

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Painting Step by Step: Oils, Acrylics and Pastels

Instructor: Cher Compton (301) 854-3478, cher@chercompton.com

NOTE: IF YOU ARE UNSURE AS TO WHICH MEDIUM IS RIGHT FOR YOU, BRING NEWSPRINT AND SOME CHARCOAL TO THE FIRST CLASS AND I WILL HELP YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT MEDIUM FOR YOU.

Materials List for Pastels:

Note: Prices of art supplies vary widely by source. Mail and internet sources like Cheapjoes.com and Jerry's (1-800-uartist) can save you 50-70% off of list. Pearl in Rockville offers all materials below at a discount. Supplies are also available (generally at retail) at Create a Hobby in Columbia Mall, or at craft stores like Michaels (various locations) and at The Laurel Art Center on Main street in Laurel (next to the post office).

Set of at least 12 **soft pastels** in a variety of colors (half sticks are fine – the more colors the better): *my favorite brands are:

- *Faber-Castell Goldfaber, Pro Art and Nupastel and Van Gogh make acceptable student grade pastels

- *Rembrandt is a very good brand

- Cretacolor is also an excellent brand but not widely available

- *Art Spectrum is very good and certified non-toxic

- *Girault, Sennelier, Schmincke, Great American and Unison are expensive but excellent brands

- Holbein and Rowney are also good

- Avoid Yarka

A pad or several loose sheets of charcoal or pastel **paper** (paper should have a somewhat textured finish). Can be white or tinted in any color (tinted papers are highly recommended). Preferably 16x20 or larger. Good brands are Strathmore Series 500 and Canson Mi-tientes 140lbs cold pressed watercolor paper is also very good.

Scratch paper or newsprint

A pencil

Workable Fixative (spray can)

An old hand towel

Other suggested items:

- Inexpensive small paint brushes (1/2" or 1/4")

- Paper blending stump

- Synthetic blending tools (Colour Shapers)

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Materials List for Acrylics:

Brushes: sizes 6, 8 and 12, at least one round and one flat (Richeson, Grumbacher, Simmons and Windsor and Newton are all good brands). A ½” angled brush is also nice to have.

Paints: I recommend Golden. Liquitex, Grumbacher, Stephen Quiller and Winsor Newton are also very good. Van Gogh has an inexpensive but good brand. Please have at least the following colors:

Alizarin Crimson
French Ultramarine (or Cobalt)
Cadmium Yellow Light
Titanium White
Cerulean Blue
Cadmium Red Light
Yellow Ochre (or Yellow Oxide)
Raw Umber

You may use watercolor paper (140lbs cold pressed) canvasette pad, canvas panels or stretched canvas. I recommend a minimum size of 11x14.

A jar or plastic cup for water

Paper towels

Retarder or Slo-dri medium or any other brand that slows drying time

Gel medium – Mat finish

Palette: I recommend a disposable paper palette, which is widely available at art supply stores, but any white surface that will stand up to paint is fine – plastic, enamel, wood etc. **Round Lock-tite palettes** that hold disposable sheets are a good investment and will save you on paint costs.

Optional:

Large wash brush 1-2” wide

Additional colors:

Burnt Sienna, Payne’s Gray, Sap Green, Mars Black

For those who wish to paint with thick textured paints - Extender medium and/or textured medium (lava, sand or fibre)

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Materials List for Oils:

Brushes: sizes 2, 6 and 10, at least one round and one flat (Richeson, Grumbacher, Simmons and Windsor and Newton are all good brands)

Paints: I recommend Gamblin, Windsor and Newton or their student grade Winton, but any major brand is acceptable. Griffin Alkyds by Windsor and Newton are also excellent and have a faster drying time than traditional oils. I actually prefer alkyds. Please have at least the following colors:

Alizarin Crimson
French Ultramarine
Cadmium Yellow Light
Titanium White
Cerulean Blue
Cadmium Red Light
Yellow Ochre
Raw Umber

You may use canvasette pad (cheapest alternative) canvas panels or stretched canvas. I recommend a minimum size of 11x 14, 16x20, 18x24 or larger is even better.

Gamsol (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED –SAFEST) or green turpentine substitute or Turpenoid. **No regular turpentine is allowed in the studio – the fumes are very toxic.**
Paper Towels or rag

Liquin or Galkyd painting medium

Palette: I recommend a disposable paper palette, which is widely available at art supply stores, but any white surface that will stand up to oil paint is fine – plastic, enamel, wood etc. **Round Lock-tite palettes** that hold disposable sheets are a good investment and will save you on paint costs.

Optional:

Large wash brush 1-2” wide

Additional colors:

Burnt Sienna, Payne’s Gray, Sap Green