

## MoMA Courses Online

### Materials and Techniques of Postwar Abstract Painting

#### Supply List

The following items are available at a wide range of art supply and hardware stores. The prices are listed in U.S. dollars and subject to change.

#### Stretchers:

This list is geared toward small paintings, so feel free to purchase stretchers of different dimensions if you have the space and budget.

- 10" Light weight stretchers x 8
- 14" Light weight stretchers x 20

Total estimated cost: \$25

#### Canvas:

Cotton duck is a relatively cheap painting support, however many New York School painters worked on Belgian Linen, which is considerably more expensive. Canvas comes in all different widths and lengths so be sure to do the math to make sure you'll have enough. **3 yards of 52" width** will be plenty for the dimensions suggested above.

- Unprimed, unstretched cotton duck

Total estimated cost: \$24

#### Priming:

Be sure to purchase more primer if you plan to work with canvases larger than the dimensions listed above.

- 1 quart white acrylic gesso

Total estimated cost: \$8

#### Brushes:

Brushes range from super cheap to incredibly expensive. Cheap brushes (such as those at the hardware store) will be adequate for most of the work we'll do, although better quality brushes are certainly nicer to use. You will need to buy one good quality brush for working in the manner of Ad Reinhardt's late work.

- About 10 standard house painter's brushes, variety of shapes and sizes, \$10

Total estimated cost: \$10

- Flat Size 40 brush

Total estimated cost: \$12

#### Palette knife:

Total estimated cost: \$4

#### Palette:

I suggest working in a butcher's tray instead of a conventional palette since they will prevent spills.

- Butcher's tray

Total estimated cost: \$8

**Oil Painting Media:**

Most painters covered in this course painted in oils and I suggest you do as well. However, acrylic paints are easier to clean up and do not require the use of solvent. I suggest purchasing both acrylic and oil materials, but if you have a strong preference for one or the other, that's fine too.

- 8 oz Linseed Oil

Total estimated cost: \$7

- 32 oz. Odorless Mineral Spirits

Total estimated cost: \$10 (can be purchased at an art supply store, but is much less expensive if you buy from a hardware store).

*optional*, poppy oil, cobalt drier, dammar varnish, Venetian turpentine or mastic

**Oil Paints:**

Student grade paints are cheaper than artist quality paints because they use less pigment and cheaper alternatives to expensive pigments. Many brands offer good quality paints and domestic brands tend to be cheaper than imported ones. Some brands recommended by the instructor are Gamblin, Old Holland, and Sennelier.

150ml Titanium White

150ml Zinc White

150ml Mars Black

37ml Viridian

37ml Ultramarine Blue

37ml Alizarin Crimson

assorted other colors in 37ml size

Total estimated cost: \$75

*optional*, artist grade oil paints

**Acrylic Painting Media:**

The instructor suggests purchasing both oil and acrylic paints to learn about the advantages of each, but sticking to one or the other is ok too.

1 pint gloss medium

1 pint matte medium

Total estimated cost: \$12

*optional*: gel medium, retarder, modeling paste, and other acrylic additives

**Acrylic Paints:**

There are plenty of good quality suppliers of acrylic paints like Golden and Liquitex. Again, student grades will be cheaper than artist grade paints since they use less pigment and substitute cheaper organic pigments for the more expensive mineral ones.

8oz Titanium White

8oz Zinc White

assorted other colors in 4oz size

Total estimated cost: \$50

*optional*: artist's grade acrylic paints

**Enamel Paints:**

Pollock and other New York School often painted with alkyd enamel paints, however working with other types of enamel paint is fine. The instructor suggests using old house or car paint you might have from an old project, shopping for cheap paints at the hardware store, or getting sample size containers of house paint from a paint store. Choose whatever colors you please, and small amounts should do the trick. If you intend to use mostly oil paints in this class, you may want to choose an alkyd enamel paint for compatibility. Conversely, if you intend to use mostly acrylic paints in class, you may want to choose an acrylic enamel paint. If you're confused about this, just ask the salesperson at the hardware or paint store to help identify which type of enamel paint is which.

Selection of various colors of enamel paints

Total estimated cost: \$30

**Other:**

Various jars with lids, plastic yogurt containers, etc.

Rags or paper towels

Plastic drop cloth

Masking tape

Paint mixing sticks, turkey basters, etc. (for Pollock)

Total estimated cost: \$25

*optional: easel*