

Plein Air Supply list

Paint:

Oils, (either traditional or water soluble) and acrylics will be covered in this class, though I strongly encourage oils, due to the difficulty of keeping acrylics moist outside. If you have not tried oils and are hesitant to work with toxic solvents, water-soluble is a wonderful alternative. They mix and clean up with water. DO NOT PURCHASE STUDENT GRADE PAINTS.

Basic Palette:

Cadmium Yellow Light (or Pale) Ultramarine Blue (Deep best) Cadmium Yellow Medium
Prussian Green (or Viridian) Cadmium Red Light Thalo
Yellow Green (or Sap)
Alizarin Crimson Titanium White-large tube

Additional Colors:

Olive Green Burnt Sienna Mauve Blue (Mauve)
Yellow Ochre Prussian blue Thalo Red Rose

I strongly recommend that you limit your palette and learn to mix colors.

Solvents:

Odorless Turpenoid or Odorless mineral spirits. No regular solvents. If you chose to use traditional oils, I recommend that you wear gloves, and you must carry a leak proof container. Do not skimp on this item, as leaks are toxic to both humans and the environment.

Brushes:

While you may be tempted to purchase less expensive brushes, this is not an area to be frugal. You get what you pay for in a brush; therefore it is better to buy 2 good brushes rather than 6 lesser quality brushes. I prefer Flats and filberts, but use others as well. Find a few brushes you really like then learn to use them well. You can expand your brush handling over time. For stiff bristle brushes I prefer Princeton 6800 series and Rosemary synthetics. With water soluble oils require synthetic materials that will hold true when in contact with water. For soft sable-like brushes I use Monarch. You will need one small brush (size 2) filbert for drawing and details and several others medium to large #4-#10.

Easel/Pochade box (AKA outdoor setup):

If you have access to an outdoor easel or box I would recommend borrowing this for class. I do not recommend traditional French easels or trying to put together your own “unique” set up. I have used the trial and error method and it is both expensive and frustrating. There are many good equipment choices in a variety of price ranges. I have some boxes and tripods for you to examine before deciding to purchase a box and other students will as well. If you know you want to purchase a pochade box, I recommend the Alla Prima, OpenMBox, Soltek, and Guerrilla boxes. Other than the Soltek all require a tripod mount. The Manfrolto Bogen Jr. or other lightweight compact tripod with a steelhead and quick release is the most convenient and durable. No plastic heads, they cannot carry the weight of the pochade box.

Supports:

This includes, stretched canvas, panels and boards. This is what we paint on outdoors. While I prefer the bounce stretched canvas offer, the challenges of outdoor painting

make such supports problematic. A better alternative is the 1/4' panel or board. Canvas or linen panels and Masonite boards, are an inexpensive, easy way to paint outdoors. Combined with a wet paint carrier or a simple pizza type box makes wet transport possible. Many pochade setups also accommodate wet panels/boards.

Palette:

Most outdoor painting setups have their own palette system. A Plexiglas or glass insert added to your box works well. Paper palettes are okay, but tend to absorb oil or moisture and normally are white which is difficult on sunny days.

Additional supplies:

- Paper Towels or box of Kleenex (Pick-a-size towels are great)
- Plastic grocery bags (for soiled towels) to hang on setup
- Small cup (w or w/o clip) to put solvent or water and attach to setup
- Palette knife and/or single edge razor for cleaning palette
- Airtight solvent holder or plastic cup with handle (for water) to Rinse brushes. NO SOLVENTS DOWN SINKS OR Poured ON GROUND
- small sketch book and pencil
- bottled water for painting and drinking
- Bug spray or Hot Hands (depending on the season)
- A hat or umbrella