



Watercolor Improvers

Michele Clamp

Materials:

- Paper:
 - 100% cotton watercolor paper. A 9x12 pad or block is ideal. Arches cold press 140lb is a lovely paper to use for learning. Other good brands are Fabriano Artistic, Winsor and Newton or Saunders Waterford. Good quality paper is a must and will make the painting experience so much more enjoyable.
 - Student paper for exercises. The cheaper the better.
- Tube Paints:
 - Ultramarine blue
 - Phthalo blue or cobalt blue
 - Naphthol red or Windsor red or cadmium red
 - Quinacridone Rose or a pinkish red such as alizarin crimson
 - Yellow ochre
 - Lemon yellow
 - Burnt Sienna
 - Black (I use lamp black but any black will work)
- Optional Paints
 - Burnt umber
 - Cadmium orange
 - Cerulean blue
- Artist's quality paints are best (e.g. M Graham, Winsor and Newton, Holbein, Daniel Smith) but student colors (Lukas do a nice studio set of 12 tubes for ~\$30) can work well. I prefer tube paints as they're easier to mix but pans will do in a pinch.



Watercolor 101

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Materials:

- Brushes:
 - Sable brushes are lovely but expensive and I like Escoda Reserva. However, quality synthetics such as Princeton Aqua Elite or Escoda Versatil are a good substitute. A round 10 or 12 can do almost everything you need for this class. Other non-essential brushes are:
 - squirrel hair quill or mop (diameter around 1/2 inch) for washes and covering large areas.
 - A small pointy brush for detail (any small size 4 round synthetic with a good point will work).
- Palette:
 - Nothing fancy needed here but your palette must have good spaces for mixing and spaces to squeeze out tube paints. A cheap plastic folding watercolor palette is perfect.
- Misc:
 - A mechanical pencil
 - A small spray water bottle
 - Paper towels
 - Water receptacle
 - Masking tape for taping paper to a board if you're not using blocks. Non-essential but I like to use it to leave a white border around my paintings.