

## Seeing Anew, Painting For All Levels Materials List

### Dan Gottsegen, Instructor

You are welcome to use the type of paint and mediums (and other materials) with which are most comfortable, and/or with which you want to (continue to) work. I recommend beginners start with acrylic paint, as oil is more challenging. But it is completely up to you.

#### Materials:

It is useful generally to have the following as part of your kit (these are all optional):

- Variety of pencils and erasers
- Some cheap brushes that include a 1" or 2" bristle brush
- Utility knife
- Painters (blue) tape

In addition for oil or acrylic painting:

- Palette knives and painting knives, several at least of different sizes just to try out. They can be plastic.
- Canvas boards, or pre-stretched canvases. I recommend you try some different sizes and aspect ratios. Scale; 12 x 18" or slightly larger or smaller.
- A variety of brushes. I always recommend flats and bristles to start with of a fairly large size, but I know many of you prefer working with rounds. Get a variety and at least several of a large size; say some ¼, ½ inch to 1 or 1.5 inches. Make sure that the brushes are appropriate to the medium you are using. You cannot switch brushes from one medium to another. **Brushes for oil or acrylic paint have long handles, at least 12 inches long!** If you get brushes with shorter handles, these are for watercolor (or cheap craft brushes). Your brushes can be natural bristle or synthetic, just be sure they are labeled as appropriate for the medium (oil or acrylic) you are using. We will discuss this more.
- Palette, a sheet of plexi works well or glass (DO NOT SKIMP ON THE SIZE OF THIS!) Say 12 x 12"
- Glass jars with lids if you plan to work in oil paint (at least two... can be small/medium sized). These are for your solvent and medium (see below).
- Saran wrap for covering unused paint if you work in oil paint.
- Gloves (like surgical gloves, I prefer nitrile gloves), or barrier cream like liquid glove, if you are working in oils.
- Clothes in which to paint

Mediums if you are working in acrylics:

- Matte or gloss medium, or **Gloss Glazing** or **Fluid Matte medium** (small containers of any one of these will do for now). There are many more options too. Golden, for example, makes a plethora to explore. I prefer Golden Gloss Glazing medium or Fluid Matte medium because it increases the fluidity of acrylic paint, helps it flow (acrylic paint can tend to resist flowing easily). But simple Matte or Gloss medium will also do. As you gather experience you can explore the variety in greater depth. Again, for now you need only a small amount just to begin to learn glazing technique.

Mediums if you choose to work in oils:

- Odorless spirits (either **Gamblin Gamsol** or other brand). I have heard that citrus-based solvents can be dangerous, so avoid them. Also, some people react to the odor of regular turpentine or spirits, so avoid it. Gamsol is a great alternative to Oderles Mineral Spirits or Odorless Turpentine, as it is not very volatile, and thus safer. It is more expensive.
- Fast drying medium like **Gamblin Galkyd**, or **Liquin** (these are all proprietary names. Different companies have different formulations of fast drying mediums). We will discuss this. You will need a faster drying medium because we are working quickly here. Traditional Linseed Oil based mediums take much longer to dry.
- Paint thinner for cleaning brushes or **Gamsol** (or even vegetable/ safflower oil). Again, Gamsol is safer, but more expensive. **Safflower Oil** is a nice alternative, as it is not flammable or toxic. You should then follow up with **Brush Soap/ Conditioner**.
- Containers for mediums and cleaning brushes (sealable glass jars, listed above, with screening in the bottom or brush cleaning “rack” will do)

Paint, basic color list is:

- Titanium white
- Mars black (optional if you’re starting out... old rule, no black for beginners).
- Cadmium red (hue)
- Alizarin Crimson or Naphthol Red
- Cadmium Yellow (hue) or Hansa Yellow
- Ultramarine Blue
- Phthalo Blue
- Optional, other blues of your choice
- Optional Chrome green (chrome dioxide) and other greens of your choice (like phthalo, viridian, permanent green light, etc.)
- Dioxazine purple
- Raw Umber
- Burnt Umber
- Raw Sienna
- Burnt Sienna
- Yellow Ochre

Experiment freely with other colors. This is a most basic list only for your guidance.

“Hues” are less expensive copies of the more expensive (and sometimes toxic) colors. If you know you need actual cadmium yellow or red, you can spring for it (I do). But if you don’t know you need it, then “hues” will probably work for you fine for now. Use student grade paints, unless you have used “artist grade” and know the difference, and prefer them. “Student grade” are much less expensive.