

BRUSHES

Use the brushes you are accustomed to working with. A range of hog bristle brushes are best, as they have the right amount of flexibility. They are soft, but you can also scrub with them. Synthetic brushes are also OK, *as long as they are not too soft and flexible*. The brush needs some “snap”, as hog bristle brushes do.

Brush size in #2, #4, #6, and # 8 will give you a good range of sizes.

You should have at least one wider brush, about 7/8" to 1" in. This is equivalent to a #12 or #14 “bright.”

I prefer *filberts and flats*. **Please do not use old, stiff and encrusted brushes. They should still be flexible and supple.**

Suggested brush sizes:

- 1 (one) #2 flat or filbert
- 1 (one) #4 flat or filbert
- 1 (one) #8 flat or filbert
- 1 (one) #10 or 12 bright or larger

PAINT

Use the pigment colors you are accustomed to working with. If you would like a general recommendation of the palette of colors I use in workshops, please see this article at my website: <https://mitchalbala.com/split-primaries-landscape-painting-palette/>

Additionally, colors that are very good to have for the monochromatic underpainting are:

- Burnt Umber

- Ultramarine Blue
- Raw Sienna

- Yellow Ochre
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- Burnt Sienna

PAINTING SURFACES

For underpainting, the surface quality is VERY important. Cheap gesso surfaces can be too **slick**: the paint will not stick well at all. Too **absorbent**: the paint sticks so well that you cannot wipe it off at all (which is essential to the underpainting method).

We will not be doing very large works in the workshop. All of our paintings will be done on small surfaces — 9 x 12 or 8 x 10. You will need enough for perhaps **2** monochromatic paintings and **2** two-color underpainting, plus extras for do-overs and additional practice.

I recommend either

1) canvas panels from **Fredrix** or **Dick Blick**. The brand matters. See notes about *slick* and *absorbent* surfaces above. Try to get the Fredrix or Dick Blick brands if possible.

2) sheets from a canvas pad. Recommended brand:

Fredrix Real Canvas Pad (shown at left). Come in 9" x 12" or larger. Very handy because you can cut the sheets to size, and

tape the sheets down to a cardboard backboard, which makes for a very lightweight and portable solution. **Note: Many brands of “canvas pads” are not actual canvas, but textured paper, which will **not** work for underpainting..**

Lightweight backboard - If using sheets from the Fredrix pad, you will tape pieces to a lightweight support, like an old canvas panel or a foam core panel, 11 x 14 inches.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES

Palette: Disposable paper palette is fine, unless you have another type that you prefer. In paper palettes, white is better than the gray. Wood, glass or plastic palettes are also OK, as long as they are smooth and not encrusted with old dry paint.

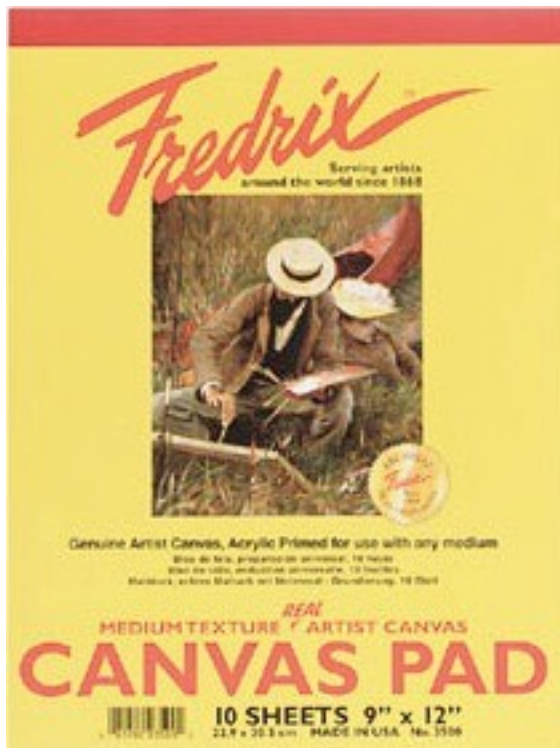
Bulldog Clips (small) to hold paper palettes down.

Masking tape, at least 3/4" wide. Black, white or beige; preferably **no blue**, which

interferes with color perception.

Rags (essential) - And plenty of 'em! T-shirt type cloth only. Cut into small 8 x 8", 6 x 6" pieces.

Continued ...





Palette knife, metal - The long diamond shaped heads are better than the long flat ones.

Disposable Vinyl or Latex Gloves - **essential** **Palette Cup** for oils - The small metal kind **or** as an alternative, a jar cap.

Solvent - The only solvent recommended is Gamsol (from Gamblin). Do not use regular turpentine, or smelly solvents of any type.

Small plastic bottle for holding solvent, 8 oz., with the flip down spout, like hand lotion bottles. Convenient and safe. **Tip:** It's easier to pour the solvent into this small- mouthed bottle with a tiny plastic 2" or 3" funnel.

Small Sketch book - Any type, 9" x 12" or smaller with the sketching tools you prefer.

Small container/jar for brush cleaning (oil painters) - Approx. 4–8 oz. with a screw top lid.

“L” shaped cropping device - **essential** - Make your own from cardboard **or** by cutting a 9 x 12 matte diagonally in half.

Paper Towels

Tiny bottle of baby oil [optional] - Gets oil paint off your hands easily without unnecessary exposure to solvents.

