

SALLY HIRST ARTIST & TUTOR

Tetra Etcetera Supply List

These links will take you to UK suppliers, you'll find international suppliers on my website [here](#). If you are having difficulty getting anything, try any of the following suppliers...

[Jacksons](#) [Intaglio Printmaker](#) [Lawrence](#) [College Art Shop](#) [Handprinted](#)

You will need...

- A press or craft die cutting machine with a bed and blanket OR or pasta making machine
- Ink; Carbon black printing ink Akua/Caligo or oil based etching ink or oil paint with Schminke medium
- Paper to print on; Minimum 220gm
- Newsprint (you can buy it as loose sheets or a pad)
- Blotting paper or smooth absorbent fabric such as cotton sheeting/pillowcases
- Sharp knife/Scalpel
- [Engineers Scribe](#)
- Cloths for wiping plate; anything smooth that will not loose lint.
- Odd pieces of card/paper
- A tray the size of your paper to hold water.
- Boxes; Tetra Pak or smooth surfaced card boxes
- Babywipes(biodegradable!) or a soapy rag
- Gloves

PRESSES

I use a Sizzix Big Shot Plus and an Xcut Xpress. Small plates (A5) can be printed using the A4 bed they come with. But I have made a longer one for my press to enable me to print a longer plate.

OPTIONAL BED

The bed is a cut down 12mm high catering board to 21.5 cm x 60cm. The Sizzix roller does not adjust so I use one 3mm thick piece of hardboard depending on the thickness of my plate to raise the plate to the roller, and some mountcard/mat board. It helps if these are the length of your bed. [Handprinted](#) sell a kit for the Xcut which will also fit the Sizzix but you will still need hardboard or similar.

The blanket can be [dense felt](#) or etching blanket I also use a sheet of drywipe to keep it all clean but this is optional.

I will also show how to use a pasta machine. This does not require a bed, just a sheet of stiff card or plastic to keep everything together

PAPERS

I use watercolour paper 220gm from Seawhite. Any paper that's a similar weight, or heavier, will be fine.

For better quality I use Fabriano Rosapina and Khadi paper 320gm which comes in a range of shapes and sizes.

You will also need:

- Newsprint (you can buy it as loose sheets or a pad) A3 or A4
- Blotting paper or smooth absorbent fabric
- Masking tape is handy to hold things in place
- Mount card (matt board) or any dense card, not corrugated - this is to sandwich your plate for textures so only needs to be the size of your plate.
- A spray bottle for water.

INKING/CLEANING/CUTTING

- Scrim (Tartalan) or Akua Wiping Cloth or soft cloths such as sheeting, smooth tea-towels, blue/white dishcloths (in UK they are called J-Cloths) or sew-in interlining fabric (not iron on!)
- Tissue paper or telephone directory paper for wiping plates.
- Babywipes,
- Gloves
- A spreader to apply ink; this can be card, or an old credit card, rubber spreader, rubber scraper, silicone spreader or a 'poupee'; a ball of fabric wrapped in a piece of fabric and tied with string, or a piece of rolled felt.

TOOLS

- Scissors
- Pencil
- Scalpel
- A tool for scratching lines. The cheapest is an engineer's scribe, you only need one! (there's a list below of some I have, as well as specialist tools... but none of them are necessary!).
- Palette knife
- Cutting mat
- Old paper store catalogue

PRINTING INKS

I will be using Akua intaglio in carbon black, plus a couple of colours on two of the plates. Another good brand is Caligo Etching ink. If you want the Akua stiffer you can add talc or chalk dust or their Mag Mix thickening medium.

For colours - you don't need colours to do 80% of the course, AKUA make a starter pack with a range of colours and mediums.

Its possible to use oil paint but it will need mixing with Schminke Intaglio Printing Medium. Alternatively any oil based etching ink will be fine but you will need solvents to clean up.

You can use relief inks like Caligo Relief Ink but you MUST clean them off the plate thoroughly or they dry in your plate.

BOXES

Tetra Pak boxes; these will have the Tetra Pak sign on the bottom and are silver lined

Or any card box with a smooth surface. You can also make your own boxes using mirror card.

OPTIONAL

- Things to create and emboss textures
- Hole punch
- Leather stitching tools
- Roll stitch marker
- Wire mesh to emboss the card
- Thin wire
- Fabrics with an open weave.

These can be used to add texture or alter the values/tones on your plate:

- Aluminium Foil tape 10cm wide (also called insulation foil tape) I use 3M or Mammoth
- GOLDEN Gloss Medium OR a good GLOSS varnish
- GOLDEN Heavy Body Acrylic (white)
- GOLDEN fluid 30ml in Micaceous Iron Oxide
- GOLDEN HB Micaceous Iron Oxide
- Shellac (fluid not flakes)

I will show you how to add colour to a print using the following:

- Watercolours
- Inkense pencils/Watercolour pencils
- Acrylic Inks

I have a range of tools to score into my plates that I demo on the course:

- Engineers scribe
- Glass engraving tool
- Double ended scribe burnisher
- Set of ARTEINA drypoint tools
- ABIG engraving set
- SLICE ceramic bladed knife
- Swan Morton industrial knife and blades.