

Oil Painting for Beginners - Introduction to Materials Supplies List & Resources

Remember to start simply and give yourself time to experience painting before getting a lot of paints and supplies. You can do a lot of learning and painting with just 4 tube colors, one brush, a solvent, a newsprint pad of paper, and then a few small canvas-boards.

In my class, **Oil Painting for Beginners, How To Get Started First Time**, I present the beginning steps of familiarization with all the supplies presented in the Introduction to Materials. Attend this class to learn how to:

- loosen up
- make friends with your paints
- develop brush control
- learn how to practice
- begin color mixing
- paint pictures simply

See more resources for oil painting supplies at the end of this supplies list.

Oil Paints - (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

Student grade oil colors are fine if you are on a budget or aren't sure if you will pursue this medium; yet they are actually very good quality.

One resource for Winsor & Newton Winton Student Grade Oil Colors (hue are the lowest priced): <http://www.cheapjoes.com/catalog/product/view/id/27294/s/winsor-newton-winton-oil-colors/category/71/>

Excellent article to understand the difference between student-grade and professional oil paints:

<http://www.artpromotivate.com/2016/10/professional-quality-oil-paint.html>

Artist grade oil colors are a good place to start when you know you want to pursue oil painting. Also consider water-soluble oils, (see below).

Choose Group A or B, one each 37ml tubes of:

Essential-4 Group A (opaque, warm colors) Get this group if you normally like earthy spring and/or autumn colors like orange, green and brown.

Titanium White

Cadmium Yellow Light (warm yellow)

Cadmium Red (medium, warm red)

Cobalt Blue (neutral blue)

Essential-4 Group B (translucent, cool colors) Get this group if you normally like winter, dark, and/or pastel summer colors.

Titanium White

Cadmium Yellow Lemon (cool yellow)

Alizarin Crimson (cool red)

Ultramarine Blue (cool blue)

Optional additional colors

Burnt Sienna neutral earth color; almost an essential color, useful for mixing

Yellow Ochre neutral earth color, useful mixing color

Cerulean Blue warm opaque blue, good for seascapes and warm, sunny day themes

If you know you want to pursue oil painting get all 10 colors from Group A and B and the Optional colors, and an extra (or larger) tube of white. Just know that you only need, and can do a lot, with only 4 colors, as talked about in the Materials Class. Please watch this class before purchasing any paints or other materials. To see how to use the Essential-4 colors take the class: Oil Painting for Beginners, Getting Started First Time.

Water-soluble oil colors

An important alternative to traditional oils, water-soluble oil paint is an option for you. Several companies now make water-soluble oils, and there

are some differences between the brands. If you like this option go for it. Here is one resource:
<http://www.danielsmith.com/ItemList--Water-Soluble-Oil-Colors--m-1373>

Do you prefer to start with acrylic paints?

This class is about oil painting, yet, you might consider *Open Acrylics* as an alternative to oil paints. The beginning steps and concepts presented in this class can be used with acrylics. Look for classes on acrylic painting, mine or other teachers, for the specific information you need to develop skills with this medium.

The newest formulas from Golden are as close to oil painting as acrylics can be at this time. *Open* is the term for how long the paint can be worked before it dries. Oils stay open for hours or days, whereas most acrylics stay open for minutes. Golden has improved open time in one of their formulas. Visit: <http://www.goldenpaints.com/products> for more information.

Here is a resource for a handy set from Golden: <http://www.jerrysartarama.com/art-paints/acrylic-paints-and-mediums/golden-acrylics-and-mediums/golden-a-z-acrylic-sets>

In my class, **Oil Painting for Beginners, Getting Started First Time**, I present the beginning steps of familiarization with all 3 Groups, A, B and Water-soluble. Attend this class to get started.

Oil Painting Brushes (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class) I recommend long-handled, filbert brushes because they can perform like both a flat and a round brush.

