

Botanical Art in Graphite, Watercolor and Colored Pencil

MATERIALS LIST

Tracing paper: 9"x12" or 11"x14" tablet, Canson or other, preferably acid-free

Watercolor paper: Four (or more) sheets of 140 lb. Hot Press (smooth) acid-free watercolor paper approximately 9"x12" or 10"x14", e.g., Arches or Fabriano, or another brand. You can buy a pad, block, or large sheet (22"x30") cut up in pieces. Fabriano makes a 12-sheet Studio Watercolor pad of 11"x14" Hot Press 140-lb acid-free paper that is suitable for all three of our media (reasonably priced, at Lenz).

Graphite drawing pencils in 2H, HB or F, B and 2B. Good brands are Prismacolor Turquoise, Staedtler Mars Lumograph, Venus Drawing, and Faber-Castell, among others.

Pencil sharpener for frequent use to keep a good sharp point on your graphite and colored pencils.

White eraser such as Papermate Tuff Stuff Eraser Stick, about 3/8" diameter), Pentel Clic (plus an X-acto knife to trim it to a chisel point), Tombo Mono Zero, or equivalent

Kneadable eraser. You can also use Blu-Tack wall putty as a lifting eraser.

6" clear plastic ruler (or dividers if you have them)

Matte-finish removable clear tape

Scissors

Desk brush (inexpensive wide, soft brush for whisking away eraser bits)

Magnifying glass

Brushes:

- If you have time to mail-order (e.g. from dickblick.com, jerry's artarama, or cheapjoes.com), and want to invest in a single excellent brush, get a Raphael Kolinsky Red Sable Fine Pointed Round, Series 8404 or Extra-Pointed Round, Series 8408, #3 or #4. This brush alone will be sufficient for your small botanical painting. Otherwise, get some good small Kolinsky sable or sable/synthetic watercolor brushes (Round, tapering to a sharp point), including a #4, #2 and #0.
- a Princeton 6300B #2 Bright size 2, for lifting
- an inexpensive #2 Round watercolor brush (synthetic is fine) for experimental color mixing

Watercolors: If you already have watercolor paints, bring what you use. I strongly recommend Artist or Professional (not Student) quality lightfast watercolors. A small

plastic palette with some flat mixing areas will do. Two readily available good brands are Winsor Newton (WN) and Daniel Smith (DS). Here is a suggested **basic palette** for botanical art which will allow you to mix a wide range of colors:

- Winsor Lemon PY 3 (WN) *or* Hansa Yellow Light PY 3 (DS)
- New Gamboge PY 153 (WN, DS)
- Pyrrol Orange PO73 (DS)
- Quinacridone Coral PR 209 (DS)
- Winsor Red PR254 (WN) *or* Pyrrol Red PR254 (DS)
- Perylene Maroon PR 179 (WN, DS)
- Permanent Rose PV19 (WN)
- Permanent Magenta PV19 (WN) *or* Quinacridone Violet PV19 (DS)
- Winsor Violet PV 23 (WN) *or* Carbazole Violet PV23 (DS)
- Indanthrone Blue PB60 (DS)
- Phthalo Blue RS (DS) *or* Winsor Blue RS (WN)
- Cobalt Blue PB28 (WN, DS)
- Cerulean Blue PB 35 (WN) *or* PB 36 (DS)
- Viridian PG 18 (WN, DS)
- Quinacridone Gold (pigment mix. WN, DS)
- Burnt Sienna PBr7 (DS)
- Raw Umber PBr7 (WN, DS)

If you find you're missing a color or want to try a new one, I will share a squirt from my paint tubes.

Two jars or other containers for water, when we use watercolors

Paper towels and Kleenex

Colored Pencils (NOT water-soluble or watercolor pencils): If you already have colored pencils, bring what you use. Some recommended brands include Faber-Castell Polychromos, Prismacolor (not Verithin), Caran d'Ache Pablos; you can mix brands. For plants and other subjects from nature you're better off building a customized collection than buying manufacturers' sets, which will include less-useful colors.

Here is a suggested **basic palette** for botanical art which will allow you to mix a wide range of "natural" colors (PC = Prismacolor; FC = Faber-Castell. You might use equivalent colors in other brands. Note: the trade names, e.g. "Artichoke," change, but the number stays the same; go by the numbers.):

- PC915 Lemon Yellow *or* FC205 Cadmium Yellow Lemon
- PC916 Canary Yellow *or* FC107 Cadmium Yellow
- PC918 Orange *or* FC115 Orange
- PC923 Scarlet Lake *or* FC121 Pale Geranium Lake
- PC925 Crimson Lake *or* FC142 Madder
- PC930 Magenta *or* FC125 Middle Purple Pink
- PC932 Violet *or* FC136 Purple Violet
- PC901 Indigo Blue *or* FC157 Dark Indigo
- PC902 Ultramarine Blue *or* FC120 Ultramarine
- PC903 True Blue *or* FC149 Bluish Turquoise
- PC908 Dark Green *or* FC278 Chrome Oxide Green
- PC911 Olive Green *or* FC174 Chrome Green Opaque
- PC1005 Limepeel *or* FC168 Moss Green
- PC1089 Pale Sage
- PC942 Yellow Ochre *or* FC183/184 (Gold) Ochre
- PC943 Burnt Ochre *or* FC283 Burnt Sienna
- PC937 Tuscan Red
- PC1078 Black Cherry *or* FC194 Red Violet
- PC948 Sepia *or* FC175 Dark Sepia
- PC962 Warm Grey Medium *or* FC181 Payne's Grey
- PC914 Cream *or* FC102 Cream
- PC289 Grey Green Light
- PC1077 Colorless Blender

Optional equipment:

- **Camera** with ability to do close-up shots (or smart phone or iPad, etc.) to take reference photos for later
- **Paper support** with a smooth surface, e.g. a clipboard or piece of masonite or foam core cut a little larger than your paper, if you like to work at a tilt
- **Small battery-powered desk lamp** to cast directional light on your plant specimen, such as an OttLite or similar

If you have any questions about what something is, why it's on the list, sources, preferred brands, alternatives or substitutions, etc. send me an email: freeman@baymoon.com