

Basic acrylic painting supplies

Paints

I recommend trying out Golden Acrylics' Primary Cyan, Primary Magenta, Primary Yellow, Mars Black, and Zinc White. These paints look and behave similarly to the CMYK inks used in printing.

Gesso is good for preparing surfaces for painting.

Matt and/or gloss medium can be used to thin paints, and can also be used to apply a clear coating over the top of finished paintings.

Brushes

Inexpensive nylon or synthetic brushes. Sizes: 000, #8, half-inch shader, three-quarter-inch flat.

Palette knife

Metal or plastic, round tip.

Paper

A pad or block of sturdy watercolor paper. Blocks are nice since the pages are glued on all four sides and the paper warps less (sheets are removed by cutting carefully along all four sides of a sheet after painting). Illustration board is good, too.

Pieces of leftover cardboard can also be used for painting projects—with or without a coat of gesso over top.

Palette

An inexpensive plastic or metal palette, or a second-hand muffin tin. Metal palettes tend to be much easier to clean. There are many options when it comes to palettes for acrylics and you may want to upgrade later on.

Other

A water jar, rags for cleaning, butcher paper to protect work-surfaces, a spray bottle filled with water, and (optionally) an old hair dryer to speed up the drying process when painting.