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Carefully select your materials for art restoration



Art Material ^[5]

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The instruments and products used by restorers are both simple and very specific. Everyone has his own needs, do the same: make your own assortment!



Tools of investigation

A magnifying glass: for a better look at tiny faults (for example, in the paint layer).

- An ultraviolet lamp, known as "Wood's lamp:" to study varnishes (which appear in varying shades of green depending on thickness and age). The lamp will also aid in distinguishing areas which have already been repainted.
- One or more strong lamps: to aid in your visual examination.
- A camera: take photos from many angles and refer to your photos as you work, especially to fill a gap precisely.

Daily equipment

- A basin (of the type, for example, for photo developing) for soaking and treatments.
- Cotton swabs, absorbent cotton, craft sticks, white chalk.
- Flat spatulas, a cutter, scissors.
- Paintbrushes and brushes of varying stiffnesses, feather duster, eraser powder, rags, sponges...
- Wooden wedges, sandpaper and corks for pouncing
- Paper towels, blotters,

For each product, a single use

- Diluted vinyl and tylose glue for engravings.
- Pine oil cleaner, to clean the stretcher.
- Bleach, sodium hyposulphite to brighten engravings.
- Citrate of ammonia to remove grease from the varnish.
- Solvent (for example isopropanol) to lighten the varnish.
- A filler for smoothing.
- Watercolors or special restoration paints.
- Varnish for retouching.

But also


For work on the stretcher: a small prybar, staples and a fabric stapler.

See also

Restore a stretcher in 3 steps



The stretcher of your favorite canvas is damaged: with play between the wooden parts, traces of sawdust and insects? It is truly time to restore it! Don't stop there: paper and canvas may also need attention... Zoom: an activity at the limits of DIY.

 DISCOVER ^[6]

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