

Art Supplies Suggestion List for Fast/Loose/Bold Workshop

The workshop is geared mostly to acrylic and oil painters. Oil painters can work in water-soluble oils if they choose. This list is simply a guideline. Use the supplies that work for you. You can buy your supplies anywhere you choose - the Blick link is to see the product and description.

The basic colors listed below are useful in providing a wide range of hues. Please feel free to substitute or delete any colors you prefer

Colors:

- Quinacridone magenta or Permanent Rose
- Cadmium Red Light
- Yellow Ochre
- Cad. Yellow Light
- Phthalo Blue or Manganese Blue
- Ultramarine Blue
- Titanium White (Large Tube)
- Burnt Umber
- Carbon Black

Optional colors: Cad. Yellow Med., Cad. Orange, Dioxazine Purple, Alizarin Crimson, Sap Green, Green Gold, Burnt Sienna, etc.

My demos will be done in acrylics. I keep the paint in a non-airtight plastic bead box organizer. You are not required to do so, and it's not the best solution for everyone - there are pluses and minuses. [Here's more info about it.](#)

Many painters like using the [Sta-Wet Palette system](#) to keep their acrylics wetter longer.

Paints:

My preferred acrylic brand is Golden paints - they are an excellent quality professional grade paint. You can buy student grade acrylic paints, which are much less expensive, but they are fine to learn with. Student grade paints dry more transparent because there is less pigment in the paint.

If you want to work with slower drying acrylics, you can try [Golden's OPEN](#) line of paints, or any other brands that dry slowly. "OPEN" Paints dry much slower than the regular fast drying acrylics.

Mediums: Optional for acrylic painters

I use mediums when I want the paint to "slide around" more. Because acrylics dry so fast, they get tacky very quickly and a medium will help them to stay wetter longer. They also help with blending and creating soft edges. Any acrylic medium will work - glazing medium, soft gel medium, etc. You can also use [Gloss medium](#) (or Matte medium) on a canvas surface if you want to smooth it out, make it less textural and less porous.

["Open Medium"](#) is used to maintain a slow drying time. It can also be used with fast drying acrylics to slow down the dry time.

[Gloss Medium:](#) (Or Matte Medium) this is a common acrylic painting medium, it will slow down the dry time more than water, but less than Open Medium.

Oil painters can use any medium that will loosen up the stiff viscosity of the oil paint. They will need [Gamsol](#) to clean brushes.

Brushes for acrylic painters

The large inexpensive nylon brushes I like to use are :

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-essentials-brown-nylon-value-brush-sets/>

or the Michaels brand, <https://www.michaels.com/all-purpose-synthetic-bristle-brush-set-by-artminds/10130708.html>

I use the 1" and 2" brushes frequently. Buy several packs so you have several brushes in both the 1" and 2" size. I also use a variety of smaller sizes such as the Leow Cornell Nylon synthetic flats in varying sizes, from 1/4 to 1" width. I like flats but you can use any shape you prefer <https://www.amazon.com/Loew-Cornell-1809-12-Piece-Brush-Taklon/dp/B004185GJW>



Brushes for acrylic AND oil painters:

Excellent quality brushes for acrylic AND oil painters is Princeton [ASPEN](#) brushes (above R). They have a wonderful spring and retain their shape after repeated use. They come in all shapes, I prefer flats and use sizes 2,4,6,10,12,16. They're more expensive but will last longer.

Tools:

I suggest you have some palette knives in various shapes and sizes (metal is better than plastic). I mostly use the ones that have a tapered tip. Also suggested: plastic putty knife, cut up cardboard or mattboard, thin silicone spatula, etc. Anything that can pick up and deposit paint.

Surfaces to Paint On:

Please stock up on your favorite size and type of painting surface. I like 12x12" canvasboards or [Strathmore Acrylic Paper](#) (my painting on the cover :-)) because sometimes I paint 4 paintings to one page or canvas. If you paint on heavy paper, apply several coats of [Gesso](#), otherwise all the paint will sink into the paper and look dull. Canvasboards, stretched canvas or gesso board panels are suitable. You may not use them all but much better to have too many than too few. I enjoy [Gessoboard](#), [Yupo](#) and rough cold press WC paper

Palette:

I use a grey palette paper "Grey Matters" by Jack Richeson Co., you can also use white palette paper or white freezer paper (cheaper).

- also need a stick of charcoal or medium value pastel
- paper towels /rags, water/turps container, etc. (the basics)
- When I paint on gessoed acrylic paper, I like to tape the edges with [low tack tape](#), esp. when I paint 4 paintings/page, it gives me clean borders around each painting (optional)

Keep in mind the homework will be learning-oriented exercises, not creating masterpieces, so don't spend a lot of money or you'll be less apt to experiment, which is the key to learning