

Mel Williamson's Simple Portrait Supply List

PAINT:

I will be using Oil Paint, but you're welcome to use Acrylics if preferred. (This limited palette is a great way to try out oils if they are new to you, tho). It is important that the Cadmium Red is *artist grade not student grade. eg. I will be using Gamblin artist grade paints (not 1980).

- Ivory Black
- Titanium White
- Yellow Ochre
- Cadmium Red Light or Medium

CHARCOAL

Willow/vine (medium size/soft / wipeable)

White charcoal (I like General's Charcoal white pencil), white conte okay too

Manilla/tan or newsprint paper (cheap is fine), ideally just off white

MEDIUMS:

Gamblin Gamsol (or other odorless mineral spirit)

Gamblin Galkyd Medium / *Gamblin Solvent-Free Medium*

Gamblin Alkyd Gel / *Gamblin Solvent-Free Gel*

****if you are using Acrylics, I suggest using Retarder medium to slow down drying time.*

SURFACE

Canvas pad is what I usually recommend as it is a good and affordable option for practice. Size approx. 9 x 12" - 12x16", Please have lots of sheets (10?)

BRUSHES:

I recommend using quite a big brush to encourage looseness. My favourites are hog bristle Egbert (or sub Extra Long Filbert / Filbert) size 6, 8, or even 10. You can use what you have and are comfortable with, just make sure you have something fairly large.

PALETTE: Recommend a wax paper palette pad, or wood palette is okay too. (I use a tabletop glass palette and razor blade scraper).

ALSO: lots of shop towel / paper towel, sketchbook/pencil for notes, if you wish.