



**Utrecht Art Supplies**

**Studio Craft: Blotting Excess Vehicle from Oil Paint**



It's occasionally desirable to blot some of the oil paint vehicle to stiffen body, take up oil shed or impart a matte appearance when dry.

French artists of the late 19th c were known to have blotted oil paint to impart a matte appearance consistent with the new impressionist style. Contemporary artists also blot paint to make it more dense and stiff.



Old telephone books or catalogs with matte newsprint-type pages are ideal for blotting paint and scooping gunk off the palette for later disposal. (Try not to select anything that's still a useful book; ours is an expired catalog of internships)



In a short time, paint deposited on blotter media will become stiffer and more dense.

For faster results, work paint back and forth with a palette knife. Don't overdo it, however- the paint needs some vehicle for adhesion and film integrity. Colors prepared this way should still be workable and somewhat fluid.



Exhausted pages can be peeled away for disposal.



The resulting paint is heavier and thicker, and will dry with a flatter appearance.

Questions? [Ask the Expert](#)

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