

# **An Introduction to Painting**



# PAINTING

## **A BRIEF HISTORY**

# BEGINNINGS



**Cave Paintings:** Outlines of everyday made from the Earth.



**Egyptian Artists:** New colors invented (greens & blues) on Papyrus.



**Medieval times:** Illuminated manuscripts were developed on parchment & vellum. Brushes were made of natural hair. Tempera Paint was used.

**Renaissance:** Fresco was used heavily before the invention of oil & varnishes. Canvas also began being used heavily.



# BEGINNINGS

**Impressionism / 19<sup>th</sup> century**  
– saw the introduction of collapsible tube paints and newer colors. Allowed artists to move out of the studio. “**en plein air**”



**20<sup>th</sup> century** – Smooth flat colors. Collage was added.





# PAINTING

## **TYPES OF PAINT(ING)**

# Painting

Types of paint:

1. **Tempera**

2. **Oil (Oil Pastel)**

3. **Watercolor**

4. Gouache

5. **Acrylic**

6. Encaustic

7. Casein

**\*BOLD – ones we use!**





# Tempera

Water based, egg binder, used prior to 1400's, colors cannot be mixed, narrow range, fast-drying



# Oil Paint

Easily mixed, more permanent, used after 1400, slow-drying, can be used in thin layers called glazes or in thick lumps to make an impasto surface.





# Watercolor (Aquarelle)

Most common water-based paint, transparent. White paint is seldom used to lighten paint (water is used ) Light colors are applied first, then dark, working from background to foreground.



<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/wxyz/watercolor.html>



# Gouache

Water-based opaque paint, it has more body and dries more slowly than watercolor. Similar to tempera.



<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/g/gouache.html>



# Acrylic Paint

Synthetic paint with plastic binder

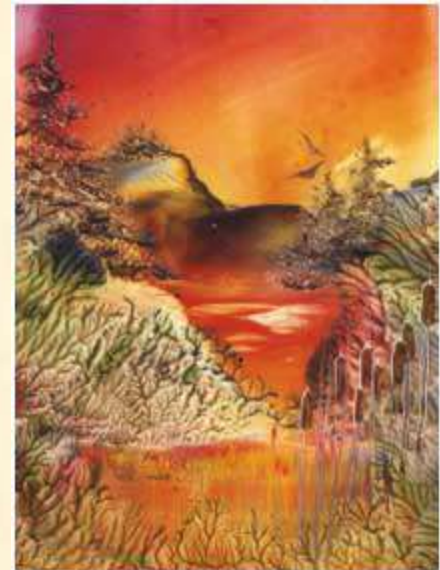
Recent (20<sup>th</sup> century),  
versatile, similar to oil but dries  
faster, not as shiny



<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/a/acrylicpaints.html>

# Encaustic

Ancient process of mixing pigments with wax, and then ironing the mixture to a surface.



<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/e/encaustic.html>



# Casein Painting

Uses milk protein as a binder,  
glue-like consistency



Too brittle to be used on  
canvas.

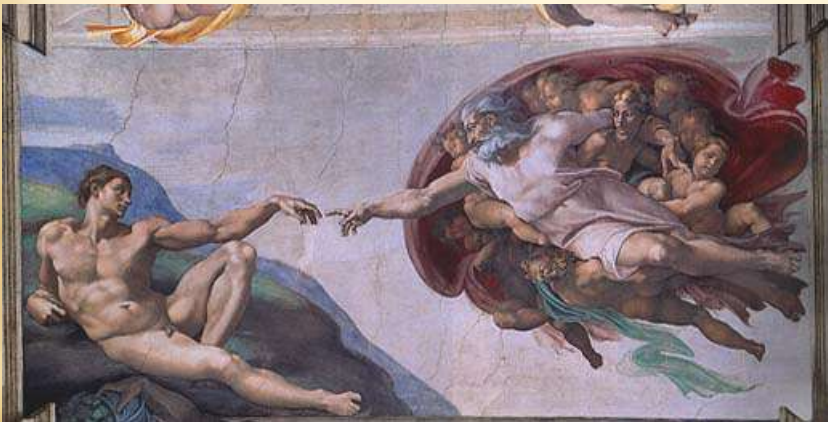
<http://www.sinopia.com/casein.html>

# Fresco

Mixing pigments with plaster  
(walls, ceilings)

Buon “true” Fresco: paint is  
bound in the wet plaster

Fresco secco: paint is applied  
to dry plaster.



