

Watercolour Classes with Nicole Russell

Material List

A successful watercolour painting starts with reasonably good materials. Watercolour materials can seem expensive but buying cheap low quality materials will make painting a good watercolour painting very difficult. Therefore, I suggest to get only the minimum but get good quality. Impressions Art Supplies in Richmond will give you a 10% discount if you mention that you are my student.

1. Watercolour Paper

Good quality watercolour paper is the most important material. Any brand will do as long as it states 300gsm/140lb, cold pressed, 100% cotton.

2. Watercolour Brushes

Watercolour brushes are short handled brushes and can be synthetic to start with. Get one 1/2" flat brush and maybe two round brushes size 4 and 8 (or similar). Later on you might like to spoil yourself with a Sable brush.

3. Watercolours

Any student grade paint will do to start with, e.g. Winsor & Newton Cotman. Please stay away from colours that are below student grade (e.g. Reeves).

Watercolours can be bought as a set or individually in tubes. The tubes seem tiny but don't be fooled, they last for a very long time.

Absolute minimum:

- Cobalt Blue
- Aureolin Yellow (or if you cannot find that - Lemon Yellow)
- Alizarin Crimson

More expanded palette:

Try to get the following colours – if you have others bring them along too

- Aureolin Yellow (cool)
- Cadmium Yellow (warm)
- Lemon Yellow (cool)
- Alizarin Crimson (cool)
- Cadmium Red (warm)
- Sap Green (warm)
- Cobalt Blue (cool)
- Ultramarine blue (warm)
- Burnt Sienna

Don't worry if you don't have the exact colours. A prearranged set will do, too.

4. Palette

If your colours come in tubes you need a palette with wells to squeeze out the paint and larger wells for mixing. A lid is recommended since it allows you to transport your colours and reactivate them with water again and again. Alternatively an old plate will do.

5. Winsor & Newton Art Masking Fluid (optional)

Don't shake the bottle!

6. Rubber Cement Pick up (optional)

This is used to remove the Masking Fluid from your paper (available at the Takapuna Art Store). Alternatively an eraser or your finger might do the trick.

7. Old small Brush and bar of soap (optional)

The old brush and bar of soap are only important if you are using masking fluid.

8. Water Container

9. Paper Towels

10. Sponge (optional)

Either a kitchen sponge, that can be ripped apart into rough pieces, or a natural sponge (Royal Silk or Wool Sponge).

11. Pencil 2B

12. Eraser

Kneaded erasers are my favourite, since they can be shaped big and small, but any eraser will do.

13. Ruler

14. Blue or green Masking Tape (Bunnings, Mitre10)

15. Chux Magic Eraser (optional)

Impressions in Richmond will give you a 10% discount for products bought for my classes.

Let me know if you have any questions and I'm happy to help. Looking forward to hearing from you!

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