Friday - Wednesday, June 28 - July 3, 2024 CRAFT CLUB MEMBERS SAVE AN EXTRA 10\% OFF!


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## Ben Franklin Craftai

## OIL PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS

## SUPPLIES \& TOOLS

- Oil Paint Colors
o 200 ml White
- 37ml Burnt Umber, 2 Yellows, 2 Reds, and 2 Blues Oil Medium (Oil or Alkyd based)
Solvent (orderless)
o Gamblin's Gamsol or Mona Lisa's Odorless Paint thinner
2 Jars (preferably with a lid)
- Silicoil and a Mason Jars

Paint Brushes for Oil Paint (Natural and/or Synthetic)

- Palette (Glass, Wood, or Paper)
- Palette Knife
- Canvas (Board/Panel/Stretched) or Paper

Rags or Towels

- Brush or True Soap
- Apron
- Varnish and Varnish Brush (final works)
- Optional: Easel (standing or table)


Sample: For illustrative purposes only.

## SUPPLIES EXPLAINED

1. A large tube of Titanium White, used for "tinting" or lightening pigments, is very often necessary. Burnt Umber, often mixed with Ultramarine to achieve a nice black or used alone to "tone" one's canvas. For other pigments, a "split primary" set (a warm and a cool) offers a complex variety of colors. Suggested warm primaries: Cadmium Red, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Ultramarine Blue. Suggested cool primaries: Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Lemon, Cerulean Blue. Optional pigments: Yellow Ochre and/or Burnt Sienna. Note: oil pigments are difficult to remove; wear an apron to help protect your clothes.
2. Choosing your oil medium. Oil paint straight out of the tube can be quite thick and stiff to paint with. Therefore, to help increase flow, add texture, increase transparency, and/or change the drying time by adding an oil medium. An alkyd-based medium speeds up the drying time, which may be more appealing for beginners. It is also great for quick outdoor sessions or sketches. Whereas oil-based mediums have longer workable times and allow you to paint in layers. There are many other options, but one of these is great for beginners. Check the bottle's labeling for further instructions and safe handling.
3. Solvents are for breaking down the oil in the paint. They are often used for thinner textures, applying a toned base/groundwork, or simply removing paint from the brushes. Pick out an odorless mineral spirit, which is commonly used for removing paint from brushes. It is great for working with layers too. When storing your solvent, an airtight jar is highly recommended. Jars like Silicoil have a unique coil at the bottom that helps clean your brushes while the residue sinks to the bottom undisturbed. An additional jar, like a mason jar, is great for holding your clean solvent for mixing into your paint. Check the bottle's labeling for further instructions, safe handling and disposal. Note: do not pour down your drain.
4. Choosing your paintbrushes is no easy task. There are almost more brushes than colors to pick from. Each has its own unique benefits, so having different ones can be useful too. Suggestion to start with: 2 flats, 2 filberts, and 1 round, all in different sizes. Common sizes are $0,2,4$, and 6 . Optionally, add a rigger/liner and a fan. Long handles are more often used, but a few short-handle ones can come in handy. And take care of your brushes with Brush Soap. Care differs based on the bristle type though. Look up how to care for your brushes to help extend their lives.
5. Choosing your palette and palette knife. Disposable paper palettes are the easiest to clean let the paint dry and throw them away. Glass or wood is a more economical option but requires more care and effort. Palette knives can be as important as brushes, as they're used for mixing, moving, and relocating large quantities of paint easily and efficiently, saving your brushes. You can also paint with them. Painting on an easel is optional but can provide more available arm movement, comfort, and a better perspective.
6. Choosing a surface for oil painting. Stretched canvas is highly recommended for those special pieces. Canvas boards/panels are great for outdoor painting as they're lightweight and less easily damaged. Unknowingly, paper can work too if you prime it with gesso. Even certain watercolor or printmaking papers can be used. Just get the ones where the pages can tear out since the paint takes a long time to dry. After the paint has completely dried and cured (approximately 6 months), varnish your final works to help protect your paintings from dust and dirt. Varnishes can be removed and reapplied for restoration and come in high gloss to ultra matte and everything in between. The best varnishes are the ones you brush on. Check the bottle's labeling for further instructions and safe handling.
(Note: All recommendations are subjective and can vary based on personal preference. It's important to experiment and find what works best for you.)

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ITEMS OF THE MONTH JULY 1-31

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