<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/f/fresco.html>





# PAINTING

## **PAINT MATERIAL**

## **BREAKDOWN**

# Paint Break-down

Paint is composed of three materials:

- o Pigment
- o Binder
- o Vehicle (Solvent)





# Pigment

Natural or synthetic colored materials finely ground into a powder.

Clay, gemstones, minerals, plants, insects

<http://webexhibits.org/pigments/>

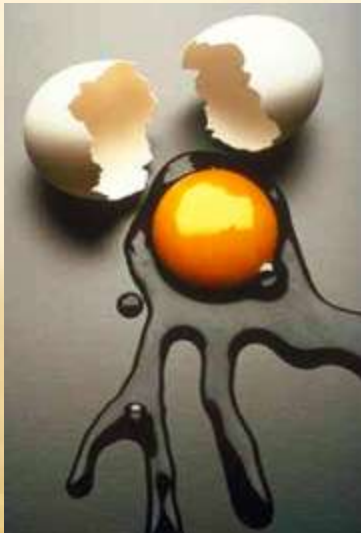


# Binder

Holds the pigment together and adheres the paint to a surface.

Examples include:

Egg yolks, linseed oil, wax





# Vehicle (Solvent)

Is added to thin or thicken paint, slow or speed up its drying time.

Examples include:

Water or oil.





# PAINTING **PAINT SUPPLIES**





# BRUSHES



You've heard of the  
bristles, ferrule & handle.

Don't forget the:

- » Toe
- » Belly
- » Heel



# BRUSH FIBERS

## Synthetic:

Nylon

White Synthetic Sable

## Natural:

Sable

Squirrel

Hog

Camel

Ox

Pony

Goat





round



pointed  
round



flat



bright



filbert



angular flat  
(shader)



fan



detail  
round

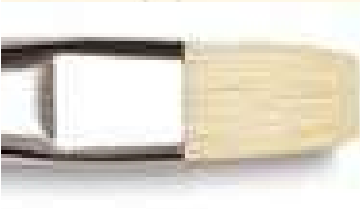
# 8 MAIN (ACRYLIC) BRUSH SHAPES



# BRUSH SHAPE



**Angular** – For precise strokes and for lines & curves. Reach small areas with the toe & fill corners.



**Bright** – For short, controlled strokes. Better for working up close rather than further away from your ground.





# BRUSH SHAPE



**FAN**



**Fan** – Useful for smoothing, blending, & feathering; special effects and textures.



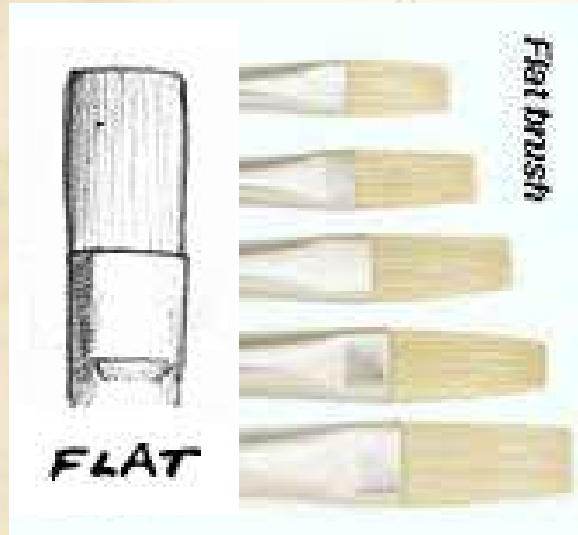
**FILBERT**



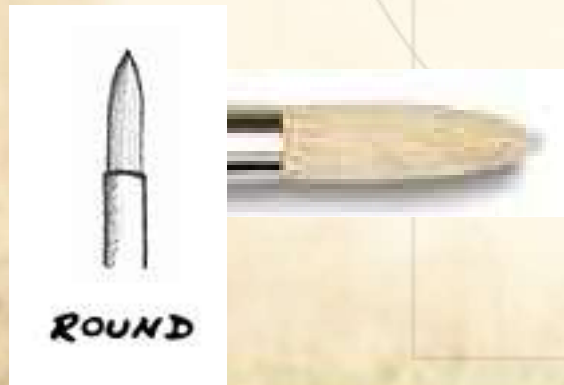
**Filbert (Oval)** – Blending; combination of rounds (details) & flats (over more space).



