

Principles of Oil Painting: A Beginning

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Materials

This list is meant to give you a place to start in oil painting. If you are uncertain if oil painting is for you, you might want to consider partnering up with other participants to share materials such as paint and solvent.

By the Sea Picture Framing has many of these materials, and I will be providing them with this list.

If you have any questions at all about, please email me at theresamacknight@gmail.com .

Oil Paint

There are many brands available. I suggest Winsor Newton, Winton ,Gamblin or Kama Pigments as they are readily available in Canada

Titanium White

Ivory Black (or other black)

Yellow ochre

Cadmium red light

Ultramarine Blue

Burnt Sienna

Surfaces

Purchase or prepare at least 3 panels or canvases. If possible, wood panels are suggested. If they are not already prepared, prime the surface with 3 coats of acrylic gesso (sanding in between coats).

Wood Surfaces: Masonite or MDF, cradled wood panels

Canvas: Stretched canvas or canvas boards

Suggested Sizes: 8x10, 9x12, 11x14

Note: I prefer wood panels. This is a personal preference because I don't like texture of canvas especially on a small scale

Brushes

I suggest having at least 3 hog bristle brushes (natural bristles best for these techniques)

Shapes: Flats and/or Filberts

Sizes: Select a range of brushes between **0.7 cm** and about **1.5 cm**

Common size examples in Princeton and other brush manufacturers: 2, 4, 6, 8

Note:

In my studio, I like flats for blocking in and all-purpose painting. I use filberts for working edges and softening transitions. It's nice to have a couple of each.

There are many good quality synthetic bristle brushes. They are an option if you do not want to use animal products. I use both synthetic and hog bristle. Synthetic brushes can sometimes have a tendency to remove paint or flatten strokes. This is neither good nor bad, but if you are uncertain, I would recommend starting with the predictability of natural bristles.

Mixing knife: A paint mixing knife (also known as a palette knife) is as important as your brushes. Choose a metal tip rather than plastic. Look for something flexible. You will be mixing frequently.

Palette

Important: Make sure you have a large enough palette. It should be at least 11-14 inches or 30-40cm

Wood: There are a variety of oval or square wood palettes available

Glass: Glass is an excellent surface for mixing. You can use an old picture frame with a white or grey piece of paper behind it (or paint the back of the glass middle grey with acrylic).

Paper: Strippable paper palettes are ideal for workshops for ease for cleanup. Painted mixtures can also be saved for reference.

Other

Solvent: Small container of odorless paint thinner such as Gamsol or Eco-house. Please no turpentine (too strong for a group setting)

Paper towel , rags or blue shop towels

Jar for solvent (with lid)

Small jar of Linseed oil