

# Trompe l'Oeil Still Life Painting

## Materials List

All supplies listed are suggestions. Please bring materials you are comfortable using and have worked with successfully in the past. The items below are what I personally use. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me:

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## Drawing Supplies

- Pencils: 2H, H, HB, and 2B
- Vine or willow charcoal
- Micron pen (Sepia recommended for transfers)
- Kneaded eraser
- Precision eraser (Tombow MONO Zero or Tuff Stuff)
- Pencil sharpener
- Clear ruler
- Measuring stick (knitting needle, bicycle spoke, etc.)
- Drawing pad, approximately 11" × 14"
- Drawing board, approximately 15" × 16"
- Bulldog clips

## Oil Paints

Any professional-grade oil paint brand is suitable. Winsor & Newton, Gamblin, Old Holland, Williamsburg, Michael Harding, and Rublev Colours are all excellent choices. Student-grade paints are acceptable but may have weaker tinting strength and less pigment concentration.

## Whites

- Flake White and/or Titanium White

## **Yellows & Earth Colors**

- Cadmium Yellow Light or Hansa Yellow Light (PY74)
- Cadmium Yellow Deep or Hansa Yellow Deep (PY65)
- Yellow Ochre
- Raw Sienna
- Burnt Sienna
- Raw Umber
- Burnt Umber

## **Reds & Oranges**

- Cadmium Orange
- Cadmium Red or Scarlet Lake
- Alizarin Crimson

## **Blues**

- Ultramarine Blue
- Cobalt Blue
- Cerulean Blue

## **Greens & Violets**

- Viridian
- Olive Green
- Cadmium Green
- Manganese Violet or Dioxazine Violet

## **Neutrals**

- Ivory Black
- Neutral grays #2,4,6,8 **only if you already have them**

## **Mediums, Solvents & Palette**

- Linseed oil, walnut oil, or Oleogel
- Odorless mineral spirits
- Brush washer, solvent tank, or Silicoil jar
- Palette cups
- Wooden or glass palette
- Palette knife (trowel-shaped knives around 2 inches from base to tip work well)
- Razor blade scraper (for glass palette users)

## Brushes

Bring a variety of brushes ranging from small to large in both soft and firm bristle types. I primarily use rounds, filberts, and flats.

Examples:

- Utrecht Manglon Synthetic
- Rosemary & Co. Ivory Synthetic
- Rosemary & Co. Pure Sable Series 91
- Winsor & Newton University Series 233
- Small synthetic rounds (sizes 000–1)

## Miscellaneous

- Mahl stick
- Paper towels or cotton rags
- Artist tape
- Tracing paper

## Painting Surfaces

Use any canvas or panel surface you are comfortable working on.

### Recommended Sizes

Because the workshop is only five days, I recommend:

- One primary painting surface around **12" × 16"** or smaller
- A couple smaller study panels or scraps around **5" × 7"**

Canvas scraps are excellent for studies and experimentation.

### Recommended Surfaces

- Centurion OP DLX Oil-Primed Linen Panels
- Centurion OP DLX Canvas Boards
- Claessens No. 13 Oil-Primed Linen
- Artfix Belgian L84C Oil-Primed Linen
- Raymar linen panels (Claessens or Artfix mounted on MDF)
- Ampersand Gessobord Panels
- Canvas scraps for studies

# Trompe l'Oeil Objects

Please keep your subject matter relatively simple. Successful trompe l'oeil paintings often rely on strong design, interesting shapes, and convincing illusion rather than highly intricate subject matter.

Look for objects with a variety of:

- Sizes
- Shapes
- Textures
- Surface qualities
- Materials

Interesting contrasts can make a painting more engaging:

- Large vs. small
- Matte vs. glossy
- Organic vs. mechanical
- Soft vs. hard
- Old vs. new

Avoid objects with excessive detail or complicated patterns that may be difficult to complete within the workshop timeframe.

## Suggested Objects

- Toys and figurines
- Printed paper materials
- Vintage packaging
- Candy wrappers
- Receipts
- Labels
- Postcards
- Tickets
- Books and magazines
- Envelopes and letters
- Matchbooks
- Marbles
- Candy
- Fruit
- Small tools

- Vintage pencil
- Bottles, cups, bowls, and plates
- Fabric scraps
- Colored paper or tissue paper

Simple everyday objects often make the strongest trompe l'oeil paintings :)