# BRUSH SHAPE



**Flat** – Use for bold, sweeping strokes or on edge for fine lines. Provides lots of coverage and easy maneuverability. Ideal for Impasto & Varnishing. All media.



**Round** – Sketching, outlining, detailed work, controlled washes, filling in small areas. All media.





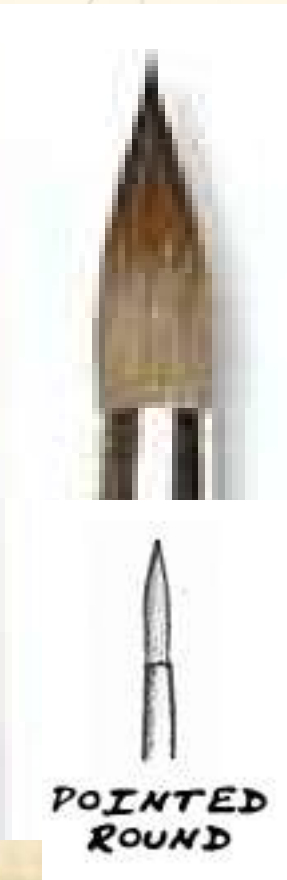
# BRUSH SHAPE

**Pointed Round** – Fine detailing  
& lines, delicate areas, spotting  
and retouching. All media.

**Detail Round** – Details & short  
strokes.



ROUND



POINTED  
ROUND



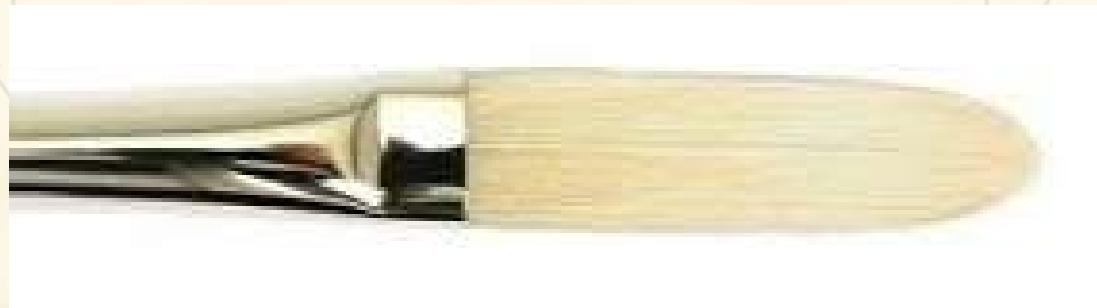
DETAIL  
ROUND



# BRUSH SHAPE

## What about EGBERT?

Egbert – Soft, rounded edges, blending, figurative work. Oil and acrylic.







# OTHER SUPPLIES

## Palette & Painting Knives.





# PAINTING **SURFACES FOR PAINTING**





# Painting Surfaces

- Canvas
- Hardwood Panels
- Hardboard Panels
- Metals
- Plastics
- Impermanent Materials
- Paper
  - Acrylic Paper
  - Watercolor Paper
  - Other Papers



# Hardwood Panels

- Hardwood Panels
  - Oak
  - Birch
  - Mahogany
  - Walnut

**PROS:** Long lasting

**CONS:** Very heavy & expensive.







# Hardboard Panels

- As referred to as **Masonite**.
- Made from a mixture of wood fibers through a heat/pressure process.



**PROS:** Cheap & Durable.

**CONS:** Can bend & warp over time.



# Hardboard Panels

- **MDF board** is a more recent hardboard.
- Stands for **Medium-Density Fiberboard (MDF)**.



**PROS:** Cheap, Durable & Long-lasting.

**CONS:** Toxic due to the resin used to make it.



# Metal & Plastics

**PROS:** New look;  
Experimentation.

**CONS:** Needs to be sanded  
first to give tooth and remove  
“shiny.”

\*Must have something to grip  
to.







# Impermanent Materials

- Cardboard
- Construction Paper
- Tissue Paper
- Newsprint.



