

MATERIALS FOR INTERIOR SKETCHING

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This list will help you realize and select what exact materials you will need to start sketching, which brands of markers would be the best choice for you, I will share what I personally use in my sketching routine, you will get direct links here to my absolute favorites. Basically, you can use this list as a guide while shopping on the Internet. Also, you will learn which marker brands can be potentially damaging to your health.

I spent 10+ hours to build this list of materials, compare and structure everything and give you my best choice, hope you will enjoy it!

Here is what I will cover in this PDF:

PART I «ESSENTIALS»

- 1) MARKERS (GRAY & COLORED SETS)**
- 2) PAPER FOR MARKERS (A4, A3 PADS)**
- 3) SKETCHBOOKS**
- 4) PENCILS**
- 5) LINERS**

PART II «ADD-ONS»

- 6) WHITE PASTEL PENCILS**
- 7) WHITE INK JEL PENS**

PART I «ESSENTIALS»

1) MARKERS

Here I will recommend you a variety of brands to choose from but If I was to pick my absolute favorite marker brands, it would be Copic and Touch. They both have an extremely wide array not only of colors but also of marker tips. In Copic, for example, these include 'Classic' markers, 'Extra Wide' ones, the thin 'Ciao' markers and remarkable 'Sketch' (the last two have brush points). Copics are more pricy, Touch markers are more affordable. Here I also share Stylefile and Chartpak brands which are quality and quite affordable.

I don't recommend you to use Touchfive, Touchnew and Vista Artista markers since their quality not as good as their price (yes, they are cheap) not to mention that they can be damaging for your health, especially for the lungs. My students and I tried these markers and unfortunately, we didn't enjoy drawing with them.

Regarding the nibs. Professional markers usually have two nibs: wide (wedge) on the one side and thin on the other (fineliner tip) or it can be brush nib and the thin one.

Side note: I'm a big fan of brush nibs, they are my absolute favourites.

Some markers are refillable (like Copic for instance) some are not (like Promarker or Stylefile for example).

Gray marker sets

Grays go first. I purchase grays more often than any other colors. Why? Grays are the most important in interior drawing since they create tone and value, background and shadows in your sketch. Set of grays might be your first purchase when you get serious about interior sketching.

COPIC 5 grays at least are essential, but «the more grays – the better».

Take a look at this 5 Sketching Grays Copic Sketch Set of Markers (5 markers + multiliner).

Refillable markers and replaceable nibs:

<https://amzn.to/2LxdDGm>

COPIC 12 grays is my favourite set of grays, it's great if you're really serious about interior sketching or consider to draw sketch commissions in future, then check this Copic Classic set:

<https://amzn.to/2RQL5J5>

TOUCH 6 grays. It is a great alternative to Copic, Touch markers are really good and quality, plus they are cheaper than famous Copic.:

<https://amzn.to/2LuPhgi>

TOUCH 12 grays. Here is a nice set of warm grays, ShinHan Touch Twin Brush Marker Set 12WG Warm Grey:

<https://amzn.to/2RTVbc7>

STYLEFILE 12 grays. Stylefiles are also very good quality markers indeed. Double-ended with fine and broad nibs, but they are not refillable as Copic for example. Look at this Brush Marker-Neutral Grey Set:

<https://amzn.to/2LwclWE>

STYLEFILE 12 grays. The same set but with wedge and fineliner tip, if you prefer wedge nibs instead of brush ones:

<https://amzn.to/2KYnC8a>

CHARTPAK Gray Set. There are 22 greys+3 blacks. They are not refillable, one-nibbed, but excellent quality. Chartpak is markedly different from the markers mentioned above. These markers have one very wide tip, that is highly convenient for interior sketching. The only disadvantage is that these markers have a rather strong smell of solvent. This 25 colours set contains 22 grays (warm, cool and neutral), plus 3 blacks:

<https://amzn.to/2ROYykF>

LETRASET/ WINSOR & NEWTON I like 6 Neutral Tones Set from Letraset (as I mentioned, grays are the most usable markers in interior sketching). These markers are not refillable. Recently Letraset ProMarker brand was renamed to Winsor & Newton ProMarker, but essentially, the marker quality stays the same:

<https://amzn.to/2XrPurQ>

Coloured marker sets

When purchasing colored markers, focus on earthy, wooden tones. Yes, you will need some basic bright colors like red, yellow, green, etc, but you will not need 5 reds or 7 violets which are usually included in marker sets for manga drawing for example. Our aim is interior design and architectural drawing. Here are some sets where grey colors are already provided, so you can purchase one set and have it all: grays and colored markers all in one. Or maybe you prefer to buy gray and color sets separately. Here is the list of my favorites:

CHARTPAK Architecture Set, (25 colours):

<https://amzn.to/2XnvZ3U>

TOUCH Twin Brush Marker Set B (48 colours). NB: Grays are included here!

<https://amzn.to/2J5ivkd>

TOUCH If you want more bright colours check Touch Twin markers (60 colours) with fine tip nib on one end and a medium-wide chisel nib on the other:

<https://amzn.to/2XjcVyL>

COPIC ciao Set B. It was my very first Copic marker set. I remember at the time how pricy it was for me but at the same time how happy I was when I got it! This set definitely was a great investment for my business! Copic Ciao is more affordable in comparison with Copic Classic or Copic Sketch.

