

# Oil Paints

Quality is CRUCIAL for oil paints.

## Brands we recommend

- *Windsor and Newton (avoid “student grade”)*
- *Michael Harding*
- *Gamblin/Gamblin 1980*
- *Old Holland*

Michaels in Mattoon has a good selection of quality paints.

Each level of paint recommendation is chosen by skill level.  
Fundamental classes only use 1 and 2

Level 1: Burnt Umber Pickout

- [Burnt Umber](#)

Level 2: Burnt Umber Direct

- [Burnt Umber](#)
- [Titanium White \(Large Tube\)](#)

Level 3: Zorn Palette

- [Titanium White \(Large Tube\)](#)
- [Ivory Black](#)
- [Yellow Ochre](#)
- [Cadmium Red Light](#)

Level 4: Warm/Cool Primary

- [Titanium White \(Large Tube\)](#)
- [Cadmium Lemon](#)
- [Cad Yellow Deep](#)
- [Cad Red Light](#)
- [Permanent Rose](#)
- [Cerulean](#)
- [Ultramarine](#)
- [Ivory Black](#)

Basic Landscape Palette (Scott Christensen Palette)

- [Titanium White \(Large Tube\)](#)

- [Cadmium Red](#)
- [Ultramarine](#)
- [Cadmium Yellow Light](#)

#### Intermediate Landscape Palette

- [Titanium White \(Large Tube\)](#)
- [Cadmium Yellow Light](#)
- [Cad Orange](#)
- [Permanent Rose](#)
- [Ultramarine](#)
- [Viridian Green](#)
- [Burnt Sienna](#)

#### Brushes

We recommend Rosemary Princeton or Robert Simmons brand brushes, however the set linked below makes for a great starting point to your collection, as it has a number of bristle and sable brushes, along with a variety of sizes. You can get by with sub par brushes but it will only increase the challenge for you.

- [Casey Childs Basic Set](#)
- [Utrecht Natural Chungking Pure Bristle Brushes and Set](#)
- [Blick Masterstroke \(DickBlick.com\)](#)

#### Surface Sizes

For Fundamental class purchase Pre-Primed canvas panels. (Amazon usually has some good deals) Purchase at least 10 total.

The size with \*asterisks\* is the one I recommend you purchase them in.

- 5×7 – Great for gesture paintings
- 6×8 – Good for gesture or small portraits
- 8×10 – Good for portrait, still life, or landscape paintings
- 9×12 – Good for portrait, still life, or landscape paintings
- **\*\*11×14 – Good for portrait, still life, landscape, or figure paintings\*\***
- 12×16 – Good for portrait, still life, landscape, or figure paintings
- 16×20 – Good for figure or landscape. This size should generally be reserved for larger projects, and are not recommended for most classes.
- 18×24 – Good for figure or landscape. This size should generally be reserved for larger projects, and are not recommended for most classes.

## Surface Types

If your looking for an upgraded surface, I recommend these

- Masonite (hardboard) with gesso can be bought from Lowe's/Home Depot. Buy Gesso from any art store and a house painter's brush or black foam brush. 3 coats of thin gesso works best.
- [Centurion Canvas Oil Primed board](#)
- [Senso Acrylic Primed Linen board](#)
- [Fredrix Red Label](#)

## Solvent

- Hardware store mineral spirits
- [Gamblin Gamsol 33.8 fl oz.](#) (Higher quality more expensive mineral spirits)
- [Liquin](#)

## [Solvent Container](#)

## [Shop Towels](#)

## Palette

We recommend the Masterson sealable palette with the gray glass insert in the bottom. This will allow your paints to stay wet for a long time and provides easy transportation.

- [Masterson Sealable Palette](#)
- [Glass Insert](#)
- [Alternate, cheaper option](#) (less transportable, and will not keep your paints wet as long)

## [Clove Oil](#)

Putting a drop of this in your paint will make it stay wet for much longer, saving you hundreds of dollars over your painting career. Works great with the sealable palette.

## [Pizza Box](#)

Ask a local Pizzeria if you can buy or have an unused empty pizza box. These are great for protecting and storing wet paintings in between classes. They let the paintings dry and keep hairs and particulates from setting into the wet paint.