



Smithsonian Associates

Traditional Oil Painting Techniques

Instructor: Adrienne Wyman

Please have the following supplies for the first class. You will need a small canvas (approx. 9 x 12). Tone the canvas a medium shade of gray ahead of time so that it is dry before class. If you don't have time to let the oil paint dry (about 4 days) you can prime the canvas with acrylic. The acrylic color I use is called neutral gray.

Feel free to use supplies you already have. The following is a suggested list of materials. To keep costs down I only list the most important supplies needed. Feel free to go beyond the limits of this list. When it comes to choosing paint, go for quality over quantity. It is better to have small tubes of good paint rather than large tubes of cheap paint. (* indicates the color I prefer, ** indicates a color I can't live without)

PAINTS:

White

- Titanium or Flake

Yellows:

- Earth Yellow (Yellow Ochre, Oxide Yellow or Raw Sienna)
- Indian Yellow**
- Cadmium Yellow
- Naples Yellow

Reds:

- Alizarin Crimson**
- Warm Red (Vermillion, Cadmium Red light or Cadmium Scarlet)

Blues:

- French Ultramarine**
- Cobalt Blue (optional due to the high cost of this color)
- Cerulean Blue (optional but nice to have for sky)

Greens: Many greens can be made by mixing other colors together but these are nice to have:

- Sap Green* (transparent green good for shadows and rich darks)
- Oxide of Chromium (neutral opaque green)
- Viridian or Emerald Green (cool greens)

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Earth

- Burnt Sienna**
- Raw Umber (optional)
- Ivory Black

Violet

- Mars Violet or Caput Mortum (nice to have but sometimes hard to find)

I prefer the following brands: **Windsor and Newton, Rembrandt, Sennelier, Williamsburg or Gamblin** (Avoid student grade paint or hues which contain fillers and are more difficult to use. These can be hard to identify but the word Winton or Hue mean a lesser quality, so don't buy them.)

Canvas: Bring a small gray canvas to class on the first day. Choose any size, 8 x 10, 9 x 12, 11 x 14. You may also like to have a canvas pad for exercises. (not canvas paper) I love **Senso Brand** clear primed linen canvas. It is a wonderful neutral gray.



BRUSHES : Various oil painting brushes. Filbert or Flat stiff hogs bristle brushes in various size: 2, 4, 6 . These hold a good amount of paint. Stay away from soft synthetic bristle brushes.

OTHER SUPPLIES

- Artists painting medium (you may also use linseed oil)
- **Vine charcoal** (optional for drawing on canvas)
- **Solvent:** May be labeled Oderless mineral spirits, Gamsol or Turpenoid (Do NOT buy the Green label – it smells horrible and is just for cleaning brushes)



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- **Solvent Container:** I like to use a container with a lid for transporting solvent.



- **Paper Towels** (I like soft paper towels that don't leave lint, like Blue Shop Towels or Viva.)

Palette

I like to use a glass palette with gray paper underneath when painting in my studio. But, for traveling to class I recommend using disposable gray sheets of palette paper. Gray is recommended over white to help judge colors better.

Gray pad of palette paper



Sources for materials

Jerry's Artarama: <http://www.jerrysartarama.com>

Art Supply Warehouse: www.aswexpress.com

Dick Blick: <http://www.dickblick.com>

Silver Brush <http://www.silverbrush.com>

Plaza Art Supply Store in Fairfax on Nutley Street (<http://www.plazaart.com/>)