

technical

The wet palette



Purpose

I found my acrylic paints dry fast on my palette. To save on paint, I'm using the wet palette method, which allows me to take breaks while waiting for layers to dry and use the next day or in case of interruptions.

Materials

I bought my tray from Spotlight ([Wiki link](#)) and everything else at my local supermarket.

- Enamel baking tray (or similar) or plastic sealable container
- Water
- Paper towels
- Baking paper (or similar – terms include 'parchment paper')
- Plastic wrap

Quick instructions

1. Get your tray or plastic container
2. Line with paper towels (4 – 6 layers)
3. Add water until the towel is wet
 - remove any excess water if needed
4. Place baking paper (or similar) over the top of the moist towels
5. Add paints
6. Paint!
7. When not in use, cover with plastic wrap or lid

Links to videos – see [Wet Palette – The Binary Artisan](#)

That's it!

I use generic plastic wrap and a compostable brown baking paper. However, the compostable part is lost because of the acrylic paint I add. So, I may migrate to the plastic sealable method to reduce my environmental footprint.

PS. I don't wear gloves when making my wet palette.

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Photo guides



Note 1: When testing, I left my palette in the kitchen overnight. Some videos talked about putting their wet palettes in the fridge, so I guess it depends on your paint and the general temperature in the room. I suggest you experiment to get the most out of your wet palette.

Hints, tips, tricks and notes

Hint 1: Be aware that when sealed, your paints may become more liquid (less viscous) due to the condensation from the water within your paper towel layer. This may come in handy if your paint is very viscous – thick!

Hint 2: I found the compostable brown paper similar to the white standard baking paper when testing the wet palette method, so think about colour mixing. I did find white better to use to get my colours right.