



Cindy Briggs Creative Watercolor Portraits Supply List

Let's get you started right. As you see on the left, this is all you need for most of my online, studio and plein air workshops. You are welcome to substitute your own supplies and use what you may already have. I recommend specific tried and true quality brands in bold because they are worth it. You will have a much better experience with quality art supplies. Most supplies are available online and/or at your local art store.

WATERCOLOR PAPER - 140# Cold Press

Arches, **Fabriano** or Dick Black **140 lb cold press watercolor paper** in single sheets.

For online workshops I usually use the 8x10 or 11 x 14" Fabriano Studio Watercolor Pad that is reasonably priced (shown above). It's up to you, just invest in good paper it will make a difference. My all time favorite paper for portraits is expensive - it's the Fabriano 300# soft press - it stays flat and is fabulous to work with. So possibly practice on the other paper then upgrade to this when you want to paint something really special. While I demonstrate approximately an 8 x 10 or 11 x 14 painting size, you can paint whatever size you wish.

WATERCOLOR BRUSH

Dynasty Black Gold Quill Brush size 4 (similar to a size 10 round brush) This is the best brush I've ever worked with and is under \$20!!!! It holds the paint well and has a great point. Get 5% off your entire order from www.TheBrushGuys.com, enter code: cbriggs You can find me in the Teachers section and find all my brushes in there. You may want the 0 & 2 Dynasty brush for smaller paintings or details. If unavailable - a good round watercolor brush that comes to a nice point will do in a size 10 or 12 - such as the Utrecht 6150-R. Avoid a floppy brush.

WATERCOLOR PALETTE

Choose a Watercolor Palette with a lid, generously squeeze in your watercolor tube paints & let fully dry a few days before painting. I use a **Heritage Artist Palette 18 color wells**. My select list of colors is provided on the next page. You can go for the full 18 colors or 9 colors depending on your budget. (See my select color list on the next page) I suggest you create a color wheel and practice mixing values - see color wheel and mixing tips provided. If the colors don't mix well on your palette, try rubbing the white mixing surface with Mr. Clean Magic Eraser - also great for cleaning your palette.

PENS & PENCILS

Mechanical Pencil .7 and a Kneaded Eraser (your pencil eraser leaves fibers and bruises the paper).

WATERCOLOR Miscellaneous

Water Bucket, Paper Towels or Travel Towel, Holbein Squirt bottle or other small squirt bottle for spritzing your paint.

FineLine Masking Fluid Pen, Supernib Fine Tip, Painters Tape or Artist tape or Clips to attach your watercolor paper to your Gator Board or non-porous board if needed. Mr. Clean Magic Eraser (sponge or sheet/no soap version). Optional: Light Box for tracing my line drawings: On Amazon: LED 2020 Light Box by Dasher Products - this brand is more durable than some of the others.

Note: You can always use your own related reference photos in my workshops. If you have any questions feel free to email me at CindyBriggsArt@gmail.com and/or visit www.CindyBriggs.com



***Cindy Briggs 9-Color Palette**
Cindy Briggs 18-Well Color Palette

DANIEL SMITH EXTRA FINE WATERCOLORS

You can any use similar colors in professional grade watercolors such as Windsor-Newton, Holbein, Cheap Joes. The watercolors come in a tube and you squeeze the paint in generously a few days before class so they are mostly dry. Colors listed in order of placement in palette above from right to left like a color wheel. My underlined 9 Color* palette if you want to get a good start. The colors I often use for portraits are Yellow Ochre, Cadmium Red Hue & Quinacridone Rose. You don't need all the colors on my list. (See my Skin Tone Mixing Chart)

