

Beginning Pastels
Instructor: Shela Reilley

Supply List- the bare minimum

*It is OK to bring minimal supplies to the first class and then buy pastels and supplies after the first class. If you are doing this, bring paper and pencil and reference to work out some preliminary sketches.

1. Pastel Sticks

Pastels can be expensive, but they last a long time and don't dry out like other painting mediums. Buy the largest set of pastels you can (try to get at least a set of 36). A mix of hard and soft pastels is best (see suggestions at bottom of page). If you can only get one set, get Rembrandt. Half-stick sets are fine. Or buy individual colors (get a light, medium and dark value in each color you pick). Do not bring oil pastels or craypas. You could expect to start out with a small set of pastels and then add individual sticks as you find more colors you want and don't have in your set.

2. Paper

I recommend working small (8 x 10, 9 x 12, or smaller) but you can work in any size you like. You may want to buy only one or two sheets for the first class and then see if you like the paper. I will be using a sanded paper like Art Spectrum, UART or Wallis brand. You can purchase this paper at Guiry's on Colorado Blvd., just south of Evans in Denver, or on-line. I recommend this paper even though it is more expensive because it is easier to work on and can be wash off and reused if needed. If you don't want to use this paper, and have a favorite pastel paper, bring it. A medium-value (not white or black) paper is the easiest to work with. Pastel paper is not smooth and needs to have some "tooth" to it so that it will hold the pastels. You may want to buy only one or two small sheets (8 x 10) and then see if you like the paper before purchasing a large pad.

3. Paper Plate or Tray

Used to hold pastels that you are painting with

4. Pencil or pen and a small sketchbook or a few sheets of white paper (can be copy paper). If you have supplies that you use to do quick sketches, bring what you like to use. Used to draw thumbnail sketches

5. Backing Board/ Support to put paper on

Can be a piece of foamcore, masonite, plywood panel, cardboard, etc. Needs to be larger than the paper you will be working on.

6. Clips (or clothespins) or tape

Used to attach paper to backing board.

7. Newspaper – to cover table.

Optional Items:

***you can attend the class without these items and then decide if you want to purchase any of them later.**

1. Tabletop Easel or Floor Easel- It is easier to work on pastels vertically

2. Photographic Reference- I will bring extra landscape photos so if you don't have any, you can use mine.

3. Latex gloves or Magic Glove lotion

4. Workable Fixative Spray (Needs to be workable. I use Krylon brand)-not needed for the first class

5. Old, cheap brush with stiff bristles

6. Wet Wipes- a fast cleanup for messy fingers

7. Scissors

8. Odorless Turpenoid- not needed for the first class

9. Container to put Turpenoid in- can be a cleaned out food can or glass food jar- not needed for the first class

Suppliers:

On-line Art Supply Stores:

Jerry's Artarama and Dick Blick.

Local Stores that Carry Pastel Supplies:

Hobby Lobby- carries some pastel sets and toned light-weight pastel papers

Guiry's and Meininger's- carries a larger selection of pastel sets plus individual sticks of pastels and pastel papers including Art Spectrum Colourfix paper

Pastel Brands That I Use:

Hard density:

Nupastels by Prismacolor, Rembrandt

Medium-Soft to Extra-Soft density:

Unison, Schmincke, Sennelier, Terry Ludwig

Paper I use:

Art Spectrum – Colorfix paper

UART – ordered online from Dakota Art

Wallis