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# Choosing your acrylic colors

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What are acrylics? Pigments (identical to the ones used in watercolors and oil paints) agglutinated to a synthetic resin.

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[Acrylique - choisir ses couleurs](https://www.cansonstudio.com/sites/all/themes/passerelle/files/acrylique-005-A_0.jpg)

## 1. ID card

Acrylic colors have creamy consistency, so brush strokes remain quite visible. You can also mix the paint with some water or with appropriate media, to produce more fluid or transparent work. These colors are not very messy and have a pleasant odor. Another advantage: they dry very fast.

You will find the following information on tubes and bottles: the name of the color, the volume, the code for the used pigment, the type of synthetic binding agent and certain characteristics of the paint such as resilience, transparency or permanence.

## 2. Fine or extra fine?

Like most paints, acrylics come in two grades.

- **Fine colors** contain less pure pigment. While less expensive, they are nonetheless very high quality

(the shades, however are less intense)! Are you wanting to get started? Use them, they are made for you!

- **Extra fine colors**, which are richer in precious pigments, are generally used by experienced amateurs and professionals. They are slightly more liquid than fine paints; they come in a narrower choice of shades.

### **Trick of the trade: For beginners**

Don't panic, color manufacturers make ready-to-use sets: white, black, three primary colors and green. Start with this basic set and learn how to mix colors to produce the ones you need. As you gain experience, you can complete your set!

### **See also**

#### **Selecting paintbrushes for painting with acrylics**

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Use the same ones you use for oil painting. It's best to put together a set of paintbrushes with various brush shapes: you can play around with strokes, material effects and lines!

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