

Portrait Painting Workshop Materials List

Brushes:

Bring an adequate selection of good quality brushes. I prefer a selection of filberts in both hog bristle and sable (or soft synthetic). For a bare minimum in brush supplies please bring sables or soft synthetic filberts in numbers 2 through 10. One or two very small rounds for detail work are also highly recommended.

Some brands I have used and recommend are:

Sable or soft synthetic

Trekell Legion Synthetic Mongoose
Blick Studio Red Sable
Rosemary & Co. Eclipse (synthetic)
Rosemary & Co. Pure Red Sable
Robert Simmons Sapphire (sable/synthetic blend)

Hog Bristle

Trekell Hog Bristle
Robert Simmons Signet Series

You will also need a soft synthetic hair flat or filbert brush for oiling out. An inch or so wide will be fine. This should be an inexpensive brush. It does not need to be of high quality. Something from Loew- Cornell or the like will be fine.

Paints:

Any good quality paint such as M. Graham (my preferred brand), Michael Harding, or Rembrandt are suitable. Please stay away from student grade paints.

You may use your own selection of paints if you are comfortable with a particular palette. But still try to bring some alkyd white. Otherwise I recommend the following:

Titanium White

Alkyd White – I recommend Winsor & Newton Griffon (alkyd) Titanium White

Cadmium Yellow

Yellow Ochre

Cadmium Orange

Cadmium Red Light

Transparent Red Oxide

Raw Umber

Alizarin Permanent or similar

Ultramarine Blue

Phthalo green

Support:

I recommend size 12 x 16 (but bring what suits you). This will primarily be a head study. You will only need one canvas. I recommend a smooth weave linen or cotton, well stretched and primed. Oil or acrylic primed panel is also suitable.

Also, bring something with which to do one or two color studies. I like to use a scrap of primed linen taped to a board. A small, inexpensive canvas panel is also suitable.

Other:

Liquin Impasto Painting Medium (From Winsor & Newton. Please note this is a thicker gel consistency of Original Liquin. It comes in a tube.)

A Palette Cup

A Small Amount of 1:1 mixture of Walnut or Linseed Oil and OMS (an ounce or so should be more than enough)

A Palette – Either a glass palette, disposable sheets, a hand-held wooden type or whatever you prefer. If you are not familiar with using a hand held palette do not bring one “to try it” for this class. It takes some getting used to. We’ll be learning enough new things as it is. Stick with a glass palette or the disposable sheet type. **Please try to avoid white or overly dark palettes. A gray or tan color is to be preferred.**

A Trowel Shaped Painting Knife (for mixing), the blade being 1 1/2 -2 inches (or thereabouts) in length.

Rags or Paper Towels

Brush Basin/Cleaner

Odorless Mineral Spirits (OMS) – I prefer Gamsol by Gamblin. This solvent dissolves very slowly into the atmosphere, making it safer to use than other solvents or turpentine. Please do not bring a product you bought at the hardware store. Bring something made for artist use.

Mahl Stick -- If you are looking to achieve very fine detail and a refined finish a mahl stick is essential.

Optional (but strongly recommended):

Measuring Tool – I prefer a long knitting needle.

Glass Scraper – If you are using a glass palette.

A Small Hand Held Mirror – A great tool for seeing your painting in a fresh way and seeing your mistakes. I use one all the time.

A Pair of Close Focusing Binoculars – Such as the Pentax Papilio. Very helpful for seeing detail in the model from your easel position.