

## Materials used in our School

Every artist has their favorite brushes, paper, and paints. I encourage you to research and experiment until you find what works best for you. Over time, I have developed a list of preferred materials, and hope this will serve as a guide as you acquire what works best for you.

I am an affiliate of both [Blick art Materials](#) and [Rosemary & Co.](#) and receive a small commission when you click any of these links. Thank you!



Scroll lower to learn about:

- Paints
- Brushes
- Paper
- Additional materials
- Recommended links to purchase materials

## Prints

Would you like to make prints of your paintings? I use [iPrintfromhome](#) to create high-quality giclee prints from your own digital files. My favorite paper is Somerset Velvet. When you create an account at [iPrintfromHome.com](#), I'd love it if you would enter my name, Rebecca Rhodes, in the "Referred by" entry box. Thank you!

---

## Materials Used in our Tutorials

Feel free to use your favorite brushes, paper, colors.

### Paints

If you don't have these colors, it's ok. Feel free to use your favorite colors!

In these tutorials, we use [Winsor & Newton Professional Watercolor Paints](#). The small, 5 ml tubes, last a long time. Feel free to use tubes, pans, or anything that you prefer.

**Colors used Most Often in our Tutorials** (click the links below to learn more)

- [French Ultramarine Blue](#)
- [Burnt Umber](#) or [Burnt Sienna](#)
- [Yellow Ochre](#)
- [Winsor Lemon](#)
- [Permanent Rose](#)

It's amazing what you can create with five colors!

- French Ultramarine Blue with Burnt Umber or Burnt Sienna creates all kinds of grays, blacks, and browns.
- Permanent Rose with a Yellow Ochre or Winsor Lemon creates pinks, reds, oranges
- Yellows layered with browns opens up a whole new library of golds, browns, tans

**To create white whiskers and white fur, I prefer either of these products:**

- [Dr. Ph. Martins' Bleed Proof White](#)
- [Permanent White Gouache](#)

## Additional Colors

Used in some courses - it is not necessary to purchase all of these colors.

- [Lamp Black](#)
- [Winsor Blue](#) (Green Shade)
- [Scarlet Lake](#) - a warm red
- [Payne's Gray](#)
- [Cobalt Blue](#)
- [Cerulean Blue](#)
- [Indian Yellow](#)
- [New Gamboge](#)
- [Permanent Sap Green](#)
- [Vandyke Brown](#)

---

## Brushes

If you don't have these brushes, it's ok. Feel free to use your favorite brushes! I use a small brush for creating fur and details and a medium-to large brush for covering larger areas.

### **SMALL BRUSH:** Pointed Round Brush

A pointed round brush has a narrow, pointed tip for creating details and thin, fine hairs. These two brushes are used in our school. Either brush will work well for creating fur and details. They are both sturdy enough to create fur and retain a nice, fine point.

- [Michael Klein Synthetic Pointed Round Brush, size 2, by Rosemary & Co.](#)
- [Raphael Golden Kaerell Synthetic Pointed Round Brush, size 0](#)



### **MEDIUM TO LARGE BRUSH**

Used to cover larger areas; Any round watercolor brush will be fine. You will see these brushes in our recent tutorials:

- [Princeton Velvetouch Long Round #6](#) - brush head is about 3/4-inch (2 cm)
- [Princeton Velvetouch Long Round #14](#) - brush head is about 1/5 inch (3.8 cm)

## CREATING FUR QUICKLY

You might see these brushes in recent tutorials - not required, but used to create fur quickly.

- Comber Brush: [Series 2230 Spiky Comber Golden Synthetic Brush \(1/2 inch\)](#)
- Filbert Grainer: [Princeton Select Filbert Grainer 1/2"](#)



## Additional Brushes Used by Members

Many members use the brushes listed above but others have their favorites, listed below. I've used all of these, and some are seen in older tutorials. I encourage you to experiment until you find a brush that best fits your needs:

- [Princeton Neptune Oval Wash #1](#)
- [Princeton Neptune Quill #6](#)
- [Lowe-Cornell Ultra Round Brush](#), size 2 or 4
- [Princeton Velvetouch Long Round Brush](#), series 3950 size 2, 4, or 6
- [Silver Black Velvet round brush](#), size 2
- [Billy Showell Synthetic Pointed Round brush](#), size 2 or 4

---

**Paper** We use [Arches Natural White 140 lb. watercolor paper](#) for our tutorials, mostly Cold Press.

You can purchase the paper in blocks, single large sheets that you can cut to size, and sometimes in packs of sheets.

