

Watercolor Batik on Mulberry Paper Supply List

Deb Schwalm – debschwalm.com

The ancient craft of batik (application of wax and dyes to fabric) is elevated to a unique contemporary art form. A basic knowledge of art theory and watercolors (value, hue, saturation, composition, paint mixing, watercolor supplies, etc.) is helpful before embracing watercolor batik.

Watercolor Batik Process: Hot wax is used as a resist on paper or (in my case) mulberry paper. Using watercolors, a light to dark paint technique is used to layer color. The hot wax reserves the areas already painted so that additional layers of watercolors can be added. This process takes preparation, patience and practice. With this method, there will be permanent ink lines, unintentional wax drips, wax splatters, spreading watercolor. The residual wax (after wax is ironed out) in the artwork acts a preservative.

Supplies/Materials

- Watercolors (Professional and high transparency)
 - Winsor & Newton, Daniel Smith – professional grade and highest transparency. (Art stores or Amazon)
 - Gouache white paint for small highlights and touchups
- Watercolor Brushes
 - whatever is used for regular watercolor – expensive brushes are not necessary
 - NOTE: Use regular watercolor brushes as many sizes as you wish. Minimum: a small round, medium round, 1 inch flat, 1.5 inch flat
- Brushes dedicated for wax
 - Inexpensive or old brushes in four sizes, very small round, small round, larger round and big flat brush.
- Two water containers
- Rice paper
 - (art stores, Amazon and <https://www.mulberrypaperandmore.com>)
- Tracing paper, pencil, eraser (OPTIONAL)
- Vellum paper (OPTIONAL)
 - creating a reusable pattern
- Wax pot or small electric fry pan (with temp control)
 - (Walmart or Amazon)
- Computer with Photoshop (OPTIONAL)
 - used for editing and displaying images
- Color Printer and/or Ipad (OPTIONAL)
 - used for editing and displaying images
- Waterproof pens

- Micron Pigma Pens - size .05 brown or black (Art stores or Amazon)
- Scrap rice paper to test paint colors
- Containers/dishes for mixing paint
- Paper towels
- Old towels
- Freezer paper
 - Covering work surfaces
- Wax Paper
 - Protection from wax sticking
- Black construction paper/ thin black display cardboard
 - Used for help in seeing completed waxed areas
- Gatorboard or Masonite board
 - Mounting artwork
- Painting tape
- Paraffin wax – GULF WAX
 - (Walmart or Amazon)
- Hair Dryer
- Ironing Board
- Iron w/High Cotton setting dedicated to Batik
- Light Board (OPTIONAL)
- Newspapers or Newsprint for removing wax
 - (Newsprint on Amazon)
- Pastel Pencils for touch ups
 - (Art stores or Amazon)