

Materials and Equipment: A General List

Oil Paints

Any brand will do, and you can shop for price. But you do generally get what you pay for. Small tubes are okay (37 or 40 ml), but remember that we do use a lot more white than the other colors.

These colors are my preferences, but similar other shades will work just fine.

Basic Colors

Burnt Umber (or other dark brown)

Ultramarine Blue (or other dark blue)

Alizarin Crimson (or Rose Madder)

Yellow (cadmium is good, but others are also okay)

Red (cadmium is good, but others are also okay)

Green (Sap green is good)

Titanium White (or Zinc)

Used less often, but nice to have

Yellow Ochre (or yellowish brown)

Raw Sienna (or reddish brown)

Viridian Green

Acrylic Paints

Any brand will do, and you can shop for price. But you do generally get what you pay for. Small tubes or bottles are okay, but remember that we do use a lot more white than the other colors.

I prefer a simple palette of primary-like colors (blue, red, and yellow), plus brown, black, and white. Look for colors similar to the ones listed above for oils.

Liquids (for oils)

Solvent ("Odorless") (Mona Lisa, Gamsol, or Turpenoid)

Oil (linseed, safflower, walnut, or poppy seed)

Liquids (for acrylics)

Water

Various water-based media that work with acrylic paints

Brushes

A few sizes, ranging from about an inch to about 1/8 inch.

If you're painting at an easel, you want the brushes with the longer handles. Natural bristle is good.

Some of the synthetics are good, too, but some are too soft.

For acrylics, which have a softer texture than oils, some prefer softer brushes.

Palette

Paper palette (or strong glass, or a mirror)

Palette Knife (especially for oils) Try to find one you like

Canvas or Mixed-Media Paper

Standard sizes

Be prepared to do more than one painting. Small sizes are recommended.