

Materials List for Floral Backgrounds

Please have the following on hand:

A couple of pieces of approximately 12"x12" watercolor paper, such as Arches Text Wove

- Most local art stores carry Arches Text Wove in whole sheets, but you might need to ask as they might not have it on display or on a paper rack. Other sources include the usual online stores, such as Dick Blick, Jerry's Artarama, Paper & Ink Arts, John Neal Bookseller, et al., but be aware of any extra paper handling fees (in addition to normal shipping), minimum order volume, discounts on multiple sheets...
- Even just a half sheet of Arches Text Wove will easily yield what you'll need by simply folding & cutting it into four parts, which will give you four approximately 10x13" pieces
- Each piece does NOT have to be exactly 12"x12"
- If you want to make a folded book, the paper will need to be thin enough to be easily folded, yet sturdy enough to handle some pretty wet watercolor.
- If you don't have or cannot get your hands on Arches Text Wove, find something that accepts wet media, with a little texture. I don't recommend a smooth, or hot press watercolor paper for this project. I DO recommend cold press, which will give you some nice shading and blending effects.

Watercolor paint - tubes (cost-effective starters include these brands: Grumbacher, Cotman, Van Gogh); pans (such as a Prang set, or other brand); Peerless watercolor paint sheets;

or whatever you have on hand

Suggested colors: yellow, green (sap green is very nice for leaves & stems), red, brown (such as burnt Sienna or sepia), blue, pink, violet or purple

Paint palette or preferably a flat, white dinner plate or serving dish (If you don't have one already, try the dollar stores, Target, Cost Plus World Market, etc.)

Distilled water (or regular tap water if you don't have distilled on hand) in a small spray bottle, or a bottle with an eyedropper, for activating tube or pan watercolor paint

Board or other flat surface to protect your table top, if needed

Assorted paint brushes suitable for watercolor work (Please do not spend a lot of money on these, unless you decide to play more with this down the road!). *Some suggestions:*

- Round #8 or #1
- A smaller Round brush for detail (like stems or other detail work in petals or leaves). You can also use the tip of a #8 Round if you keep a light touch
- *Optional:* Any medium or large sumi brushes you might have. Small sumi brushes can also be used for detail work if they properly come to a thin point when wet.
- Either Flat or Bright #8 or #10
- *Optional:* Triangle brush (medium); Oval Wash brush (1/2" or 3/4"); any water brushes you might have already

Sharpened pencil (with HB or harder lead)

Two jars for rinse water

Paper towels or old rags

Some tissues (not for tears, but for lifting paint if we want to lighten or correct!)

X-acto knife or scissors

Bone folder (*optional*)

Ruler

Paper or journal for taking notes