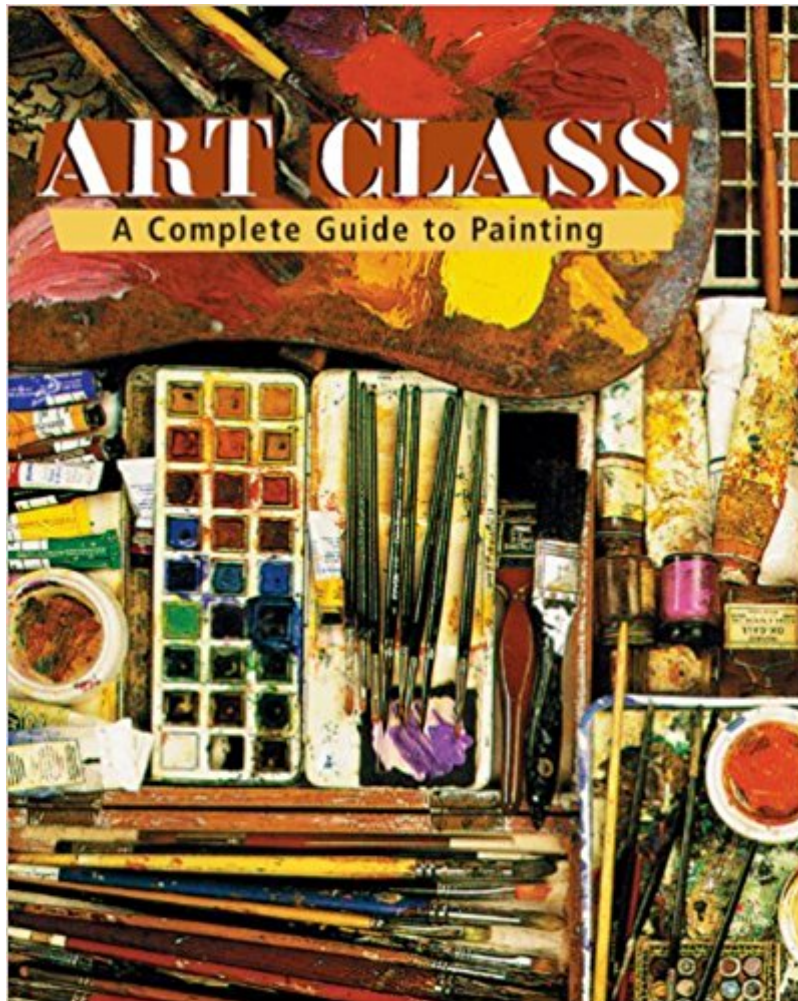




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# Art Class: A Complete Guide To Painting



## Synopsis

From the team behind Chronicle Books' best-selling art reference book *Artist's Manual* comes the ultimate painting compendium, *Art Class*. The perfect complement to its predecessor, *Art Class* is filled with page after page of beautiful paintings and expert teaching. It is packed with ideas and inspirations, tools and techniques, photos and illustrations, as well as detailed instructions on working with media ranging from watercolor to acrylic to oil. With an entire section devoted to step-by-step demonstrations by renowned artists--where they reveal their personal secrets, tips, and methods--*Art Class* is like having an instructor guiding each and every brush stroke. Learn how to paint an eye or a portrait, a tree or an entire landscape, by following the many artist-led descriptions and full-page color spreads that illustrate the most basic to the most advanced painting techniques. Whether they work in gouache or watercolor, oil or pastel, aspiring or seasoned artists will find that *Art Class* offers everything they need to create successful paintings. With 500 color photographs and featured works of art, a visual glossary of the language and mechanics behind painting, and an extensive resource listing, *Art Class* is the definitive studio companion for every painter.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jennings surveys a broad variety of media, from charcoal to pastels, watercolor, gouache, oils, and more, and he relies on the advice and work of a large group of artists to help the beginner choose media, tools, and techniques. Unlike the authors of *Art School*, Jennings creates an actual curriculum here. Exercises that compare the same subject, e.g., a red-enameled coffeepot, painted in both acrylic and pastel, are enlightening. Very highly recommended. Copyright 2000 Reed

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Simon Jennings is an accomplished graphic artist, painter, and an educator. Trained at the Royal College of Art, London, he lives in the UK.

Good overview of use of various mediums. Illustrations give useful guidelines for beginners. Will be a permanent part of my art library.

Of all the books I've purchased for art, this one is the one I use least. It covers a lot of different type of art so there isn't much space allowed for each item. It's interesting to thumb through, but it's not a book I pick up and use on a regular basis.

Helpful to learn multimedia

very good book!

Excellent. Delivered quickly as well thank you

This is a remarkable resource -- comprehensive, well-organized and understandable. I am not blessed with artistic talent, though I love art and have always wanted to try painting for pleasure. This book is perfect. It is divided into three sections: Where Do I Start, What Should I Paint, and What are the Basics. It begins at the beginning, discussing the choice of medium and theme; the selection, acquisition and care of supplies; and the choice of subject. It then moves on to technique: how to render a three-dimensional object on paper; how to compose a study; how to paint color, pattern and texture; painting space, depth and distance. The instructions are augmented by lots of pictures. You will see the step-by-step way to paint a tree, a face, a still life, a landscape etc. The final section really covers the basics -- mixing colors, types of paints, brushes, accessories, palette layouts, preparing canvases, paper, correcting mistakes, pencils, inks .... Every page is interesting. I learned so much. A glossary and index complete this wonderful resource. The writing is clear and the many photos and illustrations are fabulous. I cannot recommend this book highly enough. If you are interested in teaching art or learning to paint, you cannot go wrong.

Okay book. If you're a beginner you may like it, but it lacks so much that is essential for the

beginner. Being an art teacher, the flow of the book really makes sense. It works you from still life all the way up to portraiture. You do however need to know how to draw prior to purchasing this book and start painting. It does not provide you w/excersises for learning the elements of art (for example: form and how to create it through value, line, space, and being able to give the object spatial sense). Otherwise, it is a good beginner reference book in the sense that it'll give you direction if you're trepadatious. In the back there is a sort of art equipment index explaining types of materials and suggested ways to use them. There is also a small glossary of terms. At best though, it's a good reference manual for teachers and I'll tell you why. It has breif explanations on materials, just enough to jog your memory (if you haven't used the material in a while). Has a good chronology for a curriculum if you are teaching a full year or 2 consecutive years of a painting and drawing course. There is no history included, but it does show different approches for the same purpose. Example, people approach going to canvas in different ways: 1. carefully sketching in water soluble pencil, 2. sketching in charcoal, 3. Using a very light wash, 4. no pre-sketching at all. In other words, it gives you multiple methods to achieve the same end--how you work depends on which you'll chose. Not a bad buy, not a great one either. You're better off buying "The New Artist's Manual: The Complete Guide to Painting and Drawing Materials and Techniques" by this author. It is this book and "the artist's color manual: ..." rolled into one.

Get this book and keep it out. You will refer to this book many, many times in your studio. This book represents the work of twenty very popular and successful painters. With plenty of color examples, this book covers everything. Really. From "Where do I start?" to "What should I paint?" to "What are the basics?" With pages and pages of artist-led clear instructions, helpful color photos and practical tips on techniques, this book will be one of your "secret" favorite books -- you will look at it and actually read it! If you never went to art school, or even if you are an experienced painter, you will be grateful for this concise publication. It has everything you need to know to paint successful works of art. The title says it all - ART CLASS.

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