



GAIL SIBLEY 2026

The main things you need to bring in a nutshell are:

- Soft pastels– not too many!
- Paper
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- Canson Mi-Teintes for exercises and sanded type paper for the rest
- Glassine to cover your finished work
- Sketchbook and markers (100% black and 50% grey), HB and 4B pencils

PASTELS

- A selection of quality soft pastels. (You don't need to bring your whole collection!)

Some good brands I've used are: Unison Colour (my 36-piece set is ideal that's what I'll be using), Sennelier (the 40-set of half sticks will work well), and Mount Vision. Very soft pastels that will also work if you've used them before are Schmincke, Great American, and Terry Ludwig.

The main thing is to have colours spread over the three values

Some darks, mid-values, and lights. Also, have primary and secondary colours: blues, yellows, reds and oranges, violets, greens. Please have a lot of intense (bright) colours and, if you feel the need, a few less intense ones too.

PAPER

Canson Mi-Teintes paper (for exercises): 2 full sheets of neutral colour, mid-value ideally "Felt Grey" and one full sheet of a light warm white, like These can be cut in half or quarters for easier transportation

Sheets of pastel paper (eg UART, LuxArchival, Pastelmat). I suggest working on 9 x 12 size unless you're used to working on larger sizes in which case, bring the size you feel comfortable working on. We will use the this paper for colour studies and more finished work. Bring about 5-10 pieces (so if you work fast, you will have enough paper to keep going!), minimum size 9 x 12 in.

Bring the paper you're used to using as the workshop is focused on working with layering and colour rather than experimentation with paper. I'll be using UART.

IMAGES TO WORK FROM

As much as working from life is ideal, we will be working from photos. Bring a selection of photos either digital or printed.

OTHER MUST-HAVES

Vine charcoal (for drawing up image on paper) I like vine charcoal because it works well with soft pastels and is easy to smudge/remove

A container in which to place the pastels you're using to work on a piece. If you have a pastel box that attaches to your easel, you can leave one of the areas free for this purpose. You can also use a small black Styrofoam tray or a small shallow cardboard box or box lid lined with some paper towel.

A sketchbook with white paper for making thumbnails and notes and sketches

Two markers (I use Prismacolor)

One black and one 50% grey - HB (or 2B) and 4B Pencils (and sharpener)

White or black Artist Tape (or masking tape) to mount paper to your drawing board and to secure glassine over your finished pieces. (Note: please don't bring blue or green painters tape except to use in a hidden way)

Colour wheel

Roll of soft toilet paper (for cleaning pastels)

A few sheets of glassine to cover your work

Two pieces of foamcore or equivalent between which to transport your finished work

OPTIONAL BUT DESIRED!

- Value scale
- Barrier cream
- Moist towelettes (like WetOnes)
- Scissors (to cut glassine and Canson Mi-Teintes paper)