

Kris Wiltse  
425-231-4106 [kwiltse@whidbey.com](mailto:kwiltse@whidbey.com)  
[www.kriswiltse.com](http://www.kriswiltse.com)

## Watercolor Foundations Class

### SUPPLY LIST

*If you already own a facsimile of these supplies you don't need to purchase this exact list. Much of it is optional. Do bring the pigments and brushes you normally use to the first class. All you really just need is a water container, paint (primary color palette), palette, brushes, sponge and paper.*

- **Masking tape** - White or the usual light yellowish colored masking tape. (NOT BLUE)  
If you're using WC paper by the sheet. You'll want to tape it down to a board.

- **Paper towel, sponge or absorbent rag**

- **HB or 2B pencil**

- **Gum or kneaded eraser**

- **Small atomizer squirt bottle (Optional)**

- **Plastic water containers**- Large yogurt or cottage cheese container works great. Collapsible containers specifically for watercolors are nice too. Whatever works for you. I usually have two while working. One for cleaning the brush. One for clean water mixing.

- **Palette**- Large white with mixing areas. I recommend finding one with large-ish areas. I'm not a fan of pans for class but if that's what you have that's okay. Small sketching palettes will not do. They're too small for the amount of mixing we'll be doing.

Here's an all-around decent palette by Mijello on Amazon. This palette is a travel palette that seals when shut, has large rounded wells that are easy on brushes and has an additional, removeable mixing tray: (If these links don't work, try copying and pasting into your browser)

Mijello Martin Airtight Watercolor 18-Well Palette  
<https://www.amazon.com/Mijello-Airtight-Watercolor-18-Well>

[Palette/dp/B0049UZEWQ/ref=sr\\_1\\_10?keywords=watercolor+palette&qid=1573597302&sr=810](https://www.amazon.com/Palette/dp/B0049UZEWQ/ref=sr_1_10?keywords=watercolor+palette&qid=1573597302&sr=810)



Or something like this cheaper palette which is also practical. This style of palette comes in two sizes. Get the larger of the two which is approximately 10"x5" closed.

Workhorse Artist's Portable Large White Watercolor Paint Palette Case:

[https://www.amazon.com/Workhorse-Artists-Portable-Watercolor-Palette/dp/B07W31L35G/ref=sr\\_1\\_65?keywords=watercolor+palette&qid=1573597561&sr=865](https://www.amazon.com/Workhorse-Artists-Portable-Watercolor-Palette/dp/B07W31L35G/ref=sr_1_65?keywords=watercolor+palette&qid=1573597561&sr=865)



If you have a large pan palette that'll work too.

- **Paints**

You have the option of purchasing a **limited primary palette** of colors or a **split primary palette** of colors depending on how much you want to spend. I often recommend Daniel Smith or M. Graham because I'm most familiar with them. You may prefer another brand such as Schmincke

or W&N. Feel free to use what you like. But! I do specify the **limited primary palette** be Daniel Smith because I've tested them for their color mixing abilities and found they mix a great range of secondary colors.

**About M. Graham paints;** honey is part of their binder so it keeps the paints moist. It also makes them runny after water is applied. Which is what I like... and dislike about them. They are not great for travel as they can make quite a mess if your palette is tilted. In the studio they are wonderful and luscious and keep longer than other pigments. I have old palettes with a mix of Dan Smith and M Graham and the M grahams are so easy to re-wet. The DS paints need replacing because they became brittle and are crusty and falling out.

I recommend you not fill your palette with colors yet unless you understand the color wheel and the order in which to fill them. I'm sure most of you do, but just saying in case.

### **Limited Primary Palette, *must be Daniel Smith Watercolors.***

You can mix a full range of colors with these three:

- Prussian blue
- Quinacridone red
- Hansa yellow medium or Nickel Azo yellow (NAY is an aggressive color. Beautiful range, from a ruddy golden ochre to a pure, intense yellow when thinned.)

**Split Primary Palette-** *This palette will mix a full range with some added granulation with ultramarine. Choose one from each **warm** and **cool** for a total of 6 colors:*

- Warm Red:** Quinacridone red (DS) or Perylene red (DS) or Permanent red (DS)
- Cool Red:** Quinacridone magenta or Permanent Alizarin crimson or Carmine.
  