### Preparing Watercolor Paper for Painting

This step is optional, and helps to keep the watercolor paper from wrinkling, buckling. Before transferring the drawing to the watercolor paper, I soak the watercolor paper for 3 to 6 minutes in water, staple the edges of the paper to [Gatorfoam Board](#), and allow to dry completely, usually overnight.



[Gatorfoam](#) is a lightweight, rigid display board that has a dense, firm core and a water-resistant surface. I use the 1/2 inch thickness. The board comes in different sizes. I have the 16" x 23" - my paintings are usually no larger than this.

## Additional Materials

**Tracing Paper:** I use [Canson Artist Series Tracing Paper Pads](#) to create my initial drawing.

**Transfer Paper:** To transfer the drawing to the watercolor paper, I use [graphite paper](#) or [Saral Wax Free Transfer Paper](#).

**Sturdy Container for Water:** I use a large plastic container so the water does not have to be changed often.

**Paper Towels, cloth Towels:** For cleaning brushes, blotting, and cleaning up

**Palette:** This hinged plastic palette contains 18 wells. Brand: Mijello Fusion Airtight Watercolor Palette. Any hard surface that repels water, such as a plate, will work just as well.



### My set up looks like this.

Plastic container for water, brushes on the folded hand towel, paper towels nearby for blotting and cleaning up. I'm right handed, so these items are on the right, and my computer screen to view the reference photo is on the left.

I hope this information is helpful to you as you choose materials that work best for your needs.



## Where to Purchase Supplies

Not sure where to purchase painting supplies? Here is a list of resources, thanks to the members of our School!  
Email Rebecca Rhodes at [admin@rebeccarhodesart.com](mailto:admin@rebeccarhodesart.com) with your additional suggestions and thank you!

### United States

- Dick Blick <https://www.dickblick.com/>
- Artist & Craftsman Supply <https://www.artistcraftsman.com>
- Journey Art Stuff (formerly Cheap Joe's) <https://journeyartstuff.com/>
- Ellen Hutson Paper Craft Essentials & More: <https://www.ellenhutson.com/>
- Jackson's Art Supplies (U.S. and U.K.) <https://www.jacksonsart.com/>
- Jerry's Artarama <https://www.jerrysartarama.com>
- Princeton Artist Brush Co. <https://www.princetonbrush.com/>
- Sam Flax, Orlando, Florida <https://www.samflaxorlando.com/>
- Scrapbook <https://www.scrapbook.com>
- [St. Louis Art Supply](#)
- [Wind River Arts](#)

### United Kingdom

- Cass Art <https://www.cassart.co.uk/>
- Jackson's Art Supplies (U.S. and U.K.) <https://www.jacksonsart.com/>
- Ken Bromley Art Supplies <https://www.artsupplies.co.uk>
- Rosemary & Co. Brushes <https://www.rosemaryandco.com/>

### Australia

- Art Shed Online <https://www.artshedonline.com.au/>
- Eckersleys Art and Craft <https://www.eckersleys.com.au/>
- Micador <https://www.micador.com.au/>
- Sydney Art Store <https://www.thesydneyartstore.com.au/>
- The Art Scene <https://www.artscene.com.au/>
- Senior Art: <https://seniorart.com.au/>

### Canada

DeSerres: <https://www.deserres.ca/>

Delta Art & Drafting Supplies: <https://www.deltaart.ca/>

### Additional....

- Amazon.com <https://www.amazon.com>
- Hobby Lobby <https://www.hobbylobby.com>
- Michaels Arts and Crafts <https://www.michaels.com>

This page was updated in 2026.

If you have any questions or suggestions, contact me, Rebecca Rhodes at [admin@rebeccarhodesart.com](mailto:admin@rebeccarhodesart.com). Thank you!