- **Lemon Yellow** - primary color - cool yellow mixes well with most colors
- **New Gamboge** - a warm sunny yellow, love it for sunflowers
- **Naples Yellow** - a warm creamy sunny yellow used on European Walls, sand & in portraits
- **Yellow Ochre** - warm earthy yellow great for landscapes and portraits
- **Quinacridone Gold** - warm glowing yellow mixes well with greens and roses
- **Permanent Brown** - warm earthy rich red brown, add some blue to mix Burnt Sienna
- **Pyrrol Orange** - warm color that I often drop into shadows for reflective light
- **Cadmium Red Hue** - warm traditional red - hue means it doesn't have cadmium in it.
- **Quinacridone Rose** - cool red primary color that mixes will with other colors
- **Rose of Ultramarine** - interesting violet that separates and creates unique effects
- **Lavender** - amazing color for shadows, French shutters, I use it in most of my paintings
- **Cobalt Blue** - cool blue for skies and sometimes in shadows
- **Ultra Marine Blue** - traditional blue
- **Phthalo Blue Green Shade** primary cool blue - mixes well with other colors
- **Cobalt Teal Blue** - cool opaque blue that you can drop in for a surprise accent
- **Green Apatite Genuine** - earthy warm green, add Quin. Gold to make Rich Green Gold
- **Phthalo Yellow Green** - sunny green used where the sunlight hits trees, plants, etc
- **Neutral Tint** - MIX with all your colors for rich darks and neutrals.

Optional: Only used fresh out of the tube: Titanium White.