- Warm Blue:** Ultramarine (not French) or Cobalt blue.
- Cool Blue:** Prussian blue or Phthalo blue GS (green shade) or Manganese blue.
  
- Warm Yellow:** New gamboge or Indian yellow or Hansa Yellow deep
- Cool Yellow:** Hansa yellow medium (DS) or Aureolin or Nickel azo yellow (DS) or Lemon yellow or Hansa yellow (MG).

### **Optional Colors**

**Greens:** Hookers and/or Sap green or Phthalo green YS or Perylene green

**Violets:** Cobalt violet deep or Dioxazine violet (Also called Carbazole) or Ultramarine violet

**Oranges:** Transparent pyrrole orange (QOR brand is the most brilliant in this color. Daniel Smiths is also beautiful, just deeper in tone) or Pyrrole orange or Azo orange or Permanent orange.

**Earths:** *When mixed with blues, earth colors create beautiful neutrals. Any of these are worth considering.*

Burnt sienna or Transparent red iron oxide

Burnt umber or Transparent brown iron oxide

Raw Sienna or Raw umber

## **Brushes**

I recommend a **Silver Black Velvet brush, size 14 or 16**. You can do most, if not all, of your painting with one of these. If you tend to work smaller a 10 or 12 is fine. You may already have a favorite large round. Please bring it and any others you work with to class.

Other brands I recommend are **Princeton Neptunes**. They are faux squirrel which means they are very soft and hold a lot of water. Dick Blick offers a big discount for 3 or more of this brand. **A good 3 brush assortment would be a #8 round, a #12 round and a ¾" flat wash.**

**Silver Black velvet square wash 1/2" or 3/4" Or Princeton Neptune** are a very nice brushes to work with. The hake works okay for a fraction of the price.

- **Paper - 100% cotton, 140lb CP (cold press) paper such Arches, Fabriano or Winsor & Newton. In block, sheet or pad form. 9" x 12" or 10" x 14" or sheets -22" x 30"**. Cheapest to buy 22" x 30" sheets and tear into quarters and eighths.

There's nothing like working on good paper. And the last thing you need at this stage is to be fighting with the paper. So, I highly recommend you use good papers such as those stated above . They take scrubbing, colors stay bright and wash applications flow beautifully. They are what makes watercolor a pleasure to work with. Cheap papers can be very frustrating as they often pill when scrubbing and don't take layers of color well. Pigments flow irregularly, dry dull and the paper dries unevenly.

**You can purchase these items at Dick Blick , Cheap Joes and Casey's Crafts (Carries DanSmith WCs, M. Graham and Arches WC paper by the sheet.)**

**Boards (optional)** - If you're going with sheets of WC paper instead of blocks, you'll want a rigid surface to tape the paper down on to. Here's a couple options with sources:

- **Corrugated plastic board** - Cut to fit a 1/4 sheet (11"x 15") of a 22"x 30" paper. Here's a link to it at Dick Blick: <https://www.dickblick.com/products/corrugated-plastic-panels/>

Make sure you cut the board a couple extra inches larger, so you have room to tape down your paper and handle it without touching the paper.

**OR**

- **Hardboard** - These are pre-cut to various sizes. 14" x 18" is well suited for a 11" x 15" quarter sheet. <https://www.dickblick.com/items/14945-1013/>
- **You can also use gessoed Masonite.**

**Brush case (optional)** - I do recommend you have a carry case or roll-up to transport your brushes. Here's a short handle brush carrier. A bit pricey. There are other cheaper options available. Search brush cases and roll-up brush carrier at Amazon or online art stores. [https://www.amazon.com/Paint-Brush-Holder-Paintbrushes-MyArtscapeTM/dp/B013W6VEQW/ref=sr\\_1\\_6?keywords=short+handle+brush+carry+case&qid=1574369423&sr=8-6](https://www.amazon.com/Paint-Brush-Holder-Paintbrushes-MyArtscapeTM/dp/B013W6VEQW/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=short+handle+brush+carry+case&qid=1574369423&sr=8-6)

**Sources:** There's numerous sources for materials. Here's some of my favorite places to shop and some of the items I enjoy working with...

**Dick Blick**- Great source for bargains on brushes and papers. Also, Cheap Joes and Jerry's Artarama.

**Rosemary and Co.** for brushes. <https://rosemaryandco.com>

**And there's also Amazon**