

## WATERCOLOR CLASS MATERIALS LIST

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\*Cost effective alternatives underlined.

1. **Palette** - Chinese flower shaped porcelain or plastic palettes to hold the paint and the butcher tray for mixing. **Alternative:** any white plate or plastic shallow dish.
2. **Brushes** – Buy decent brushes (cheap ones lose hairs and you will endlessly be picking them out of your painting). Recommend buying three brushes- one #4 round, one #12 round, one 1” flat. You can make many different marks with just one brush. So, if you want to buy just one brush, buy the #12 Round\* My preferred brush brand is Princeton Snap.
3. **Paint Colors** – pan or small tube – Core Colors: Ultramarine Blue, Cadmium Yellow Medium, and Cadmium Red Medium.  
**Additional Colors (optional)** Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Yellow Light, Prussian Blue, Ultramarine Veridian Green, Hooker’s Green, Burnt Sienna, Burnt Umber and Payne’s Grey. My two favorite brands are Winsor & Newton and Daniel Smith.  
**Alternative:** Buy a small good quality travel set. This will do what you need it to do. These can run the gamut pricewise. I can recommend the Van Gogh Watercolor Pocket Box...it is relatively affordable, compact, has a variety of colors with good color saturation\*
4. **Paper** – Paper comes in a variety of weights and textures. I am a fan of the heavier paper because it takes a lot of abuse. I would recommend getting nothing less than 140 LB paper (this should be noted on the package) although my preferred weight is 300 LB. I prefer cold press because I like the effect of the texture of the paper. However, if you are someone who is more inclined to detailed work, you may prefer a smooth surface (this is called hot press). If you don’t want to stretch your paper (see **Board** below), I would recommend buying a pad of paper called a watercolor block. I prefer to use the watercolor block because it saves on preparation time.
5. **Board** – this is for stretching paper or just to provide a flat surface. If your paper is lighter than 300 lb, you will have to stretch it (unless it is a watercolor block.) The board can be foam board, wood, MDF or masonite panels. **Alternative:** Pick up a piece of Masonite at Home Depot or Lowes, they will cut it down to a manageable carry size. Again, if you don’t want to stretch your paper, I would recommend buying a pad of paper called a watercolor block (see **Paper** above).
6. **Bag or Box** -whatever you have that works...reusable grocery bags are great or if you have more stuff, one of those big blue IKEA bags are fabulous and affordable.

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7. **Sketchbook** – Alternative: This can be anything from sticky notes to printer paper or sketchbook. The important thing is that you draw every single day and train your eye to look.
8. **Pencil** – whatever you have will work.\*
9. **Paper towels**, tissues or Towel\*
10. **Painters Tape** - Ace Hardware has a great low tack painters tape for Walls and Wood Floors that removes from the paper quite nicely. *Avoid the Scotch Blue Painters tape as it has a tendency to sometimes bond to the paper a bit too strongly which can result in tearing your paper when you go to remove it.*