

Danny Folkman - Supplies List

Paint:

For paints, I use [Winsor and Newton Designer's Gouache](#). Holbein is also good.

*The most important thing for paint is to *only buy paints you are comfortable wasting A LOT of!*

If that means buying student grade paints for a while, that's fine.

Below is my entire palette. Please make sure you have these colors.

- Permanent White
- Ultramarine
- Prussian Blue
- Cobalt Turquoise Light
- Alizarin Crimson
- Perylene Maroon
- Cadmium Red
- Raw Sienna
- Burnt Sienna
- Lemon Yellow
- Opera Pink
- Winsor Green

Notice black is not listed...

I'm begging you, please don't ever use black.

...don't even think about it.



Surface:

If you'd consider yourself a beginner, no need to get anything fancy here. Any watercolor paper or sketchbook that is at least 140 lbs will do. I prefer hot pressed paper, but cold pressed is just fine.

My favorite surface above all is [Crescent illustration board](#).

I'd recommend going to Blick and getting a large sheet (they sell them in 22x30") and cutting it down to whatever sizes you prefer. They're around \$10-20 a piece.

There are several different weight options, any will do for 6x8" panels and under.

*For sizes, no bigger than 6x8 or 6x9". Please bring at least 10 5x7's.

Brushes:

Gouache works best with watercolor brushes. My favorite brand is [Princeton Velvetouch watercolor brushes](#). They are red with white lettering. Here are the sizes I use:

- **3/4" flat *Must have!**
- 1" flat
- 3/8" angular shader (chisel-tip)
- 1" oval mop (**Not essential, but good to have for underpainting washes*)

You don't have to get Princeton velvetouch, but whatever brand you get, please have a 3/4" flat.

Palette:

For a palette, I use an old pencil tin.

This is also entirely up to your preference. You could use grey palette paper, a sealable palette box, a piece of grey plastic or glass. Basically as long as it's smooth and toned (not white), it's fair game.

**Using a toned palette surface will allow you to mix more accurate values. It's very hard to mix accurate lights on a white surface.*

Easel:

Since we'll be painting plein air, you will need an easel. There are two main points I'd like you to consider when buying an easel:

- 1.) Portability - the easel should be light, small and easy to setup and travel with,
- 2.) Tray or work area - please make sure your easel has some sort of tray or workspace under your canvas for you to keep your palette, towels, water, brushes, etc. Everything should be within arms reach when painting plein air!

I've linked a few nice, reasonably priced easels below that meet these requirements.

[Ireer Portable Easel with tray - \\$59, Amazon](#)
[Blick French Easel by Julian - \\$121, Blick](#) **comes with travel bag!*
[Soho Scout Pochade Box with Tripod - \\$137, Jerry's Artarama](#)

***Side note - Clamps:**

You may want to get yourself a few spring clamps. They are not required, but they will always come in handy when painting outdoors. I use them to secure my palette in the wind, or to clamp a towel to the side of the easel.

[Something like these.](#)

Again, not necessary, but it doesn't hurt to have them.

Miscellaneous:

1.) Small spray bottle. You'll need this to keep your paints from drying on your palette.
[Blick sells several variations.](#)

2.) Towel, old t-shirt, or paint rags to clean and dry your brushes.

3.) 2* small water containers. One will be dirty, the other clean. You don't have to change your water as often this way. I use two [small glass jars from Blick](#).

4.) Artist tape. 1/4" or 1/2" will do. I use this to secure my paper to a board while I paint, or to tape off the edges for a clean white edge.

5.) Small sketchbook, pencil & eraser. I always do a few thumbnail sketches to determine my composition before I draw anything on my canvas.

6.) Folder, or something to store your paper. Gouache dries almost immediately, so I just use a school folder to store my paintings and my spare paper when I'm finished.

Optional:

Rechargeable reading clamp lamp. I mainly use these for painting nocturnes plein air, but depending on the lighting in the room, you may like to have one directly on your canvas and palette for good light.

[Here is a link to a great light on Amazon, only \\$20.](#)

On the next page is a photo of everything in my kit, minus my painting surface itself. It's worth mentioning that my setup does not change whether I'm painting in the studio or plein air. Everything you see in the photo is used at home and on-location.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me!
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