<https://amzn.to/2XvF6KQ>

COPIC INK REFILLS They are available in all 358 colours of Copic palette, but I need only my top-frequently-used Copic colours such as grays, for example this one:

<https://amzn.to/2Xx1KCs>

STYLEFILE markers (24 colours, grays are included here). If you are looking for your first and relatively affordable set, I would have started with them:

<https://amzn.to/2xxuwZ9>

STYLEFILE markers (24 colours), these are double-ended but with brush tip:

<https://amzn.to/2LGfBEw>

Note: you can purchase markers one at a time to get familiar with a new brand, for instance with Letraset:

<https://amzn.to/2JjDVKD>

2) PAPER FOR MARKERS (MARKER PAD, A4, A3)

CANSON My favourite is Canson paper. For example, Canson A4:

<https://amzn.to/2GcjuO3>

WINSOR & NEWTON Bleedproof Marker Paper Pad, 9" x 12"

<https://amzn.to/2LFSzxx>

TOUCH ShinHan Touch Marker Pad A3, A3 size is twice as big as A4

<https://amzn.to/2Jkp8ze>

COPIC Alcohol Marker Pad, A3, 50 Sheets

<https://amzn.to/2XxiGsw>

3) SKETCHBOOKS

You will see the very often marker brand also have marker paper and liners under same brand name.

STYLEFILE A5 format sketchbook. A5 is very handy format, it suits even in a small bag. A5 is half of A4, which is regular office paper size. By the way, this was my first sketchbook with marker sheets:

<https://amzn.to/2JnqbPi>

MOLOTOW A5 format sketchbook Molotow One4All Professional Sketchbook Landscape

<https://amzn.to/2Xtn1SC>

MOLOTOW A4 format Vertical format sketchbook One4All Professional Sketchbook

<https://amzn.to/2Jkqhao>

COPIC 50 Sheets Copic Sketchbook 4"X6"

<https://amzn.to/2JtwsYt>

Also I like to use Leuchtturm or Moleskine sketchbooks with regular (not marker) paper.

LEUCHTTURM

<https://amzn.to/2JhHHUR>

MOLESKINE

<https://amzn.to/2Jwg9Ka>

4) PENCIL

I used to use Koh-I-Noor HB or 2B, but for now my #1 choice is BlackWing, especially their Pearl is super-duper cool, I find it is close to 2B in Koh-I-Noor brand.

PALOMINO BLACKWING You can purchase it in set Palomino Blackwing Pearl Pencils - 12 Pack

<https://amzn.to/2xy0lkG>

BLACKWING Sharpener

<https://amzn.to/2YEv2p>

KOH-I-NOOR Toison D'or 5900CL ALL Metal Lead Holder 2mm with 12 pieces 2B lead refill & 1 lead Sharpener, technical drawing mechanical drafting pencil set

<https://amzn.to/2Xx9Vnf>

5) LINERS

Liners have different thicknesses, my favorites are 0.3 and 0.5. The bigger the number the thicker the nib is. I noticed that I primarily use black liners only in my interior design drawing practice even though it is such a wide range of gray, sepia and brown liners which can create a nice effect in your sketch as well.

I love to work with different thicknesses of liners in one drawing as it gives a sense of space and air in your sketch. For the background, I normally use «S» one, and for the foreground «F» is a good one. Why? If you wish to create an effect of aerial perspective in your drawing you want to make objects on the foreground bold, with more contrast and density in comparison with the background in your sketch where objects can be rendered not in so much detail, almost transparent.

Since I called this part «Essentials» I am sharing my favorite blacks here:

COPIC Multiliner 0,5 is great and my #1 must-have, I use my Copic Multiliner most of the time in my sketches:

<https://amzn.to/2xCmVsw>

COPIC Multiliner set

<https://amzn.to/2JiaylC>

FABER-CASTELL Faber-Castell is also a good choice for liners, I usually get a set of 4 liners (thickness: XS, S, F, M), but the «F» one I use more often (analog of 0,5 thickness in other brands), so for the start it is ok to purchase only the «F» one:

<https://amzn.to/2XxBxJ2>

FABER-CASTELL Essential Set - 4 Black, Variety of Nibs

<https://amzn.to/2JuxC5V>

PIGMA MICRON Set of 6 liners from Pigma Micron, more affordable:

<https://amzn.to/2LILnR1>

PART II «ADD-ONS»

I call this part of my list of the materials «add-ons» you can start sketching without them but if you include these babies in your arsenal you can create new beautiful lighting effects.

6) WHITE PASTEL PENCIL

FABER-CASTELL This one is one of my favourites: Pitt Pastel, Faber-Castell, as it is perfectly suited for fine details:

<https://amzn.to/2LDe8yN>

KOH-I-NOOR Gioconda Pastel Pencil - Zinc White

<https://amzn.to/2JpNITO>

7) WHITE JEL PEN

PENTEL My absolute favourite is Pentel Hybrid Gel:

<https://amzn.to/2SaTxTP>

GELLY ROLL A Gelly Roll pen is also super nice for details in interior sketching in my opinion. Here are 3 pens in set, with bright white ink:

<https://amzn.to/2S7AeL2>

SAKURA Sakura of America Gel Pen is good as well:

<https://amzn.to/2LFbbh2>

Good luck and happy sketching!

P.S. Please recommend this list to one of your friends. Thanks in advance!

Olga Sorokina

