

## CONNIE ERICKSON'S PASTEL MATERIALS LIST

**PASTELS:** As many as you can possibly purchase. Unlike paint which you can mix, one selects the correct colors and values of pastel. I recommend the following:

Nupastels 96 color set, this is basic

Rembrandt soft pastels Get the largest set you can.

With these two sets you can get a good start, then the following can be added, or you can substitute one of the following for the Rembrandts.

Girault extra fine soft pastels by LeFranc & Bourgeois Co.

Unison Soft Pastels

Schmincke finest soft pastels

Sennelier extra soft pastels

Grumbacher soft pastels

David Ludwig soft pastels

Many other brands and handmade pastels are available through

DAKOTA ART PASTELS [www.dakotapastels.com](http://www.dakotapastels.com) ( they are the most complete supplier of pastel supplies in the country)

Pastels are also available at Jerrysartarama, ASW, New York Art Supply, and other catalog stores. Art Coop may be willing to make a group order if you want to get together and do that.

Pastels never go bad or dry up, They are pure pigment. Your investment will last for years.

**SUPPORTS:** Canson Mi-Tientes is the most readily available paper, and one of the most popular papers. What you need is a paper with good tooth for holding the pastel. For portrait, I recommend cool middle tone values such as felt gray, steel gray, blues and greens that are not too intense.

In DAKOTA ART PASTELS catalog you will find many more papers and boards. I recommend you get samples of several surfaces and try them to find what you like. I am now using Wallis museum quality paper for some of my work.

Artists use to prepare granular surfaces using a mixture of gesso, water, and granular material such as quarts, pumice or rotten stone. The newer surfaces are

Commercially standardized products derived from perfecting this earlier practice.

Newer on the market are Uart papers in different grades of granularity. You can get sheets on mounted on board.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Homesote or other board on which to clip paper. Cut board 1 inch all around larger than the paper size you will be using. It is handy to have several boards of varying sizes to be prepared for most dimensions in which you will be working.

Bull clips: 12 or more

Straight edges razors for sharpening Nupastels and others for drawing and small areas.

Kneaded rubber eraser

Myston or Tuffin fixative ( used only occasionally)

Paper towels, hand held mirror, hand lotion or cleaner

**EASEL AND TABORET:** A large table with a lip edge to prevent pastels from rolling off is ideal. A large sturdy easel that can hold your pastel board exactly vertical or even a little forward is recommended.

Pastel dust can be an issue. It is ideal to have a studio vacuum cleaner and air cleaner. Clean up often. You can make a tray of aluminum foil and place it at the base of your board to catch pastel dust. At the end of the session it can be rolled up and thrown away. If you do a lot of pastel, it is recommended that you wear a face mask. Pastels are made from fine ground minerals and clays, that can be irritating to respiratory system. Keeping your work area clean can minimize the dust.