

List of Supplies

Class: Armchair Plein Air
Instructor: Tara Sweeney

Students are asked to bring the following supplies:

Getting familiar with portable materials is the idea here so that you are ready to go whether you travel close to home or far away when that's possible again. However, it works to complete the class using studio watercolor supplies.

Watercolor Paper

- Good quality watercolor paper in a size that travels well.
 - I like the Moleskine 90# cold press 5x7 horizontal sketchbook, and also loose sheets of Arches 140# cold press in the same size mounted to a board with staples.
 - Choose a size and format that suits you but make it the highest quality paper you can afford. It also works to use loose sheets if you mount to a surface, or a watercolor block.

Paints

- A box of portable, hard pan watercolors with several good-size mixing wells.
 - I'm currently using a QoR travel palette with 12 colors but use only the primaries for the most part.
 - I paint and demonstrate with a split-primary limited palette which gives me a full range of colors with minimum pigments.

Brushes

- Good quality watercolor round brush in size range 6-10.
 - The squirrel and sable or synthetic equivalents serve dual purpose: they can deliver lots of water and hold a very fine point depending on how they are loaded.
 - Use a brush you have on hand if it performs well in both these ways. For maximum portability my plein air kit always has an Aquash large round WATERBRUSH, (different than a standard watercolor brush) because sometimes locations don't have a way to set up. I never want that to be the reason I can't paint what's inspiring me.



Miscellaneous

- Rinsing containers: I use a set of three nesting ones. They are portable and the three-part system allows me to keep one portion of clear water for mixing.
- Permanent ink pen (Micron or Staedtler for example, or fountain pen).
- I use a refillable TWSBI mini with carbon black ink. But here too, choose the ink color that suits you best
- Good quality drawing pencil in the 2B to 6B range and a sharpener
- Kneaded eraser
- Paper towels or absorbent chamois or small household sponge
- Small water bottle with fine sprayer and additional water for rinsing containers
- Rubber band to close the sketchbook and hold page down in the wind
- Pouch to hold gear

Supplies can be purchased online or in-store from [Wet Paint Art](#).

