

Materials for Thangka Painting Classes

DRAWING CLASSES

Thick drawing paper (pref. 50x65cm / 24"x 28"), an 50cm / 18" ruler, HB pencils (pref. a mechanical pencil), a hard eraser and a soft kneadable one. Optional: a small ruler or triangle ruler
If you want to work with color pencils it's important to choose a good brand, preferably *Prismacolor Premier*.

PAINTING CLASSES

The best paints to learn thangka painting are Designers Gouache, in particular *Winsor & Newton*. Other good brands are *Schminke*, *Daler-Rowney*, *Lefranc & Bourgeois*.
The initial costs might be high, but these paints will last you for years.

Paints

Winsor & Newton Designers Gouache

The colour chart can be found here:

<http://www.winsornewton.com/products/gouache/designers-gouache/colour-chart/>

We are using these paints because:

- the colours are most similar to the traditional pigments the Tibetans used, made from minerals and stones
- the paints have a high quality, they are easy to apply, mistakes can be solved easily
- once mixed on your palette the paints can be used for many years, by simply adding water again

The items underlined are necessary; they are the basic colours for the thangka with which you can mix any other colour. Of course you can choose to buy additional colours, but that's optional:

14 ml tube **Blue:** Indigo (322), Cobalt Blue (178), Ultramarine, Turquoise Blue, Cobalt Turquoise Light
Green: Winsor Green (720), Sap Green (599), Oxide of Chromium, Olive Green
Red: Flame red (249), Perylene Maroon (507), Spectrum Red, Orange Lake Deep
Yellow: Cadmium Yellow (108), Lemon Yellow (345), Cadmium Orange
Brown: Yellow Ochre (744), Burnt Siena (074), Van Dyke Brown
Black: Lamp Black (337)

37 ml tube **White:** Permanent White (512)

You can also choose 'Permanent white' by *Daler-Rowney* which is of superior quality.

Acrylic paints are more advisable for advanced students

Acrylic paints can also be used as long as they achieve a **matt finish**.

There are many different acrylic paints, the best are from *Golden*, *Liquitex*, *Spectrum* etc.

Acrylics have their advantages but are much more difficult to use when it comes to outlining. Also once mixed on your palette or in a small jar the paints dry in very quickly and you cannot longer use them.

Primers: Acrylic Gesso Primer by Winsor & Newton, Daler-Rowney or Liquitex (USA)

Brushes

Small Brushes: size 00, 0

You need to buy at least one good quality outlining brush (for ex. Winsor & Newton Finest sable - series 7 - size 00, Daler-Rowney, DaVinci, Kolinsky etc.)

The other brushes can be of lesser quality, like a sable/synthetic blend, nylon etc.

They can be from any brand, as long as the quality is good.

Medium Brushes: size 1, 2, 3, 4

Big Brushes: size 6, 8, 12

This will be a good set to begin with, later you can always buy more.

Sizes bigger than nr. 12 we don't use very often, but please bring some if you have them at home.

Canvas

Bring translucent vellum paper to transfer drawing onto canvas. To create the fine details the surface of the thangka canvas needs to be **very smooth** (as paper). Therefore the best is to make a traditional canvas yourself from fine cotton. If you don't have time to make one, try to find the smoothest canvas in the art shop, and maybe add a few layers of gesso on top, and smoothen it even more by using the finest sand paper in between the layers.