

# Painting Winter & Autumn

WITH SOFT PASTELS

Lana Ballot

## Materials List

This might look like a long list but that's because I give you options and some descriptions. It's very likely that you already have what we need for this class, if you are not just starting out with pastels.

Most of the links below are to [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com) so you can see the details, but you can search other online stores and compare the prices.

### Papers:

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#### Non-Sanded Papers

Some **sketching paper** for quick value studies (gray or white).

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#### Pastel Paper (sanded):

In this class I'll be using **neutral UART sanded paper** with Isopropyl alcohol underpainting.

**UART sanded paper, 400 grit, neutral color (not black)** You can get 12"x18" sheets and then cut a sheet in two 9"x12" if smaller sizes are needed.

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/uart-sanded-pastel-paper-12-x-18-400-grit-single-sheet/>

If for any reason you cannot have UART paper, you can use another brand of sanded paper, just make sure it's either **white or neutral** - that's what is needed for the underpainting technique. Not all brands of sanded paper can be used with liquid - water or alcohol might dissolve the adhesive that holds paper and grit together. It's best to run a quick wash test on a swatch of paper if I've never used it with the Wet Underpainting before.

Good alternative is **LuxArchival Professional Sanded Art Papers**. You can also use **Art Spectrum Colourfix sanded paper (white)** though it has somewhat rougher texture.

## Pastels:

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### Hard Pastels

I recommend to have a range of basic colors in hard pastels. They are great to use with underpainting and one or two layers over it. Hard pastels are also great for adding crisper details, linear marks or cross hatching technique. I recommend at least 12 color set or getting them as single sticks.

\**Rembrandt* pastels are medium hardness, so you can also use them instead of hard brands of pastels.

### Cretacolor:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/cretacolor-pastel-carre-hard-pastels/>

Or

### Richeson:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/richeson-semi-hard-square-pastels/>

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### Soft Pastels

I always recommend to have a good basic set that has a few values in all major color families (from lightest to darkest colors), warmer and cooler versions of them (like red-purple and blue-purple, etc) and some grays and neutrals. It's also important to have those nice saturated colors because we cannot mix them.

For painting **snow**, you might want to make sure that you have a range of lighter colors (like very light yellow, green, blue, orange, pink, etc.) and different blues, purples, etc.

For **autumn** scenery, you'll need to have a range of warmer colors (yellows, oranges, reds), both more intense chromatic and more neutral variations of those. A range of purples, grays and browns will help those brighter colors shine.

Some of my favorite sets (not a "must-have" but rather a recommendation to check them out, if you need to expand your collection of certain colors):

### **30 Best of the Best Blues (by Terry Ludwig)**

<https://terryludwig.com/collections/frontpage/products/30-best-of-the-best-blues>

### **14 Artist's Pick - Cosmic Sunset (by Terry Ludwig)**

<https://terryludwig.com/collections/frontpage/products/14-artists-pick-cosmic-sunset>

This small set has some great colors for autumn landscape.

### **Art Spectrum Tints of White Extra Soft Pastels**

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/art-spectrum-tints-of-white-extra-soft-pastels/>

### **Mount Vision Soft Pastel Set - Blue, Set of 25**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/mount-vision-soft-pastel-set-blue-set-of-25/>

### **Mount Vision Soft Pastel Set - Thunderstorm Gray, Set of 25**

<https://www.dickblick.com/items/mount-vision-soft-pastel-set-thunderstorm-gray-set-of-25/>

## **Underpainting technique:**

**Synthetic brush, 3/4" or 1"** Don't use an expensive brush, the sanded surface will quickly ruin it.

**Isopropyl Alcohol** - I use 70%, but other % numbers can be used, the higher the number the faster it dries. You can also use water, if you cannot use the Isopropyl Alcohol for any reason.

**A couple of small jars or cups** (to hold small amounts of liquid)

## **Other Materials:**

**Soft Charcoal, White NuPastel or white charcoal** (if you work on toned paper)  
- for value studies

**Bristle Brush** - to remove pastel, to correct mistakes, etc. (don't use the same brush as you use for the underpainting!)

**Foam Core Boards** - to tape your paper to a harder surface, 16"x20" is a good size for small to medium size projects.

**Glassine Paper** - to protect the work from smudging.

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/glassine-interleaving-paper/>

**Artists' Masking Tape**

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/artist-tape/>

**Gloves** - if you use them.

**Paper towels**