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Equipment list and buying resource

If you don't have good quality materials you will always be disappointed in your work.

Be careful: Everything sold as watercolour materials is not.

Good pigments react with good paper to create the "watercolour artefact" that makes it so appealing.

Unless you have materials already please don't rush out and buy the first thing you see. Read this first:)

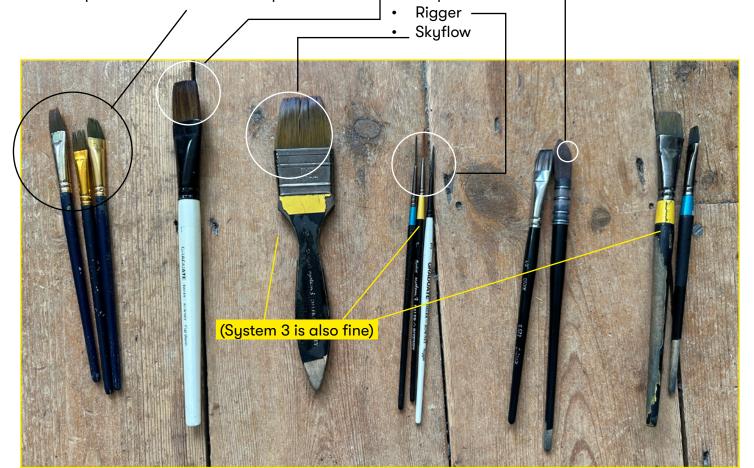
Brushes

Brushes are the exception. You can get away with very cheap brushes to start with. You will need brushes with fine hair and good spring. I recommend fine nylon brushes. You can buy a large set from The Works. I use a lot of brushes and I keep a case full of these cheap ones.

As you improve you may wish to "choose your weapon" I have an am pleased with Daley Rowner "Graduate" series available from Hobbycraft

In addition I own and would recommend one of each of these:

Mop



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Paints

Paints are hugely variable and I know of many students presenting with frankly kid's quality paints with the words "watercolour" on the label. BEWARE.

DO NOT BUY A CHEAP SET OF PIGMENTS - You will just never feel like you are making nice work.

Top affordable brands

- **Sennelier** tubes are about the best value for money and also have rich flowing colour.
- White knight or St Petersberg whole pan, tube. Excellent colours not too pricey
- Others brands: Getting pricey now: You do get what you pay for I find.
 - Daniel Smith
 - Windsor and Newton <u>PROFESSIONAL</u> (DO NOT BUY COTMAN)

Best Economy

If you are intending to do a lot of work get a mixing palette and squish tubes into the holding bays. The paint goes hard and is readily available when you need it.

These mixing palettes cost £3-£4.

Boxes of paints are more expensive.





Please note that other brands and suppliers are available - I can only suggest brands I use personally and can endorse.

The only way to know if products are

good for you is to use them yourself.

Happy hunting

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Paper

Choose 140lb (300gsm) cotton based or 100% cotton paper.

You can get a beginner watercolour pad which is in my opinion best quality at lowest price. The brand - "The Langton" from D R are around £13 –£14 for 11 x 15" in a glued block (most convenient in use). Available from Hobbycraft. It is also available in whole imperial sheets (30" x 22").

If you can afford it:

Or as you improve, I suggest choosing a paper you can get to know so you build a confidence in your materials. My absolute five-star recommendation is <u>Saunders Waterford from St</u> Cuthbert Mill.

It is such an excellent material, able to hold really heavy washes and allowing perfect blending, yet also providing a perfect surface for dry brush effects.

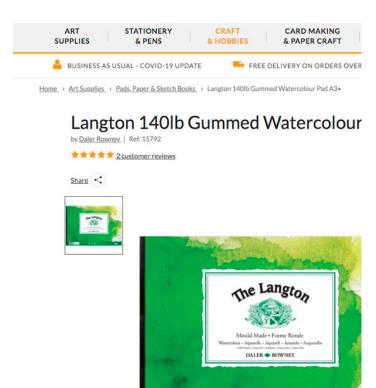
For the really high flyers, treet yourself to a sheet of Arches (pronounced arsh). Ouch pricey but divine.

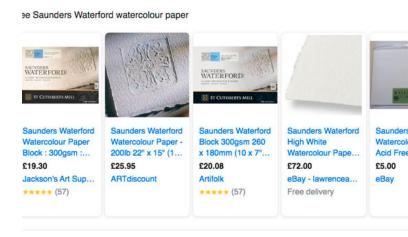
Sketchbook!

An essential part of being a painter - going out and painting!

Get yourself a WATERCOLOUR PAPER Sketchbook like the Moleskine. Very lovely. So convenient.













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Trusted Suppliers:

Amazon - if you know what you want and can step over the crap.

Hobbycraft - walk into store. Feel what you are buying

Jacksons: They have everything - Just fill your basket and get a mortgage.

Buying resource

Brushes

Cheap: https://www.theworks.co.uk/p/paint-brushes/crawford-and-black-wash-brush-set-pack-of-3/5052089333864.html

https://www.theworks.co.uk/p/paint-brushes/crawford-and-black-premium-soft-grip-brush-set-pack-of-10/5052089347205.html

Mid: https://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/ shore-marsh-brush-set-and-case-15pack/6678761000.html

Individual: https://www.hobbycraft. co.uk/daler-rowney-aquafine-brushesrigger-2/6021091000.html

https://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/daler-rowneyaquafine-brushes-short-flat-3-4/6021271000. html

https://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/daler-rowney-aquafine-brushes-skyflow-2/6021071000. html

Paper

Hobbycraft: Mind out for the rubbish! They stock Daley Rowner "the Langton" in pads and sheets and its available on the High Street.

Saunders waterford: https://www.jacksonsart.com/saunders-waterford-cut-watercolour-paper-packs

Paint: https://www.jacksonsart.com/colour/watercolour/paint/brand/sennelier

I would avoid curated Sets, as your choice of colours is dictated.

Ask Nic for a 4 hour starter session where we cover materials, colour mixing and techniqques. Ideal for a group, your place or mine.

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