

## Plein-air painting materials list

Dear students! For plein-air classes please dress weather appropriately and don't bring too many heavy things with you. Be prepared to walk and stand for some time period. Note: in case of rainy/windy/cold weather we'll work inside at the Arlington Senior center.

### Possible plein-air locations:

- Robbins Town Gardens (park between the Town Hall and Robbins library). That will be our first class. We'll meet at the Arlington Senior center and will go to the garden to paint. In case of bad weather we'll paint indoors.
- Spy Pond park, between Linwood Circle and Pond Lane.
- Robbins Farm Park and area around the water tower.

### What you'll need:

- **Portable easel** (field easel, tripod telescopic easel). Traditional "French easels" are the best for plein-air painting, but they are very expensive and heavy. I recommend a lightweight field easel that may be converted to tabletop ones. You won't necessarily need an easel and can work just on a board on your lap (or on a picnic table if there will be one). Some easels have hooks to hang cup holder or other useful things.



- **Painting surfaces:** Canvases/panels/paper. Recommended size: approx. 11x14" or 12x16".
- **Board** if you use paper or prefer working without an easel.
- **Acrylic paints** in small tubes. Colors that you may need:
  - Titanium/Zinc White
  - Burnt Sienna
  - Raw Sienna
  - Quinacridone Red
  - Cadmium Red Light
  - Yellow Ochre
  - Cadmium Yellow Deep
  - Lemon Yellow Pale
  - Viridian
  - Sap green
  - Cobalt or Cerulean Blue
  - Ultramarine Blue
  - Phthalo blue
  - Burned umber

Acrylic paints may be thick (heavy-body) or more runny (fluid). For plein-air painting it's better to use more fluid ones

You can use tempera or gouache paints instead of acrylics, if you want to, but this class is mostly focused on acrylic painting.

- **Optional: Retarder** (used to slow the drying time of [acrylic paints](#))
  - **Brushes:** round #2, filbert 4 and 8, flat #4, 6 and 8. Preferably long handles.
  - **Large palette.** The palette may be with lid, or you'll need a large ziplock to cover it.
- Examples:



- **Medium-sized palette knife.**
- **Paper towels and wipes, small pack**
- **Bottle of water.**
- **Water cup or jar** with lid, preferably plastic, for rinsing brushes.
- **Folder/carrier for painting.**
- **Small sketchbook**
- **Any sketching material:** charcoal, pencils, crayons, pens.
- **Optional: Tape** if you use paper
- **Optional: Small water sprayer** to keep the acrylic paints moist
- **Viewfinder** (Composition finder)
- **Anything that will make you sit comfortable** (like chair cushion)

**Optional:** There are additional things that make plein-air painting more comfortable, but they will increase the amount (and the cost) of supplies:

- Tripod easel shelf. Some people just attach a small basket to the easel.
- Belt strap brush holder. An apron with large pockets may also help.
- Brush washer, which is basically a small bucket with or without lid
- Large clip to hold rags, wipes and other useful things when you paint.
- Folding chair/stool or anything you prefer to sit on (blanket, chair cushion?)

#### **Where to buy:**

- Blick Art Materials:
  - Boston Landmark Center: 401 Park Drive, Landmark Center – Fenway, Boston
  - Boston Mass Ave 333 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston
  - Cambridge 619 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge
- Michael's : Porter Square shopping center, 37 White St, Cambridge, MA 02140
- Play Time: 283 Broadway, Arlington, MA 02474.
- Jerry's Artarama: [www.jerrysartarama.com](http://www.jerrysartarama.com)
- Amazon .

Looking forward to seeing you at our plein-air sessions! If you have any questions regarding the materials and the classes, please contact me at [anastasia.semash@gmail.com](mailto:anastasia.semash@gmail.com)