercolor-paper-16-x-20-cold-press-single-sheet/>

Other helpful things:

- Ruler
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Sketch paper (I use the back of old computer paper)
- Razor blades (single edge)
- Masking tape
- A quill type pen is fun to have but optional, - the kind that you dip the nib into a bottle of ink. (I am using a C-5). If you don't have one. you likely won't need one.
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/speedball-crow-quill-dip-pen-nibs/>
- Liquid masking fluid, you can also get away without this if you don't already have it.
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/winsor-newton-colorless-art-masking-fluid/>
- A small bar of soap, hotel size is fine, for liquid mask cleanup.
- Water container and Viva "Signature Cloth" paper towels

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me...Mary Laury... at 207.632.2251 or e-mail me at marylaury@marylaury.com