

## Super Simple Sumi-e Supply List from Yvonne Palka

See page 40 of the Super Simple Sumi Book for a picture of how to set up your workspace.

### **Supplies:**

Most good art supply stores will carry simple sumi supplies. Any good art supply store is likely to carry Asian brush painting supplies. The following general art supply stores are good sources: Daniel Smith Art Supplies, <http://www.danielsmith.com/>, and Dick Blick Art Supplies, <http://www.dickblick.com/>. The following stores specialize in Asian art supplies: Awesome Art Supply, <http://www.awesomeartsupply.com/>, Oriental Art Supply, <http://www.orientalartsupply.com/>, Blue Heron Arts, <http://www.blueheronarts.com/>. Some of these sources also have instructional DVDs and links to YouTube videos available.

**Brushes** – A medium sized sumi brush – a good brand is Yasutomo #2 or #3 or something similar. These brushes are available at any good art supply store and cost under \$5.00. Note: The new brush will be stiffened with glue – soak it in lukewarm water for a few minutes until the bristles soften, then rinse in cool water and use.

If you think you want to paint more, it's good to invest in a good combination brush – a great one is the Best Combination brush sold by Awesome Arts Supply. [http://www.awesomeartsupply.com/Flow-Brushes\\_c\\_351.html](http://www.awesomeartsupply.com/Flow-Brushes_c_351.html) Cost – about \$20.

**Paper** – You can use newsprint for practice but it's good to get some sumi paper so you get the feel of how the ink and water react with the paper. A good choice is a pad of Sumi-e Painting Sketch Paper, available at the above locations. You can also order paper on line – some good choices are Double Shuen or Single Shuen, available from specialty oriental art suppliers.

**Ink** - Bottled ink can be obtained from any of the above suppliers. A good beginning brand is Yasutomo. For younger children I recommend using black tempera paint – it washes out!

### **Miscellaneous** –

- Paper towels or soft folded rag for absorbing excess water from the brush
- Small dishes (at least 2) for holding ink
- Plastic lid or small plate for “smooshing” or “patting” the brush and mixing the ink deeper into the body of the brush
- Absorbent felt or old newspaper to put under your painting paper
- Water container