

Watercolour Materials



Paper

I recommend an A4 or A3 pad of Daler Rowney Aquafine or other major brand such as Winsor & Newton, Seawhite or Bockingford. Don't buy cheap paper e.g. Crimson & Blake from The Works - it is truly awful for getting the best from watercolour (but fine for quick sketching which you don't plan on reworking). At the other end of the scale, Arches is the gold standard, but I have found Seawhite 350gsm very good at less than £15 for an A3 pad.

Cold-pressed: textured

Hot-pressed (also known as NOT): smooth finish (like it's been ironed...)

Weight - 300gsm or heavier

Paints

I recommend starting with a set of 'pans' (as few or many as you like). These are dried blocks of paint in small trays in a larger container, often incorporating a palette.

Brushes

If you need to buy brushes, choose the firm but flexible sable-like variety - Rennies have a selection of synthetic brushes at only a couple of quid each. Get flat brushes in a couple of sizes, as well as rounded and angled shapes. If you're not sure, bring what you have and I'll advise. You can try out any of the brushes I bring.

Other

Water containers x 2 - wide topped glass or clear plastic

Tissues or absorbent cloths

Towel or 'puppy training pad' larger than your paper

Optional

Wax candle, salt, pastels (oil or chalk), blotting paper, cotton buds, natural sponge, toothbrush.