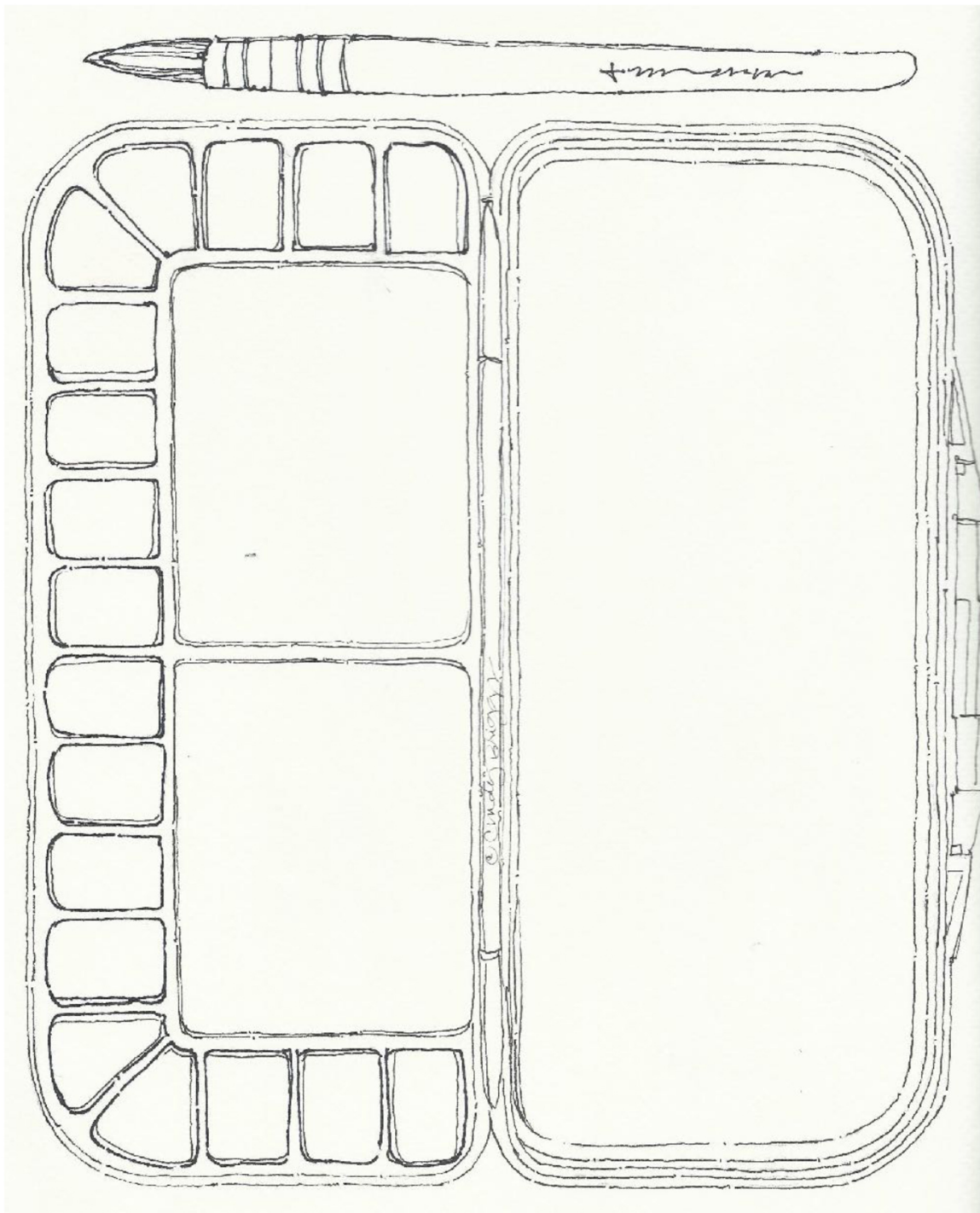
FACEBOOK: SMITHSONIAN STUDIO ARTS INSTAGRAM: @SMITHSONIANASSOCIATES

EMAIL: ASSOCIATES-STUDIOARTS@SI.EDU

Cindy Briggs
FINE ART

18-Well Palette Map

Trace onto watercolor paper then
paint in your own colors.



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Create your own Color Wheel

Optional Bonus Lesson Warmup:

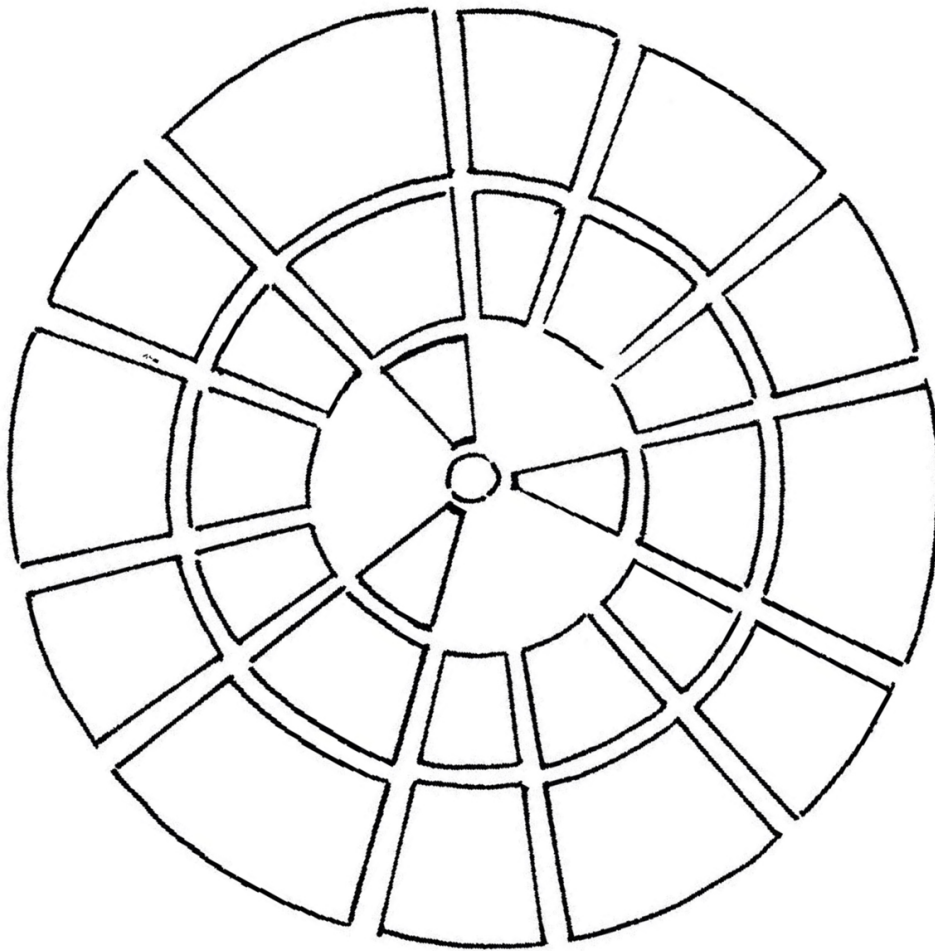
Want to learn how to mix just about any color? Use just your primary colors: **Phthalo Blue Green Shade**, **Quinacridone Rose & Lemon Yellow**. The inside circle has Neutral Tint added to create beautiful darks and neutrals in the same color family. It's pretty easy and it will help you discover how you can minimize your palette and create a multitude of colors. While I love having a full palette of colors, it's a good idea to know how to mix colors from just 4 colors. If you only have these 4 colors - please try this in advance. I have more hand-picked colors in my palette because it's easier to just grab or mix the colors I want.



