

To start:

- **Paper: 9x12 Sanded paper, either UArt 400 or 600 grit or ArtSpectrum**
- **Pastels:** If you already have soft pastels, please bring those. If not, I suggest **half stick sets**, to give you variety in color. I suggest Great American, Blue Earth, or Terry Ludwig sets. These are more expensive but better quality gives you better results. Below is a list of various pastels and papers.
- **Soft Vine charcoal, kneaded eraser, masking tape, foam core board to use as a work surface, rubbing alcohol, flat 1-1 ½ inch watercolor brush**

Sites to order from include **dickblick.com**, **jerrysartarama.com**, and **dakotapastels.com**
Frantic Framer in Quincy has some large ArtSpectrum sheets that they will cut up for you, but very basic pastel sets.

Email lpoconnor@comcast.net with questions. The Mac has some pastels for beginners, but not best variety.

Descriptions of various pastels and paper:

SOFT PASTELS

Harder pastels work well for underpaintings and for adding detail. Softer pastels are better for smudging, swiping and scumbling but will fill tooth of paper faster. Having both is ideal.

Better Quality Pastels = better colors + better results, but more expensive

- **Sennelier** - (artist) soft - higher in quality - *has smaller 30 half stick landscape sets under \$60*
 - **Terry Ludwig** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
 - **Great American** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
 - **Blue Earth** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
 - **Diane Townsend** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
 - **Unison** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
 - **Girault** - (artist) soft - higher in quality
- the list goes on and on..... I use terry ludwig, townsend, nupastel and girault mostly*

Medium quality, harder pastels

- **Faber-Castell Goldfaber Studio Soft Pastels** – (student and beginner half stick set of 72 – great starting set, under \$30 at dick blick))
- **Blick Pastels** (student and artist sticks) – medium
- **Rembrandt** – (medium)

SANDED PAPERS

- **Art Spectrum or UArt** paper (comes in various grades. higher the number, less textured) (wet and dry) evenly sanded surface, for use with dry pastel, charcoal, and wet media for underpaintings. Rubbing alcohol dissolves pastels and 'stains' paper, water dissolves pastel but is more likely to rub off with rubbing dry pastel over. Both offer great underpainting options, as does watercolor, guache, or acrylic paints. These papers have a deep tooth and will hold more pastel.
- **PastelMat** has a unique velvety surface with the ability to grab and hold multiple layers of even the softest pastels. Ideal for use with all dry media as well as with water for wet underpaintings.

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