

Materials List for Plein Air Woodcut/Linocut

Vicky Tomayko

The size you work is up to you!

Wood

Shina plywood from **McClain's** <https://www.imcclains.com> is easy to carve and doesn't splinter, but you can use any wood that's soft enough to carve. Birch plywood is very nice also.

Linoleum

Your choice... there are quite a few varieties out there, from traditional battleship linoleum to quick, easy, and soft cut varieties. **McClain's** has a linoleum from Japan called **Gomuban** that is very nice.

Carbon Paper (optional)

...to transfer your image if you don't want to draw directly on the block. **McClain's** sells a red carbon paper that is reusable and transfers to a variety of surfaces.

Tools

Woodcut tools are varied. **McClain's** is a good source for sets. Woodcut tools work well for linoleum but linoleum tools are sometimes not so great for wood. Buy the best you can afford. **Flexcut** tools are very good and can be purchased online. A **sharpening stone** is helpful to keep your cutting edges sharp.

Soft rubber brayer...Speedball makes good ones...at least 4 "

A **wooden spoon** flattened as best you can with sand paper or a **baren** for burnishing.

Ink

I prefer oil based ink. Buy a good quality relief ink. Oil based ink cleans up with baby oil. Waterbased ink is fine if you are working in a make shift studio and are worried about clean up, but make sure it is for relief printing.

Palette

Something flat and smooth to roll out your ink.

Paper

Asian paper is lovely... Kitakata, Okawara or some other...or just sketch book paper is fine to begin. McClains has **Kitakata** and some other great choices. <https://www.imcclains.com/catalog/paper/groupd.html>

Questions? Vicky Tomayko

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