



Art Journaling

Beginners Toolkit

Art Journaling for Beginners

Express Yourself!

Welcome to Art Journaling! It's wonderfully creative and very flexible - there are literally no rules.

But, there's so much to choose from, where do you start? Here's a basic list of supplies to get started. Best part: these are all affordable and readily available. Just click images or links to easily shop!

A journal, preferably mixed media	Acrylic paints
Watercolors	White gel pen
Water brush	Black artist pens
Matte medium	Magazines, paper clippings, ephemera
Gesso	



[A journal to work in. The Canson mixed media pads work well with sturdy paper that stands up to wet media like watercolors and acrylic paints.](#)

These links or photos may contain affiliate links. Your cost is the same, but it helps support AJfB and the free resources available to you. Thanks for your support!

[Inexpensive watercolors](#) from your local supply store are fine to start with. If you decide you like working with watercolors, you can try out various artist quality versions. You'll need a brush too - [try a waterbrush](#). They're easy to use and have the water right inside!



[Matte medium works as an adhesive and sealer and is indispensable for collage of all types.](#)



[Gesso \(pronounced jess-o\) is the main page primer as well as covering other elements and mistakes! A must-have for art journaling.](#)



[Acrylic paints come in so many varieties and colors, it can be overwhelming. Start with either 2 or 3 tubes of your favorites or a starter set. The Liquitex Basics line is ideal: Affordable, good quality, and lots of colors.](#)



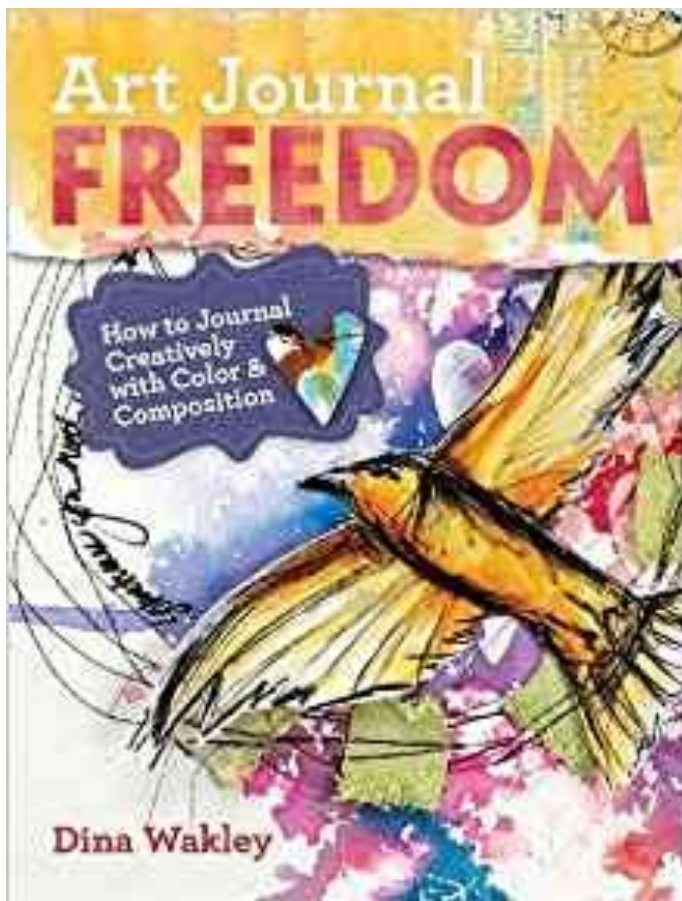
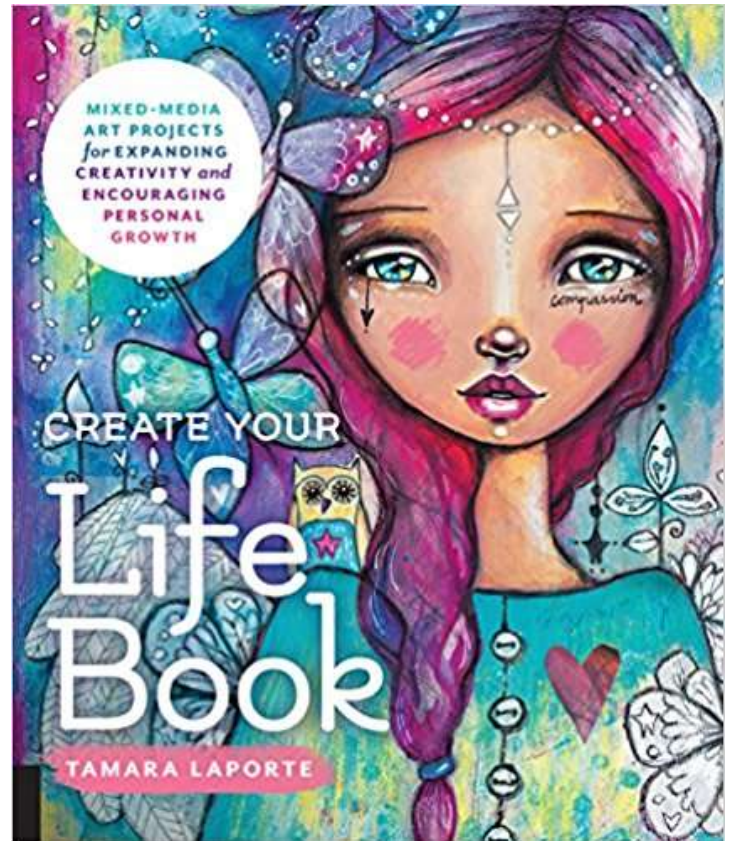


Use pens to add detail and the journaling to your pages. The [Micron pens](#) are waterproof and don't smudge or bleed. A white gel pen is good to make marks on dark areas for contrast and interest. Two to try: the [Uni-Ball Signo](#) Broad pen and [Sakura Gelly Roll](#) pens.

Having a stash of collage materials is one of the easiest ways to start art journaling. Collect magazines of all types and cut/tear out the images that appeal to you. Start your personal library of images!



[From Tamara Laporte, find 18 step-by-step projects that help you explore and work through issues surrounding creative fulfillment.](#)



[From Dina Wakley, learn about composition and color, 10 step-by-step technique demonstrations and color and design tips and page challenges.](#)

