



CONTEMPORARY  
ATELIER

## PAINTING THE PORTRAIT

This materials list consists of mandatory items, as well as optional items. Any additional materials that you already have in your artist's toolkit are always welcome. Suggested brand names are '*italicized*'. While all materials can be found at *Opus Art Supplies*, similar products and brands from other stores are welcome.

### WHAT WE PROVIDE

Easels, drawing donkeys, chairs & stools, boards, paper clips, containers for liquids, masking tape, and saran wrap.

---

### PAINT

Oils or acrylics are welcome, although oils are recommended. Use '*artist grade*' paint instead of '*student grade*', if possible.

- Titanium White
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Yellow Lemon (*or any bright yellow is fine*)
- Cadmium Red Medium (*or any bright red is fine*)
- Alizarin Crimson Red (*or Permanent Alizarin*)
- Raw Umbers
- Ultramarine Blue
- Ivory Black
- Optional: Manganese Blue, Olive Green, Dioxazine Purple, Cadmium Green Light, Burnt Sienna

NOTE: It is recommended to use '*artist grade*' vs. '*student grade*' paint. Affordable brands include *Holbein*, *Gamblin*, *Winsor & Newton* (not *Winton*), *Opus Essentials*, or *Kama Oil paint* (*Rath Art Supplies*), as well as *Rembrandt* (*DeSerres*). More expensive brands are welcome.

## MEDIUM

**FOR OILS:** 'Gamsol' odourless mineral spirits (*one small bottle*).

- Please do not bring other brands or turpentine.
- Bring an extra glass jar + lid to store excess dirty OMS after class.

**FOR ACRYLICS:** Small spray bottle for water, to keep your paint wet.

- Optional: Acrylic 'Retarder' to extend drying time for acrylics.
- 

## BRUSHES

Please bring a range of shapes and sizes. Feel free to bring whatever brushes you wish. Steve recommends the following:

**FOR CANVAS:** Both 'bristle' & 'synthetic' brushes can be used for canvas.

- 2 Bristle Filberts: size 4
- 1 Bristle Bright: size 10 or 12
- 1 Synthetic Filbert: size 4
- Synthetic Rounds: sizes 0, 2, 4 (*one of each*)

**FOR PANEL:**

'Synthetics' (*aka Nylon*) brushes are best for panels, as bristle scratches the smoother surface and it can be tricky to lay paint down.

- 1 Flat: size 10
  - 2 Filberts: size 4
  - 1 Filbert: size 8
  - Synthetic Rounds: sizes 0, 2, 4 (*one of each*)
- 

## SURFACE

Steve recommends a wooden panel: 8" x 10" up to 9" x 12"

- Optional Surfaces: canvas or canvas board
  - **SURFACE PREPARATION:** All surfaces require a total of 3 layers of gesso. Surfaces with gesso already included, please add 2 more layers, allowing to dry between layers. (*continues on next page*)
  - Try to minimize brush strokes in the gesso by using a soft, wide brush (*like 3" or wider*) and gently fan out the brush strokes.
-

## PALETTE KNIFE

We recommend the 'Liquitex' Small Painting Knife #8.

---

## PALETTE

### OILS:

A glass palette is provided, although you are welcome to bring your own.

### ACRYLICS: Optional

It is recommended to use a 'Masterson Sta-Wet' palette (16" x 12").

This palette keeps your acrylics wet throughout the day\*.

\* [link to material](#) (click to open)

---

## PAPER TOWELS & RAGS

- Bring one roll of 'Scott's Shop Towels' (blue).

Found at any commercial painting and lumber stores\*.

\* [link to material](#) (click to open)

---

## CLOTHING

- Painting can be messy, please bring suitable clothing.
- 

## SKETCHBOOK

- Optional: Any size (a small one is fine).

Used for taking notes and doing various homework.

---

## GLOVES (optional)

- While Painting: Latex or 'Guerilla Grip' gloves (breathable + waterproof)
  - Brush Cleaning: Waterproof rubber gloves are strongly recommended.
- 

## OPTIONAL

- Mahl stick
- Paint 'razor' scraper: To clean & organize your glass palette.