

# Watercolor

**Instructor: Karen Eskesen**

If you are a beginner, be sure you are buying watercolors, not gouache or “designers’ colors”. The tubes can be confusing. Read the label. Anything called “hue” is an imitation. For instance, “Cadmium Red Hue” – this is an imitation of Cadmium Red and might be an unreliable, fading color. Check the manufacturer’s color charts to be sure that the “hue” is a permanent color.

A small tube of artist’s or professional, quality paint is actually more economical than student quality, because it has more pigment, and goes further. Recognized brands include Winsor & Newton (not Cotman, it is a student quality), Holbein, Daler-Rowney, Da Vinci, MaimeriBlu, Rembrandt, Sennelier, Cheap Joe’s American Journey.

One tube of each:

Cadmium Yellow Lemon Cadmium Yellow (Medium)

Cadmium Red Permanent Rose (quinacridone)

Permanent Alizarin Crimson Ultramarine Blue

Manganese or Cerulean Blue (but not Grumbacher’s Cerulean)

Viridian Green

Please leave earth colors at home if you have them, because we mix beautiful browns and grays from primary colors.

A folding plastic or enameled metal palette with at least 22 little “wells” or a large plastic palette with wells. In an emergency, a white plastic plate works. One or two water jar. One flat or round watercolor brush, not smaller than size 6, up to 2” wide. The best brushes are Kolinsky sable, but very expensive. Loew Cornell 7020 Series, size 8, is an excellent, inexpensive brush with man-made fibers. Cotton washcloth (cloth diapers work too.)

140 lb. **Archer brand** paper. It is cheaper by the sheet. You can divide a full sheet into halves or quarters. Cheaper papers are very hard to paint on.

Drawing paper

#2 pencil (a regular pencil)

Eraser

Pencil sharpener