

Material list for FCA watercolour workshop Dec 6th and 7th Dec '25

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Paper: The best quality **140lb 100% COTTON COLD PRESSED** paper you can afford or are comfortable buying. Personally I prefer a rougher texture as its better for granulation and texture. Arches, Baohong, Saunders etc etc.

We will be painting our final paintings (2 paintings) at approx. 11 x 14 inches

Also bring some cheaper paper for doing test/practice runs etc, as long as it is still 140lb watercolour paper.

Masking tape: 1 inch general purpose scotch tape or similar brand. We will take individual sheets and tape all edges to the board, this helps to keep the paper flatter.

Painting board: a solid lightweight flat surface that is big enough to tape your paper to. This should be larger than your paper but not so large that you cannot easily pick it up and tilt side to side, and turn upside down etc to let water and paint flow.

Riser: A thick book or block of wood approx. 2 inches thick (approx.) to rest your painting board at a slight angle. Basically anything to allow your board to be at an angle.

Watercolour Palette: This can be plastic and inexpensive but does need to be large enough to have good mixing areas and enough wells for paint to be put into. Approx. 12 wells. Ideally this would have a lid on it so you can set up your paints in the wells in advance and they will stay happily in there with the lid on, dried paint is easily rewetted.

Water bucket/tubs etc:

Paper towel: I prefer Bounty as it is stronger and more absorbent, but bring whatever you like. Bring a healthy amount of sheets.

Pencil: any pencil will be fine.

Water Spritzer Bottle: this is very important for activating your paint, rewetting your painting and assisting in painting.

Brushes: Personally I like to use a pointed mop brush made from squirrel hair for a lot of my painting, something like a size 12. I do have some extra ones I can lend out for the workshop if need be.

A good all round pointed round is always useful, I have taken photos of a medium sized pointed round brush, number sizes change from maker to maker, plus all my numbers are worn off lol. Thats why I included the ruler for comparison. You can buy pure animal hair, synthetic or a blend depending on your budget. If you can get a similar size pointed mop brush that would be great as well, either squirrel or semi synthetic.

A smaller pointed brush like a size 6 or 8 will be good for detail, and a rigger brush always comes in handy.





Paint: Most important after good paper, you won't need expensive artist professional quality, student quality will be fine. Tubes are better as they can be pre-squeezed in larger amounts in your palette making lessons and painting so much easier.

Holbein watercolour paints are excellent and cheaper than Daniel Smith.

Windsor and Newton Cotman student range are perfectly acceptable.

Please try to avoid the super cheap Chinese kits as these are really inferior and have very little actual pigment in.

Try and bring at least these colours (or as many as possible): These colours will be beneficial to you always. If you have more then bring them all.

Paynes Grey (I prefer Winsor and Newton as it has more blue in it)

Ultramarine blue Cobalt Blue Cerulean Blue

Alizarin Crimson Cadmium Red Opera Pink (not essential)

Lemon Yellow Cadmium Yellow Hansa yellow deep (I prefer New
Gamboge)

Yellow Ochre Burnt Sienna Burnt Umber

Chinese white (this is semi-transparent as opposed to white Gouache which is opaque and not watercolour)

If you have more colours then bring them all.

I use Daniel Smith professional paints, but there are many other brands that are good. Winsor and Newton Cotman are student grade and acceptable.

White gouache, permanent white or titanium white.