

Life Drawing Class Supplies List

Here are some basic supplies that I would urge you to bring to each class. You may also bring any additional drawing materials that you like or are comfortable using.

Basic Items:

---charcoal pencils 2B, 4B, 6B - General's is a popular and readily available brand.

At least four of each for starters. You will be needing more over time. It is pretty easy to use up a pencil fairly quickly. You might want to invest in a pencil extender to get your money's worth from each pencil. Once the pencil shrinks down by about half its original length, you no longer have the "gripping" flexibility you will need. You will start each class with enough pencils sharpened so when the pencil point breaks in the middle of a pose, you can just pick up another already sharpened pencil and not interrupt the flow your drawing.

---one - exacto knife for pencil sharpening

---one - sand paper pointer (pad on a board for shaping the charcoal pencil tip to a long tapered point)

---one - kneaded eraser

---several - vine charcoal sticks for laying down a tone (thicker pieces of vine charcoal are preferred, but thin ones will do)

---19" x 24" or 18" x 24" paper pad - any brand of white, opaque, sketch/drawing/general purpose paper. The cover of the pad will usually indicate that it is suitable for dry media (e.g. graphite pencil, charcoal, etc.). Borden & Riley makes a 19" x 24", 50 sheet pad (#39 Chalk White Layout, Opaque Bond, 16Lb.) that I like. No newsprint please.

---one - drawing board large enough to accommodate 19"x24" paper

Any flat, smooth, hard surface that is not too heavy will do. I sometimes use 1/4" foam core board cut to size. Although it doesn't last forever, it is stiff and strong enough, and extremely light weight and inexpensive. Many of the commercially produced drawing boards have handy clips attached to hold the paper in place. If your drawing board does not have clips you can purchase clips at any art supply store, or you can use small strips of masking tape to hold the top two corners of your paper firmly to the board.

Art Supply Stores:

Lee's Artshop - Most convenient, but also the most expensive.

220 West 57th Street (between 7th Ave. and Broadway)
212.247.0110

Pearl Paints - Biggest selection and the people who work there are very knowledgeable.

308 Canal Street (between Broadway and Mercer St.)
212.431.7932

Blick Art Materials - Also has a very large selection and good prices. They always seem have some seasonal discount promotion.

1 Bond Street (between Broadway and Lafayette)
212.533.2444