Margie Samuels

*Artist and Instructor*

17 Boxwood Drive, West Caldwell, NJ 07006

973.403.9374

website: [www.margiesamuelswatercolor.com](http://www.margiesamuelswatercolor.com)

email: [margieswatercolor@me.com](mailto:margieswatercolor@me.com)

Watercolor

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Materials List

I have listed below materials that you will need for this watercolor class. Some of these things you will have to purchase in an art supply store; others are common things you have around the house. For those of you who have painted before, by all means, USE WHAT YOU HAVE---even if you have another brand or color from what I specified. I recognize that art supplies can be expensive; however, if you have questions about whether or not you should replace an item, email me.

The art store items on my list are available at Cheap Joe’s (1-800-227-2788, or [www.cheapjoes.com](http://www.cheapjoes.com)), and I have included the Cheap Joe’s item number next to most of these things. Cheap Joe’s also has a copy of this Materials List, and they can help you

with the purchase of any items you need. However, you are free to shop in any art supply store that you wish.

Even if you have painted with me before, review this Materials List carefully because I do make some changes to it each year. **Make sure you look over the paint colors.** I have Required colors that you should have on your palettes; you will need these colors to complete the painting projects that I have planned for you. There are Optional colors that I call “would be nice to have…” colors; you needn’t have these for a successful painting but, they might be a nice extra when you are ready to invest in your art. Lastly, I have added Wish List colors. Basically, these are the extra colors that you buy when you get a birthday gift certificate for an art supply store. **You only need the required colors to have successful and beautiful paintings this year.**

In addition to the regular watercolor paper that we’ll be using for most of our paintings this year, I will be bringing some other painting opportunities to the classes. In those cases, I will purchase the paper or canvass for the group and then offer the paper at a per piece cost to each student.

If you follow the **bold face** **items** below on the left, you will have your shopping list. A description of the items follows, including the recommended brand.

**ART STORE MATERIALS:**

**Cheap Joe’s Beechwood Easel Stand ( CJ15207) (Optional):**

This is a new item and I am not requiring it…in fact, I only just purchased it myself. However, it is a sturdy table easel which is big enough to hold a ½ sheet of watercolor paper. You can change the angle that you paint on from completely flat to almost 90 degrees. Since I like to mix color on the paper, I am very happy to incorporate this stand into my regular painting process. The best part is that this easel stand is very strong and sturdy and yet reasonably priced ($30.00). But you should be aware that it is big and it can be a little heavy to carry around. This might be something you use on your home painting desk. If you’re not sure, check mine out and you can see whether or not you might enjoy something like this, too.

**Watercolor Palette.**

You will need a palette to store and display your paints. I prefer a plastic one with deep wells, a wide mixing space and a lid. The brand I like and use is John Pike; they now make two different versions, both the same overall size, but now with two choices of well sizes. Either of these palettes is fine. (The regular palette is item #340 and the one with the wider wells is #340BW). Whatever palette you choose, be sure that you have lots of mixing space available to you.

**Watercolor Paints.**

Every year I have a few students who come in with student-grade paints. I hear things like, “But they were so cheap!”, or “I already had them and I just want to finish them up.” Honestly, don’t buy them and if you have them, toss them out. They aren’t worth the money and there is nothing you can do to make your colors look vibrant and luscious with student grade paints. A student grade paint has less pigment in the mixture and more filler. The brands to avoid are Cotman and Grumbacher and anything that is $2.99 for a whole tube of paint. You can’t get good clean colors with inferior paints. Likewise, don’t buy pan paints; they are hard to mix with. Use only professional-grade tube paints; any of the major brands are fine, including American Journey (the brand made for Cheap Joe’s). If you paint a lot, buy the 37 ml. tubes; if not, buy 14 or 15 ml tubes. Some brands, like Winsor & Newton, even have very small 5 ml tubes. Either way, you will have more than enough paint for this year’s watercolor classes.

I am listing required paint colors first, followed by the optional paint colors. Lastly, I am giving you my selections for “wish list” colors, those special colors that are

exciting to use occasionally. You do not need to purchase anything more than the required colors to have successful paintings this year. If you have questions about some of the colors, or if you can “swap” one of these colors for something you already have, just ask me. I choose these required color list carefully because I want you to have certain painting experiences.

**REQUIRED COLORS:**

**Hookers Green**

**Aurelian Yellow**

**Gamboge Yellow**

**Raw Sienna**

**Burnt Sienna**

**Ultramarine Blue**

**Cobalt Blue**

**Cerulean Blue**

**Alizarin Crimson**

**Scarlet Lake**

**Permanent Rose or Rose Madder Genuine**

**Sepia**

**OPTIONAL COLORS:**

**Winsor Orange (or Halloween Orange)**

**Naples Yellow**

**Payne’s Grey**

**Phthalo Green**

**Phthalo Blue**

**Quinacridone Gold**

**Royal Amethyst (American Journey) or Ultramarine Violet**

**WISH LIST COLORS:**

1. Coastal Fog (American Journey)
2. Shadow Green (Holbein) or Perylene Green (Winsor Newton)
3. Prussian Blue
4. Cobalt Turquoise Light (Winsor Newton)
5. Periwinkle (American Journey)
6. Brown Madder
7. Indian Red (only the one made by American Journey is transparent)
8. Rose Dore (Winsor Newton)
9. Caput Mortem Violet (Winsor Newton)

**Watercolor Brushes.**

Watercolor brushes may be made of natural hair, like sable, or synthetic hair, like nylon. Both types of brushes are fine, though the synthetic brushes are more reasonably priced. Make sure that the weight and size of the brush feels good in your hand. Test the bristles to see if they are springy.

