

OIL SUPPLY LIST

Colors Professional-quality paints are far preferable to "student grade." Some professional colors are available in 2-oz. or .75-oz. tubes.

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 (Not lead or zinc white. Usually sold in 5 or 7 ounce tubes. Ask if they have it in a smaller size.)

Ivory Black

Cadmium Yellow

Pthalo Blue (Green shade only!)

French Ultramarine or Cobalt Blue

Cadmium Red Light

Alizarin Crimson

Raw Sienna

Burnt Sienna

Raw Umber

Burnt Umber

Phthalo Green

Some colors are available in smaller-than-standard sizes. If you can afford more colors, you may wish to add Cadmium Orange, Payne's Grey, Brilliant Purple, Grey, Prussian Blue, or Burnt Umber.

I do not recommend water-soluble paints, because they handle differently than conventional oil paints, and the color selection is more limited. If you do buy water-soluble paints, be sure that all your colors are water-soluble.

Mediums Turpenoid Natural. Look for the words "Non-Toxic" and "Non-Flammable" on the can. If Turpenoid is unavailable, you can substitute mineral spirits or turpentine, but those media present serious health and safety issues. No solvent is necessary if your paints are water-soluble.

Some painters use linseed oil liberally with their paints, but I prefer to use it only to loosen paints that come out too thick from the tube. Buy the smallest size available. Walnut oil, sold in supermarkets as well as art supply stores, also works well.

Please consult me if you are considering buying any other mediums.

Brushes Although I personally favor nylon bristle brushes, most oil painters use hog bristle. If you buy hog bristle brushes, I recommend buying at least one small brush in nylon for edges and finer details. Do not buy sable brushes.

There is as yet no standardization of brush sizes. Numbers vary from one manufacturer to another. You should have at least three flats, one quarter-inch and one half-inch, and one an inch or larger.

One small round brush -- Connoisseur Taklon #3 or equivalent size.

No angle brushes or fan brushes.

Surfaces Canvas is ideal. Canvas panels are the least expensive format. The size is entirely up to you. Unprepared surfaces will need priming with acrylic gesso. I can provide a demonstration on how to construct your own stretched and primed canvas.

Palette Wooden palettes are light and inexpensive. Disposable paper palettes are convenient, but they can be messy when paint gets between the sheets. A small glass panel with the edges filed smooth or protected with heavy tape also works well. Glass palettes are easy to keep clean, but they're heavy and expensive.

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

Vessels The best vessel is the Silicoil jar, which comes with a coil at the base. It is sold in conjunction with Silicoil's proprietary solvent, but you can buy the vessel without it.