Color Wheel Tracing

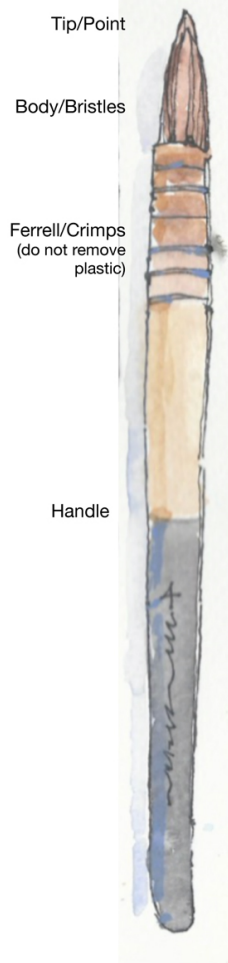
For an easy tracing, just print this out and tape it in the window in the daylight. Then tape a piece of watercolor paper on top - you will be able to see through the watercolor paper so you can trace the lines. A light box is a nice alternative - I found one on Amazon for about \$30.

Once your' drawing is ready. Start with the 3 primary colors in the big spaces on shown on the color example. Then mix your secondary colors in the center space between two primary colors. Then mix your tertiary colors - the steps between the primary and secondary colors such as yellow-green, blue-green. For the inner circle I added Neutral Tint to each color.



Cindy Briggs FINE ART

How to control your brush, water & paint.



It's a good idea to practice mixing paint with water to get used to the medium. You can create a range of values with watercolor depending on how much paint you use and how much water. You can easily mix light, medium and dark values as you control your paint consistency. In the first row I'm showing you consistency...how the paint feels when mixed. Often when painting watercolor, beginners will have too much water in their brush, so practicing this will give you a head start.

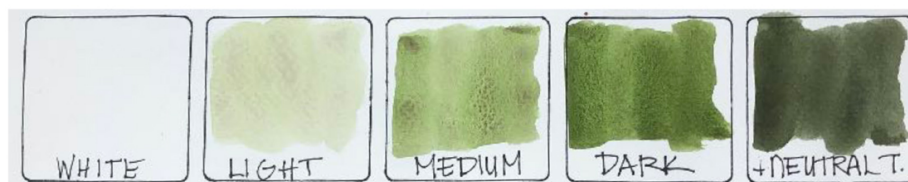
The second row is similar but save the white of the paper for white and we add Neutral Tint for the dark. I often use these consistency and value terms when teaching.

Here are a few tips:

1. When you dip your brush into clean water, tap the brush so you lose some of the extra unnecessary water. You can also pull the brush tips across the edge of the water container to lose extra water.
2. I usually start with a milky consistency (thickness) of watercolor and water combined, then either add water or less paint to get the range of values in the diagram below.
3. Try painting with the body/side of your brush and not just the tip/point.
4. Don't use so much water that if you hold up your paper it all drips off.
5. Take care of your brush. Do not leave it sitting tip down in the water - this will ruin the brush. When finished, reshape the bristles/tip and dry flat before storing.



Consistency - How the mix feels. The amount of water to paint creates a value range.