Just One brush = #4 Filbert bristle

Three brushes = #2, #4, #6 Filbert bristle

Recommended Resource:

Made in USA, superb quality at some of the lowest prices available:

http://www.trekell.com/Hog-Bristle-Filbert-400KF-Series_p_1088.html

If you really want to start with an all-in-one kit in a box, get a good one such as this: <http://www.cheapjoes.com/royal-langnickel-regis-oil-color-brush-paint-set.html>

This kit, a solvent, a bar of soap, rags, and a newsprint pad of paper will get you started in oil painting for about \$40.

Supports (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

- Newsprint Paper Pad 16" X 20" **Start with this**
- Canvas Boards (8" X 10", or smaller)
- Gessoed Hardboard (8" X 10", or smaller)
- Cotton Canvas (8" X 10", or smaller)

Think small to start your painting experience. You can finish paintings faster, and thus will learn more as a result of more repetitive experiences. When you get a result for which you are proud, framing costs less and small paintings fit on small wall spaces.

Solvent (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

You do need a solvent, for practice and for beginning layers of oil painting.

Please read this excellent article on solvents for oil painting:

<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/images/PDFs/Artists-Guide-to-Oil-Painting-Solvents.pdf>

- Lavender Spike Essential Oil - HIGHLY recommended (Winsor & Newton also makes this)
- Citrus Essential Oil Solvent
- Odorless Turpentine or Odorless Mineral Spirits (use in well ventilated area, or use my method of quick-dipping)
- Water (only if using with water-soluble oil paint)
- and a small glass jar with tight fitting lid (small mayonnaise size)

Medium (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

- Linseed oil (or water-soluble linseed oil as appropriate)
- Small jar with tight-fitting lid (i.e. baby food size, pimentos, artichoke hearts)

Palette (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

- Plastic picnic plate
- Commercial paper palette
- Option: Kitchen freezer paper wrapped and taped around a piece of cardboard
- Option: Wood palette

Palette Knife (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

- Straight blade palette knife
- Angled handle palette knife (also known as a painting knife)

Brush cleaner (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class) Never let paint dry on your brushes.

- Fels Naptha® Laundry Soap and plastic container
- or commercial artists brush cleaner soap
- or any basic soap like Ivory®

Other things (as shown in the Oil Painting for Beginners Materials Class)

- Rags (denim, corduroy, thick cotton socks, heavy thick material works best)
- gloves are totally optional (latex or alternative)
- Simple pliers (optional, for difficult paint caps)
- Photographs (your own or taken by a friend) that inspire you to paint (think about what aspect you love the best in the photo)
- Easel (table-top easel is optional)
- Tablecloth, plastic
- Apron or old clothes (paint finds its way onto you no matter how careful you are)

This is NOT a comprehensive list of supplies for oil painting. I have specifically compiled this list to be the minimum necessary for the purposes of learning and achieving excellent results with as little overwhelm or frustration as possible, based on my experience in teaching live classes.

Art supplies resources:

Check your local area for an art store. Many college cities have art stores near by. Michaels, Aaron Brothers, and Hobby Lobby have lots of locations and all the basics you need. Be careful not to get too excited and buy more than you need to get started. Give yourself the gift of patience to learn your preferences and goals, and make your art supplies your friends.

Check my blog post on art supplies resources

Online art supplies resources:

www.danielsmith.com

<http://www.cheapjoes.com>

<https://www.jerrysartarama.com/>

<http://www.trekell.com> (best brushes, and made in USA)

www.dickblick.com

www.utrechtart.com

www.artsupplywarehouse.com

www.aaronbrothers.com/category/art-supplies

www.michaels.com/shop/art-supplies

www.hobbylobby.com/art-supplies

Bob Ross painting supplies, Permalba by Weber, are also good

Concerning the listed resources: I am not an affiliate of any of the listed resources, and will receive no compensation for recommending any retailer. Do your own search using these locations as a guide to find the best prices for your preferred products. I offer these links as a safe starting point, and apologize if any of the links becomes broken for any reason. Please let me know if you discover a broken link so I may fix the problem. Thank you.

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