

# Drawing 101

## Class Supply List Updated 9/2023



This list is for drawing students who want the information to inform their buying decisions. I have included a list of suggested drawing materials based on my experience. But if you have materials that are other brands bring them. You can try some of mine.

I LOVE art materials, so I talk about them a lot. Unfortunately, price usually signals quality. I have nothing against saving money on artists' equipment – but the truth is, and I know from experience that certain kinds of drawing materials and paper are a compromise, and you won't get the same results and handling experience. I strongly encourage you to begin with quality student grade materials. I am providing this list of materials, which is a result of many long hours of drawing and experimenting. I have plenty of materials for you to experiment with. I really do love to talk about (and experiment) with art materials.

**There is a “class fee” (above the class tuition) payable to me before or during the first session: \$5.00 for handouts and limited experimentation of the instructor's supplies.**

You can pay

- by check – payable to Sasha Roberts-Levi
- [PayPal](#)
- or Venmo @sasha-roberts-levi-1
- Zelle - Sasha Levi or 313-701-9856

Choosing art materials can be confusing and very much dictated by personal choice. I will introduce the materials throughout the term, so you can make informed choices about what you might like to add to your drawing tool set. You can also bring whatever you already have on-hand to class. In reality, we could begin with just a #2 yellow pencil and an eraser and a piece of copy paper but very soon, you'd be wanting more tools!

### Suggested Materials List

**1. Drawing Paper** is a personal choice! There are many things to consider: weight, color, tooth, size and what the paper is made of (rag or pulp). I LOVE to experiment with papers. Sometimes the paper dictates the mark you make! You can buy a pad or buy individual sheets. On a visit to Blick Art Supplies you'll find many handmade beauties in their big wooden drawers! Of course, student grade papers are more affordable. It really helps if the paper is thicker than copy paper. Most “sketch” paper is thin, while “drawing” paper tends to be made thicker (erases better and don't crinkle). Some are bleached white; some are toned eggshell and other tints. Stay away from multimedia – they then to have tooth. I highly suggest lots of experimentation! I suggest starting out with one of the following:

- [Canson XL Series Drawing](#), the one with the (Green Cover). 70 lb white smooth tooth
- [Strathmore 400](#) – 80 lbs. and has a little tooth and is toned. I really like this paper.
- Blick has a decent drawing paper as well

I recommend a pad of paper around 9x12. This might seem large to you now, but you may want to draw even bigger later.

**2. A Set of Drawing Pencils spanning HB to 8B**, we will mostly be using a set of professionally graded artist pencils in a range of values that allow you to draw it all from highlights to mid-tones and shadows. We will talk more about this in class. I recommend this brand: [Staedtler Lumograph Graphite](#)

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[Drawing and Sketching Pencils 100G6, Set of 6 Degrees \(HB to 8B\)](#). I have tried many different brands, and these are truly the best - I learned with them, I use them at my high school, and they never fail you in consistency. If you have another brand at home, no worries, use them. Avoid the less expensive brand.

3. Some #2 yellow school pencils. The erasers are what we are really after.
4. Eraser - there is a zillion to choose from. We'll talk more about these in class, too, but for now, anything you have on hand will do. I probably have extras of my favorites.
  - Kneaded Eraser
  - Pink Pearl
  - [Factus Black 18](#)
5. Emery Board (This is the best because it fits in the pencil tin) or you can use something commercially made like PRO ART Sandpaper Lead Pointer.
6. Handheld Sharpener (optional), you know, the kind you used to buy for school! I like one in my drawing kit. You don't want to chew your drawing pencils in an electric sharpener. Drawing pencils have a "soft" lead - that makes them so special!
7. **Natural Artist Chamois (optional)** I have been told you can buy them at car wash supply stores and cut them down.
8. **Ruler or small plastic T-square (optional)**
9. Also optional, I suggest you find a "special" container for your art supplies. It helps to keep them handy and all together as you carry them from class to home and hopefully en pleine air (outside to draw). A nice canvas tote will do. I also use small boxes or zip bags to keep things organized.

Here are some of the places I purchase art materials – I always shop and price compare, it's worth it!

- Dick Blick Art Supplies -online instore
- Amazon - online
- Michaels -online/instore
- Jackson's Art Supplies -online
- Hobby Lobby -online/instore
- Cheap Joe's - online