

“Watercolor Breakthroughs”

Watercolor workshop with Stephen Blackburn

Here's a suggested material list:

Paper

I use a number of different surfaces for my paintings – mostly 300# weight paper. Any paper that can take frisket (masking solution) will be fine – I use Arches or Twinrocker cold press and hot press papers. Some of the softer papers like Lana or Winsor Newton may not work with the frisket – if you have a different paper or board make sure frisket works on it. I have also used Crescent Hot Press Watercolor Board, but I no longer recommend that for workshops, because it sometimes buckles and wrinkles with all the water we use.

You should also bring some small pieces of watercolor paper for practice and color studies.

Materials for Pouring

Windex spray bottle or equal (Important!)

Containers to pour the paint from with lids (Baby food jars, tupperware, etc.)

Plenty of paper towels, kleenex

Old brushes

Frisket – Pebeo brand is best. Winsor and Newton Yellow is great also. The white frisket will not work as well (since it's hard to see it).

Brushes

1" Flat

3/4" Flat

#10 Round

#6 Round

Paint

I use many different brands - Winsor & Newton professional grade, Holbein, Daniel Smith, etc., but any transparent watercolors will be fine.

Suggested colors:

Permanent Rose *

Cobalt Blue *

Cadmium Orange, Red Orange or Scarlet

Cerulean Blue

French Ultramarine

Alizarin Crimson or Quinacridone Rose
Aureolin *
Hansa Yellow or Winsor Yellow
Cadmium Red or Winsor Red
Winsor Blue (Green Shade) or Pthalo Blue *
Pthalo Green (or Winsor Green)
Hookers Green (Holbein) *
Viridian
Permanent Magenta *
Ultramarine Violet *

Note: We won't be using all of these colors – it's hard to guess what colors your painting will call for. That's part of the fun! But . . . the paint colors with an asterisk are the ones I use the most (usually that means they are the most transparent).

Additional Materials

Drawing Board
Masking Tape
Large Palette or Mixing tray
(2) Large water containers
Large sponges
Paper towels
Sketch pad
Notebook
HB Pencils (Be ready to do some drawing!)
Photographs of close-up subjects in analogous colors (Important!)
“Incredible Nib” or other device to move frisket around