

Edmonds College, Sketchbook Drawing in a Pandemic World

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"The minute I sat in front of a canvas I was happy. Because it was a world, and I could do what I liked in it."

Alice Neel, American painter

This sketchbook journal class is designed to provide respite, stimulation, and personal engagement in a world of your making. It is also designed to develop sensitivity to the visual world.

Materials: The class materials list is intended to be as inexpensive or as luxurious as you need it to be. I list a range of options and a few must haves below. materials can be as inexpensive or as lavish a treat as you like.

Where to buy:

The Artspot is a family owned independent business in Edmonds that offers great service and a 10% discount to this class if you tell them at the register. The staff is very knowledgeable about their wares. The environment is pandemic safe, but you can order online for curbside pickup. Here is their information:

artspotedmonds.com

408 MAIN STREET, EDMONDS WA 98020

425.640.6408, OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAYS 10-6. SUNDAYS 11-4

ARTSPOTEDMONDS@GMAIL.COM

You can also get supplies at:

Joanne Fabrics

Michaels

The Must Haves:

Sketchbook (approximately 9"x12") with 30 or more pages that can:

- Lay flat when you open it and has secure pages that won't fall out. **Usually that means a spiral bound book.** A hard cover and backing is best.
- Accommodates dry or wet media. Usually that means anything with paper greater than 65lb or labeled as mixed media.
- **Why 9"x12"? It gives you enough space to make something and experiment, it is small enough that you can do a page in one sitting, and also unobtrusive and portable enough to keep with you all the time.**

*(See more notes on sketchbook options at the end of the list.)

Some recommended ones: Canson Spiral Bound is your best bet, but there's lots to choose from like Strathmore, Bee Creative or the pricey Pentallac Hardbound watercolor sketchbook. You will probably be most successful with something that isn't so expensive that you will be nervous using it.

Erasers: Pink pearl (you can even get these in the drugstore)

I also encourage you to try out kneaded and plastic erasers such as Staedler Mars, but you can get by with a pink pearl.

Cardstock or cardboard to make a view finder

Cutting blade: utility knife to cut paper shapes and sharpen pencils, exacto knife optional

Sand paper or emery board: to sharpen pencil points

Glue stick

Watercolor Brushes: whatever you have is good to start, but you want something that:

- can make both thick and thin lines.
- Has long enough hairs hold some paint or ink.

Suggested: If you have the funds to purchase something new try one or all of these:

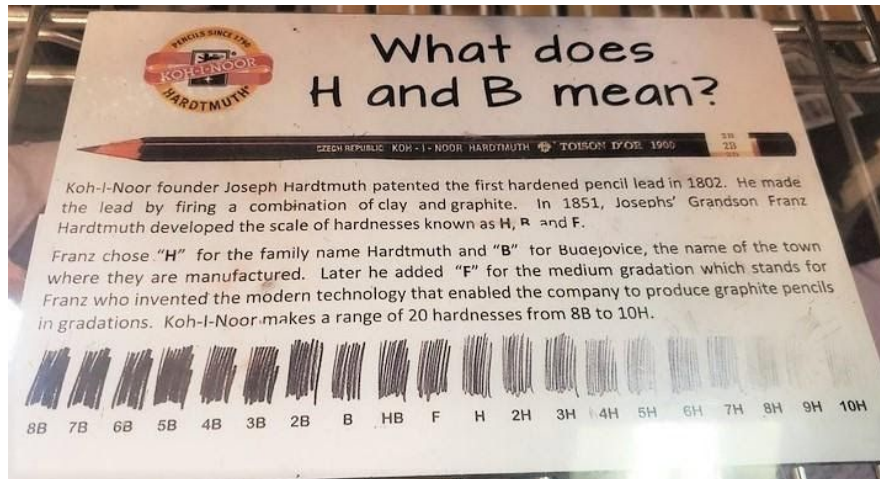
- Script liner brush and
- dagger liner brush
- sumi brush

Pencils: It can be as simple as a basic #2 pencil and should make a dark mark. Suggestions and options:

- Plastic very cheap **mechanical BIC** but you will need something darker in addition.
- **Woodless** pencils: best value. No waste. Makes a wide variety of marks and sharpens with sandpaper.
- The Pricey Cadillac Pencil? **Black Wing** (Palomino and Blackwing, not the Pearl). Very fast and produce a great range of value. You won't want to waste or damage them so get a good sharpener.
- **Art pencils:** Did you know that pencils made specifically for art and drafting are coded according to the hardness of the lead? 2b, 4b, 6b would work best for you. Here is a chart with the key to that code and the history of the system.

Paint or ink: Tempera, acrylic or ink

- Opaque white paint (Proart or opaque watercolor)
- Black
- One color or more colors



Markers and or pens of your choice

Paper towels or rags

Found materials for collage

Small transparent or white cups (3)

Container for water

Scratch paper