

ACRYLIC PAINTING SUPPLIES

Colors Professional colors vary widely in price; if all the colors in a display sell for the same price, it's a clue that they are inferior student colors like **Basics**, **Academy**, **Cromacryl**, **Galleria**, etc. I recommend buying professional paints in 2-oz. or .75-oz. tubes if they are available.

When buying your first set of colors, it's best to start with darker values. You can always lighten them with white and later buy lighter values as your budget allows.

Titanium White (Usually sold in 5 or 7 oz. tubes. Ask if they have it in 2 oz. Do not buy "Transparent Mixing White" unless you also have opaque white.)

Ivory Black (Since black is by nature a warm color, I prefer this warm black to colder blacks like Mars Black or Payne's Gray, which are not necessary to a basic palette.)

Yellow (Cadmium Hue, Hansa or Medium Azo)

Warm Blue (Cerulean or Phthalo)

Cold Blue (Ultramarine, Cobalt Hue or Brilliant Blue Purple)

Warm Red (Cadmium Red Medium Hue, Cadmium Red Light Hue or Scarlet Red)

Cold Red (Alizarin Crimson and/or Deep Magenta)

Raw Sienna (If unavailable, you can substitute Yellow Ocher or Turner's Yellow)

Burnt Sienna

Raw Umber

Phthalo Green

Neutral Gray (not Payne's Gray). Preferably value 5. If that's not available, look for Golden Value 4 or 6. If you can afford more, I recommend adding values 2 and 7)

Avoid genuine Cadmium or Cobalt colors. If the word "Hue" is on the label, it means the pigment is an imitation hue--which is satisfactory and much less expensive.

Some colors are available at .75 oz. or less. If you can afford more colors, you may wish to add Orange, Dioxazine Purple, Chromium Oxide Green, Alizarin Crimson, Prussian Blue, Payne's Gray, or Burnt Umber.

Brushes Should be nylon bristle -- no hog's hair or sable. Because there is as yet no standardization of sizes, numbers vary from one manufacturer to another. You should have:

At least three flats, one quarter-inch, one half-inch, and one at least an inch.

Two round brushes--Connoisseur Taklon #1 or equivalent size (no smaller) and a Connoisseur Taklon #4 or equivalent.

No angle brushes or fan brushes.

Surfaces Acrylic sticks to almost any surface. Canvas panels are considerably cheaper than stretched canvases, unless you construct them yourself. The size is entirely up to you. Some artists like the texture of canvas, but others find it an impediment. Cold-pressed illustration board is excellent, allowing you to vary the size and shape to whatever you choose, and even to change it while painting. One inexpensive alternative is "paper canvas", sold in pads of 10 sheets.

Palette Disposable paper palettes are ideal. A small glass panel with the edges filed smooth or protected with heavy tape also works well. If your palette is not disposable, you'll

need a single edge razor blade to scrape it clean. A glass palette is expensive (about \$25), but it is an excellent investment for the serious artist.

No wooden, plastic, or "stay-wet" palettes. The palette must be flat, not cupped.

Palette Knife Metal, not plastic, and preferably trowel-shaped.

Vessels A plastic brush basin with ridges on the bottom. If that's not available, you might buy a Silicoil jar, which comes with a coil at the base, but not the Silicoil solvent sold in conjunction with it.