

“Might Want to Bring” Materials for Art Journaling the Seasons- AKA How to Build a Mixed Media Kit

Everyone’s mixed media kit is going to be a bit different, depending on what you like to do in your art practice, but here are some basics to consider and some personal recommendations. I’ll be providing everything you see below with the exception of the water brush, but I will have paint brushes available. Again, you can show up to this class empty-handed and be just fine.

Art Journal/Sketchbook-

I’ll be providing an entry level traveler’s notebook with off-white pages. I’ve used these for years, and they are pretty good at managing most media unless you want to do a lot of watercolor. I do use watercolors in them in a mixed media sense, but I wouldn’t recommend this paper for painting a watercolor painting. Size is up to you. I have worked in various sizes, and tend to like something in the neighborhood of 6”x9.”

Honestly, anything can work, but if you’d like to invest in something a little higher end, I have enjoyed the following:

Dingbats Pro Plain Notebook

https://www.amazon.com/Dingbats-Large-Dotted-Hardcover-Notebook/dp/B08WLYMFJ6/ref=sxin_19_pa_sp_search_thematic_ssapa?content-id=amzn1.sym.5a2f80d8-3686-499a-bbaa-70664bd0de70%3Aamzn1.sym.5a2f80d8-3686-499a-bbaa-70664bd0de70&crd=7QP5OA6G11A&cv_ct_cx=dingbats%2Bart&keywords=dingbats%2Bart&pd_rd_i=B08WLYMFJ6&pd_rd_r=69b0a4cf-63c4-47cc-aaba-df61eefb568b&pd_rd_w=Mh7e0&pd_rd_wg=CQYha&pf_rd_p=5a2f80d8-3686-499a-bbaa-70664bd0de70&pf_rd_r=1YK5M5BN18DDH8WR8S5E&qid=1757091090&sbo=RZvfv%2F%2FHxDF%2BO5021pAnSA%3D%3D&srefix=dingbats%2Bart%2Caps%2C195&sr=1-3-6024b2a3-78e4-4fed-8fed-e1613be3bcce-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9zZWYy2hfdGhlbWF0aWM&th=1

Strathmore Mixed Media

https://www.amazon.com/Strathmore-567-7-Softcover-Journal-Sheets/dp/B00GOBR4S0/ref=sr_1_1_pp?dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.Q3x0P5Luo9ptlZfReyNhxr-Dsf8YVnyEy5D9wDbuWaP2NfF-YOUCeZuhV0E_0dLQvm_t1UxDZnHsQf7STZkVenKQ-iF9nw0XEIq135-C2Jrd_JDiT2ZgehqsBAbX0BKhtox5XV4lUJPYejKVq1bTwoGn6Bs2_7UUHGSHDQtfddtWdtZpRnt8wl7GbwP2uhnIjGiLXWM4Zkiq4o42Gb3sLr0LPYM74PprXidfeWSsuh8D7Y9mGRcKdUCUBDOJLTCFQTyxKpo3r8WyfhTQBuw9WDQ0CdP1MHzvQHdGIYWcDzM.5hS5k4kcYho5ff0BcVHKysrw9T7fjVf3_SlwaeX8Tr0&dib_tag=se&keywords=strathmore%2Bmixed%2Bmedia&qid=1757091288&sr=8-1&th=1

Venezia Book by Fabriano

https://www.amazon.com/Fabriano-Venezia-Drawing-Book-15x23cm/dp/B004V8LYG6/ref=sr_1_7_sspa?crid=30WSSSNVBVG60&dib=eyJ2IjojMSJ9.V8-rwKfY4oWXAZKb-DxrOfZx7TKTjq2IL_C1w2WTm2n3IG_YVJLDZrdY8tp9XEiR3AZug40auT2yIQyt-nqCpl6mNp_AhWYTYbHHX0aRZaKmtCzyfMhKRllmMws9q0LtpSXsXQaoy7aGNqLCX31fdesT5xVJpHfXJlSl16mK8XElpW3Y6BjyElqysSyxFFB4TZD_O5rdhqqLrnXBBEaSqlzXa4Bpbn9b1ZEtsPr27k.E1z-dfdwGZeanzGPisPtIpO-fj7zI_HC2rrnKVmrVmc&dib_tag=se&keywords=venezia+book&qid=1757091359&prefix=venezia+book%2Caps%2C214&sr=8-7-spons&sp_csd=d2lkZ2V0TmFtZT1zcF9tdGY&psc=1