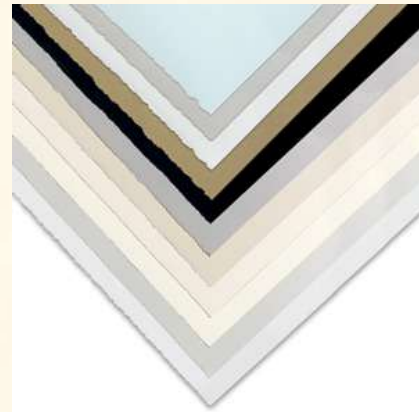
**PROS:** New look

**CONS:** Not acid-free and will begin to turn yellow and brittle soon. Needs varnish.



# Paper

- Acrylic Paper
- Watercolor Paper
  - Artists' grade
  - Students' grade
- Bark papers (Homemade)



**PROS:** Durable & Strong.

**CONS:** If not preserved properly then it will not last.



# Canvas

- Either linen or cotton.
- Fibers glued to a panel or stretched over a frame.
- Each fiber contains different textures or weights.



**PROS:** Versatility.

**CONS:** Expensive



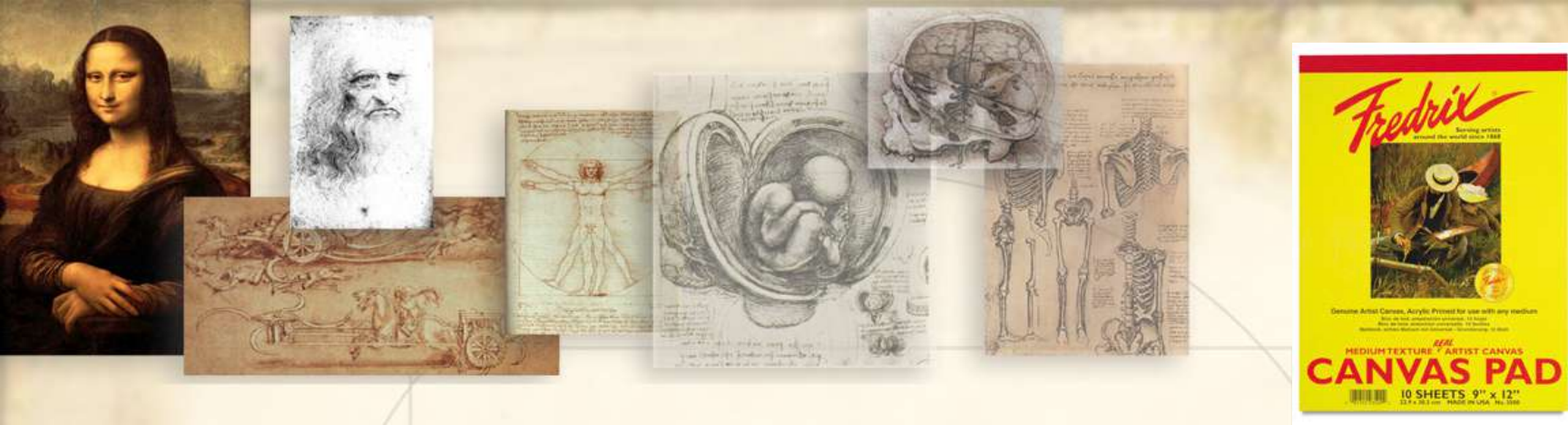


# Canvas

- Texture = the weave.
  - Finely woven = smooth
  - Loosely woven = rough
- Weight = thread density.
  - Higher the weight, the better quality.



**Linen** is the best and most expensive, but will last the longest.



# Canvas

- Stretched Canvas
- Canvas Rolls
- Canvas Panels
- Canvas Pads





# PAINTING **PRIMER / GESSO**





## Primer / Gesso



- Primer is a type of “ground.”
- Primer allows paint to adhere to a surface by making it more absorbent and providing tooth for the paint to grip.
- Acrylic primer is often called “gesso.”
- Traditional gesso is made from animal glue & chalk.



# PAINTING **VARNISHES**



# Varnishes

- Applied as a finish protective coating to a painting.
- Protects from dust, UV rays, humidity, scuffing and yellowing.

**Three Main Types:**  
Gloss, Matte, & Satin.

**Two Different Formulations:**  
Resin & Polymer