For this class, you need only a few brushes: two round brushes (a small one and a medium sized one), a narrow rigger brush, a one-inch flat brush and a wide, two-inch flat brush, like a hake. Make sure that the round brushes each keep a sharp point. The flat brush should have a good chiseled edge. I recommend the Golden Fleece line from Cheap Joe’s for both the round and rigger brushes. For the flat brushes, I like the Winsor & Newton Sceptre Gold II brushes; although, if your budget doesn’t allow for the Sceptre brushes, you can substitute Golden Fleece flat brushes. The Optional brushes listed include a larger round brush and some well-chiseled small acrylic flats.

**REQUIRED BRUSHES:**

**Round Brushes-----sizes 3 and 8 (Golden Fleece)** (#CJGF-3 and 8)

**Rigger Brush--------size 1 (Golden Fleece)** (#CJGFR-1)

**Flat Brush------------size 1 inch (Winsor & Newton Sceptre Gold II)** (#WB606-1)

**Hake Brush----------sizes L or XL (Ron Ronson Hake)**  (#RRH-LG or RRH-XLG)

**OPTIONAL BRUSHES:**

**Round Brush--------Size 12 (Golden Fleece)** (#CJGF-12)

**Acrylic Flats---------sizes 2 and 4 (Cheap Joe’s White Synthetics)** (#CJSLF-2 and CJSLF-4)

**Watercolor Paper.**

I recommend either Arches or Fabriano Artistico cold-press 140-pound paper. A full sheet is 30 inches by 22 inches. You will need three to four sheets per semester. (Also, we will be working on other types of papers from time to time.) Cheap Joe’s sells both brands of paper. The Arches paper comes in groups of 5, 10, 25 or 100 sheets; the Fabriano comes in 10, 50 or 100 sheet groups. Either the bright white or the natural color is fine. (The item numbers for 5 or 10 sheets of the Arches watercolor paper is A140CP-5 or A140CP-10. The item numbers for 10 sheets of the Fabriano Artistico paper is FAT140(CP)-10.)

**Notebook/Sketchbook.**

You will need a small (8 by 11 inch, or so) notebook for both taking notes and practicing painting. Any inexpensive intermediate-grade pad is fine, such as the ones made by Cotman or Strathmore for watermedium (#SM44010).

**Palette Knife.**

We will be using a palette knife for both putting paint on the paper as well as scraping paint off. Therefore, you need a knife with a strong but flexible blade that is not too short. Jack Richeson makes several different palette knives that work well for watercolor painting (#JR500812 or JR500830).

**Pencil and Eraser.**

You will need a 2B pencil and an eraser. The eraser should be either a white eraser or a Pink Pearl; either of these may be used on good watercolor paper without harming the cotton fibers.

**Masking.**

We will be creating some paintings this year that will require a masking liquid. The one that I recommend is Pebeo Drawing Gum. Always buy the smallest bottle possible, since the masking liquid has about a one-year shelf life. (#PEB-1)

**Watercolor Board.**

You need a hard surface to paint on, especially when you are using very wet techniques. I like the Artmate Watercolor Board which is made of lightweight plastic and includes a handle for easy carrying. The one carried by Cheap Joe’s is about the same size as a half sheet of watercolor paper, though you can find a larger size at some other art supply stores. (#CWB2215). By the way, if you purchase the beechwood easel stand, you won’t need an additional watercolor board.

**Artists’ Tape (1-inch wide).**

This tape is NOT the same as masking tape. Artists’ tape has an acid-free adhesive that will not harm your Arches paper. Although the artists’ tape comes in many colors, buy only white (#AT-1). Note: Be careful not to buy FRAMERS’ tape.

**One Black Fine-Point Sharpie Marker** (#SA320001).

**MATERIALS FROM YOUR HOUSE.**

**Sponges.**

Bring a few clean cellulose sponges without soap in them.

**Tissues and Paper Towels.**

Bring one box of tissues (without scent or aloe) and one roll of paper towels.

**A Few Small Paper Plates.**

We’ll be using these paper plates for the acrylic paint as well as the masking.

**Water Containers.**

You should have two separate plastic water containers. I like to use the large size deli containers that you would get if you purchased two pounds of cole slaw. If you like to use wide brushes, be sure that your water containers have open mouths wide enough to accommodate your brushes.

**Spray Bottle.**

Bring a small spray bottle for water.

**Magic Erase by Mr. Clean.**

It’s hard to believe that this is now a watercolor item…..but it is. We will use the Magic Erase to take out pigments or soften an edge. You can find Magic Erase in the cleaning section of your supermarket.

**A Small Bar of Soap (unscented).**

The soap is needed for the masking to protect your brushes.

**Salt.**

Bring a small amount of salt, either kosher or iodized….or both.

**Texturing items.**

In order to enhance your paintings with interesting textures, include in your art bags items such as wax paper, plastic wrap, parts of onion bags, a doily, some cotton balls, an old credit card and a small piece of natural sponge. I will always let you know ahead of time about bringing some of these items to class.

**Toothbrush.**

You will need a clean, adult toothbrush with firm yet pliable bristles.

**Ruler.**

You might want to have a small ruler in your art tote bag.