Writing/Drawing Tools-

-Pencil- Good old number 2 is fine. If you prefer nicer drawing pencils, feel free, but I'm good with a number 2 or cheap mechanical pencil.

-Eraser- I don't trust those pink erasers on the end of pencils (so smudgy!), so I usually have another eraser on hand. Beyond that, I'm not too picky.

-Waterproof pens- Micron or Artist's loft pens are great for drawing without worrying about your marks moving around with wet media later. One fine tip and one a bit bolder and you're good to go.

-Water-based Markers ("washable")- Entry level Crayola works great. I like Tombow and Karin brand. Staedtler are excellent as well. A few in your favorite colors or a whole set, that will be up to you based on how you like to work.

-Sharpie/Permanent Marker- These will soak through most paper. I do like to keep one on hand, but if I'm going to use it, it will be on top of layers of paper or I'll use it on a loose paper and glue it into the art journal.

-Colored pencils- Again, the price point can vary a lot here. Crayola works completely adequately. I tend to use Prismacolor, but they are more of an investment. It really depends on whether you want to use colored pencils a lot or not. If you do, it might be worth the investment in nice ones.

Other Mixed Media Tools-

-Scissors- Nothing special needed here. I usually use kid scissors because they don't take up a lot of space.

-Glue Sticks- Never leave home without. I use Elmer's purple glue sticks, but I don't think it makes a huge difference.

-Paint- I use a small fill-it-yourself palette with gouache/watercolor hybrid paint, but a little watercolor palette will do a lot of the work for you. You might also like some acrylic paint, but if I'm traveling "light", I will probably leave acrylics out.

-Water brush- These are awesome! If you buy anything for this class, this would be my recommendation.

https://www.amazon.com/Sakura-39122-Water-Color-Medium/dp/B004O45GJI/ref=sr_1_6?crid=ZYF4N405K0U2&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.GjNx4Xdgs7UBw_0if52PtR541tv-veQmI5RKdQb7gVP_cStv9ISZr51jukT8hvwAyGk_ShmzExOBxh12xNR_DeWlfe5M0XVlxQO-es30rTEfGGi6Y9en32aq_K9eKi7w09XrfSlxgCugEIK5pFnsSjkEH-DbA0VuEtxN68433MKJDyV1Ho_gZD1vS89DqUBegB780Zrp7WNHmavYOAx95dvF1LrWDinDTHKZMXdkxngKt7oQSlitCYCjrw4fFxTvp1gi2OKbBRh993lFzfrQdww1h1TBZD8wUoSbXXIUEZ5A.Ymurjrw18MRbJM1LvWaaFK8uskeNptE6N9CR6jFerYM&dib_tag=se&keywords=sakura+water+brush&qid=1757092614&srefix=sakura+water+brush%2Caps%2C229&sr=8-6

-Washi Tape- This one is going to vary a lot for each person. Plain masking tape is great, but the rolls are big. Washi tape can do the job of masking tape but comes on much smaller rolls and in lots of cute colors and designs. Check it out. Maybe it's for you. Maybe it's not.

-Scotch tape- Nuff said.

-Collage Bits- I always have some collage stuff stuck in the back of my art journal. This is another thing that will vary heavily based on your personal preferences. I like to work with bits of my own work, either doodles or bits of "reject" artworks or gel prints- stuff that gets created as I work. You may like magazine images, ephemera from everyday life, scrapbooking paper, etc. Whatever catches your eye, that's what you should save.