

Joan Hellenthal  
Pastel Class Materials

Welcome to the Pastel Class! Here are some resources for pastel supplies.

Online resources for pastel materials:

Dakota Art Supply [www.dakotapastels.com](http://www.dakotapastels.com)

They specialize in supplies for pastel artists.

Paper Sample Packs and Pastel Sample Sets are ways to try different products.

A chart of pastels from soft to hard is available here.

Monthly sales

Dick Blick [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)

Cheap Joe's [www.cheapjoes.com](http://www.cheapjoes.com)

Jerry's Artarama [www.jerrysartarama.com](http://www.jerrysartarama.com)

Jackson's Art [www.jacksonsart.com](http://www.jacksonsart.com)

In Santa Cruz:

Lenz Arts carries a wide assortment of pastels by the stick ( Sennelier, Schminke, Unison, Rembrandt, NuPastel) and pastel papers ( Sennelier La Carte, BFK, Art Spectrum, Canson, Pastel Premier, PastelMat ). They also carry mediums to prepare surfaces (Art Spectrum Colourfix Primer, Golden Acrylic Ground for Pastels, gesso).

Pastels

Use whatever pastels you have. You will need an assortment of dark, medium and light colors. Not Oil pastels!

Some of the brands I use are:

Soft Pastels- Unison, Sennelier, Schminke, Great American, Terry Ludwig

Hard Pastels- NuPastel, Rembrandt

If you need to buy pastels, I recommend half stick sets since you get more colors to try.

Sennelier Plein Air Landscape set, 80

Sennelier Assortment, 80

Sennelier Paris Collection

Unison half sticks set, Rembrandt half sticks set, NuPastel Set

## Surfaces

Papers with grit are best for holding pastels. Sennelier La Carte, U Art, Pastel Premier, Pastel Mat, Art Spectrum are some choices. They are available in 9x12 pads or you can cut a large sheet to the size you want.

Hardware store sandpaper, 400 grit may be used also.

Rough newsprint or tan sketchbooks are good for warm ups.

Glassine paper (available at Lenz) or pads of tracing paper protect your work until framed.

## Backing Board

I use foam core cut larger than my pastel paper as a backing board which is lightweight and soft. Clips or tape attach paper to board.

## Other supplies:

Soft charcoal

Paper towels

Baby wipes

Disposable gloves or barrier cream for your hands

Old painting brushes for underpaintings and removing pastel

90% isopropyl alcohol for underpaintings