

Materials List for Beginners Acrylic Painting

Bring a positive attitude and a sense of humor. This is a beginner painting class, and we were all beginners at first! Expect to have fun and learn a lot; don't expect perfection.

Necessary Materials:

Paints: Avoid buying hues if possible—the color does not have the same intensity. (You may only find Alizarin Crimson hues.) Artist quality is best; these are heavy-body acrylics. These are the only colors you need, as we'll be learning how to mix our colors.

Cadmium Yellow Light Cerulean Blue Ultramarine Blue

Cadmium Red Light Alizarin Crimson Titanium White

Ivory Black Small tube (2 oz.) is fine for black. You may need larger tubes of white and colors.

Heavy Body Acrylic Gesso—This provides a stable base coat on your canvas or other support.

Paintbrushes—please choose long-handled artist brushes (not craft brushes). Hogs hair is a sturdy, affordable option. Recommended sizes: #12 Bright, #6 Bright, and #2 Bright

Palette Knife—your choice of size(s), metal or plastic

Palette or Palette Paper (a wet palette keeps paint from drying out)

Canvas—8 x 10 is a good size. We'll talk about supports in the first class. Canvas board is ok for practice work, but not recommended for paintings.

Sturdy container that won't tip (at least 12 oz.) for water, dirty brushes. (I like an old coffee mug.)

Clean, lint-free rags (old T-shirts are great) and/or paper towels

Optional Materials:

Tabletop easel (recommended, but not essential)

Color Wheel Additional canvases or other painting supports (wood panel, for example)

Artist Pencils, eraser Some painters prefer to draw first; I do not draw. Your choice!

Acrylic Gel Medium, matte or gloss (I'll explain what they are and how to use them.)

You will need to transport your tools each week. I recommend a large canvas tote or large plastic toolbox. Some like a rolling case for easy transport. I also recommend wax paper or baking parchment to cover your work during transport to and from class. You also want an apron or large shirt to cover your clothing, or wear something you don't mind getting paint on. Although acrylic paints are washable with soap and water, they will stain fabrics.

Local art supply stores sometimes offer a discount for students, so ask! There are many online sources for art supplies. I have used Utrecht, Cheap Joe's, and Dick Blick. Feel free to email instructor with questions about art supplies: pcasey.maine@gmail.com. Put "Painting Class" in the subject line.