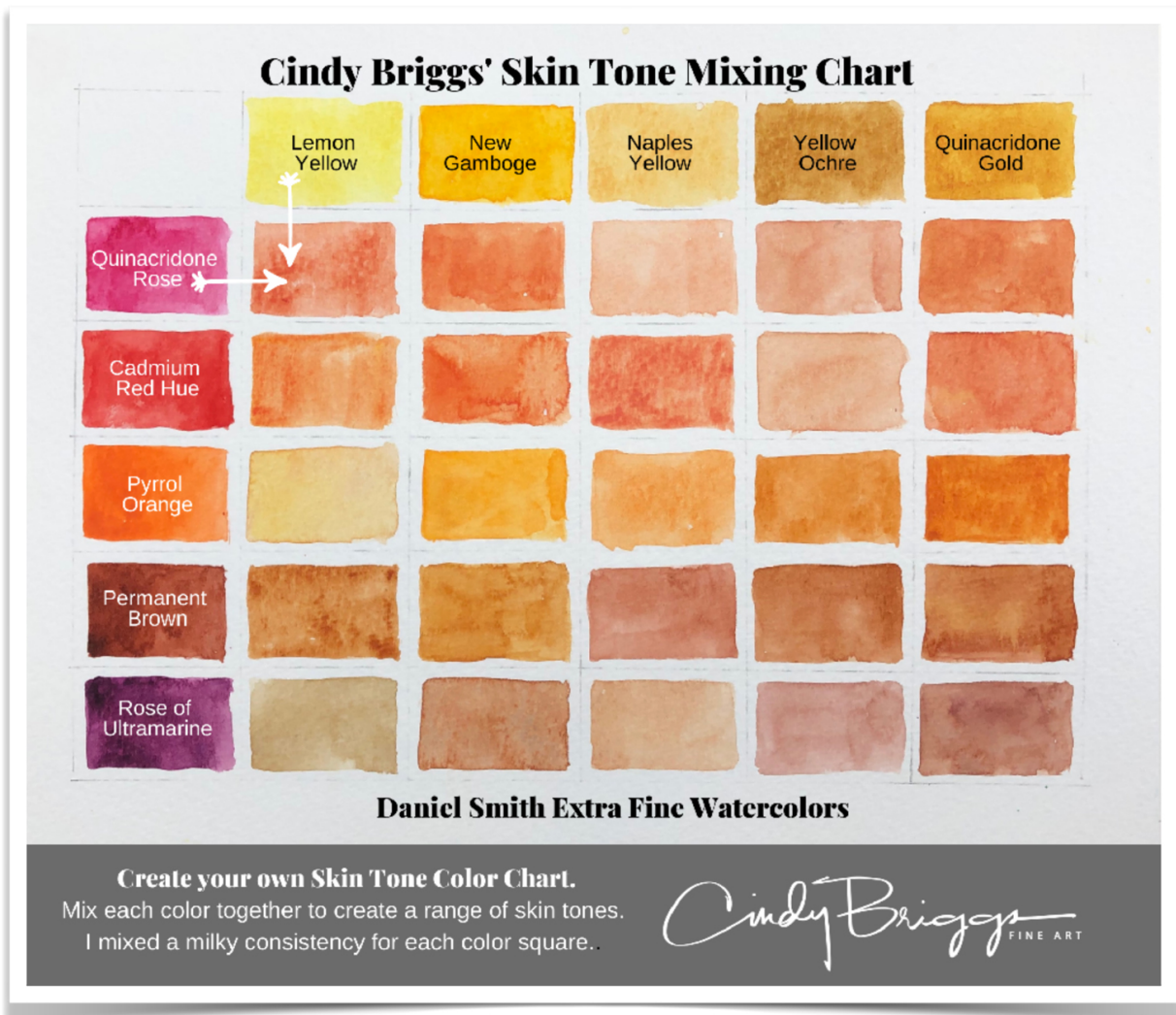
Values - How it looks based on how much paint and water you mix together.



Create your own Watercolor Skin Tones Chart

Use my tracing on the next page to create your own Watercolor Skin Tones Mixing Chart. Line up your "yellows" across the top and your "reds" down the side then mix each color combination the the correlating box. I've mixed a milky/medium consistency in each square. This is actually good to do with all of your colors.

Creating color mixing charts is one of my favorite things to do. I find it so informative and you make surprising color discoveries.



Create your own Watercolor Skin Tones Chart



My squares are 1" wide x 3/4" high. You can trace these lines or draw out your own. I suggest you draw out your lines in pencil on watercolor paper, then lightly erase your lines once you've painted in all your squares. I left a little gap around each painted square to save some white.

