

Introduction to Palette Knife Painting Workshop

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Applying thick strokes of oil colour using palette knives loosens painting style and exposes the artist to a new, fresh way of expressing themselves. This workshop explores the technique of using palette knives, colour mixing, and direct painting practice combined with tips, tricks and demos

Supplies

This workshop uses oil paints. Water based oils may be used and are slightly quicker drying compared to traditional oils, but not as quick as acrylics.

Acrylic paints may be used, but may have limitations in their quick drying time. Additional acrylic supplies are listed below. For classroom workshops, [Winsor & Newton Winton](#) oil paint brand is used.

- Cadmium yellow light
- Cadmium lemon yellow (Hansa yellow of another brand is an alternative)
- Cadmium red light
- Permanent Rose (optional)
- Permanent Alizarin Crimson
- Ultramarine blue
- Pthalo Blue (green shade)
- Burnt Sienna (Burnt Umber is an alternative)
- Titanium white (200ml tube)

Palette knives

Liquitex Freestyle is a standard brand and available in most areas for a reasonable price. Use metal palette knives, not plastic. The knife sizes listed below are trowel shaped and in small and medium sizes.

- Liquitex Freestyle # 15
- Liquitex Freestyle # 17



Additional supplies

- Large palette (Grey Matters disposable palette sheets is recommended or regular white are acceptable or a reusable acrylic palette)
- Charcoal or soft pencil (for drawing or transferring drawing to board)
- Disposable vinyl gloves
- A roll of paper towel
- Apron or old clothing
- Several sheets (9 x 12) of acrylic/oil paper or sized paper
- Two 8 x 10; 12 x 12 or 11 x 14 (or a mix) masonite panels(ghessoed), canvas panels or stretched canvases
- Wet panel carrier – these can be found at art supply stores. A flat box such as a pizza box or box lid in the appropriate size to hold paintings may be used. Alternatively,
- Sketchbook and pencil or pen for drawing and taking notes

NB: If using acrylic paints

This workshop will be taught using oil paints but acrylic paints are an option for those interested in the technique but do not own or wish to invest in oils. The unique properties of acrylics will not be covered during this workshop but advice will be provided wherever possible. If in doubt about matching oil colours provided, please contact the instructor for clarification and suggestions.

Acrylic supplies

- Water container
- Acrylic paints in the colours listed in the oil paint section or substitutions for colours. Golden Open Acrylics are recommended for their longer drying time however, a drying retarder may be used with regular acrylics. Heavy body acrylics are the best for this class, but acrylic paint thickener may be used to increase the body of the paint.

Mediums of your choice: (these are optional and will help make your painting experience in this technique easier)

- Acrylic drying retarder
- Acrylic paint thickener (Liquithick Thickening Gel)