

Art
Cycle: Orientation
Maintaining a Safe and Efficient Art Studio

What Makes a Good Art Studio?

The clanging of tools, smell of wet clay, bright palettes of paint, movement and chatter of artists in a busy art studio can fill you with excitement and creativity. In order to keep a nice environment for everyone, it is important that we do our part to maintain a safe and efficient art studio.

- **Safety: Knowing the potential hazards of the Art Studio**
 - **Dust:** Keep dust out of the air, and out of our lungs. If clay dust is inhaled, it can cause serious health problems. In order to minimize dust, use a damp cloth to wipe dry clay, charcoal, or other dry materials.
 - **Pathways:** Keep materials off the floor. Imagine an artist carrying a large wet painting, and tripping over something left on the floor! This also applies to power cords, backpacks, and water bottles... Make sure all materials are tucked into a discreet place.
 - **Scissors:** Never play or run with scissors or blades.
 - **Blades:** A lesson must always be passed before using razor blades. Keep fingers out of the way of any sharp object. Ensure your blade is sharp. Ironically, a dull blade is more dangerous to operate. A sharp blade moves smoothly, with little effort; a dull blade requires more force and can slip into a danger zone.
 - **Aerosols:** Always spray glue or paint outside, not near an open door. Aerosols are gases that can poison the air, if not well ventilated.
 - **Food:** Keep food and drink away from the art materials. Some pigments are made of heavy metals (such as cobalt) and can cause heavy metal poisoning if ingested.
 - **Clean Hands:** When you get an itch on your face, you naturally want to scratch it! So keeping your hands clean while working will keep debris out of your eyes and off your face.
 - **Long hair:** Ponytails and buns will keep hair out of possibly toxic materials, and away from tools. Did you know that long hair can get caught up in a drill, causing severe tangling or even ripping of the hair?
 - **Sink:** No clay may go down the sink drain... it will clog. Wash clay covered hands and tools in the bucket, and dump the bucket outside. Art materials can be toxic if ingested, so make sure the sink is wiped clean of any residue.
- **Efficient: Not wasting time or materials**
 - **Efficient use of Time:** Focus on community spaces to save artists' time from misplaced items, clutter, spills, injuries, and disaster. Immediately clean after yourself, and help those around you to keep an efficient art studio.
 - **Counter:** clear and wiped clean
 - **Sink:** empty and wiped clean
 - **Floor:** clean and clear
 - **Tables:** straightened and wiped clean
 - **Chairs:** tucked in and wiped clean
 - **Warehouse:** stacked neatly

- **Efficient use of Materials:**
 - **Paint:** Start with only small amounts of paint, get more as needed. Place analogous colors next to each other on your palette, so they don't muddy into brown.
 - **Tempera & Water Color:** These paints dry quickly into a powdery substance, and are easier to clean when dry.
 - **Acrylic:** These paints dry into a plastic substance, and must be cleaned immediately. All acrylic brushes must be kept wet until completely clean.
 - **Brushes:** Rinse a brush until no more pigment is evident. Make sure the bristles are straight and dry before storing. Acrylic: immediate cleaning required.
 - **Clay:** Start with a small amount of clay; firmly push scrap clay back into clay block. Make sure the plastic bag is sealed at all times.
 - **Charcoal and Oil Pastels:** Press softly so the sticks don't break.
 - **Rubber Eraser:** Knead before and after each use.
 - **Paper:** Use the smallest size needed for the project.

All Art Materials:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drawing Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 9x12 ▪ 12x24 ▪ 24x36 ○ Copy Paper ○ Construction Paper ○ Canson Paper ○ Graph Paper ○ Lined Paper ○ Cardstock ○ Tracing Paper ○ Computer Paper ○ Cardboard • Paint <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tempera ○ Acrylics ○ Watercolor ○ Brushes ○ Palettes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Charcoal ○ Fixative ○ Kneadable Erasers ○ Oil Pastels ○ Crayons ○ Colored Pencils ○ Pencils ○ Markers ○ Pencil Sharpener ○ Drawing Boards • Cutting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scissors ○ X-acto Knives ○ Punch ○ Needle ○ Paper Cutter ○ Cutting Mat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rulers ○ Yard sticks ○ Tape Measure ○ T-squares • Binding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tape ○ Glue Sticks ○ String • Cleaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rags ○ Soap ○ Sink ○ Aprons ○ Recycling Bin ○ Garbage Can ○ Compost Bin • Gallery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wire ○ Clips |
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