

Introduction to Marbling Materials List Overview

Below is an overview of the materials needed in order to participate in the **Clouds on Water ~ Introduction to Marbling eCourse**. A more detailed list with preferred suppliers* and brands will be sent to you once you register.

**Special note: The suppliers provided are US-based companies that may or may not ship internationally. If you live outside of the US and have a hard time finding supplies, please let Barb know and she will reach out to her international colleagues for information on suppliers in your country.*

**One way to get started is to purchase a Starter Marbling Kit directly from Barb!
Kit information on next page!**

Carrageenan (carrageenan)

Carrageenan is a seaweed extract used to make the bath. Available through marbling suppliers only. (**NOTE:** To make the bath you will need a high-speed blender (a home one is fine) and distilled water (1 gallon for 1 gallon of bath).

Alum (aluminum sulphate)

Alum is a mordant used to make the paint bind with paper/fabric/wood. Available through marbling suppliers only. (**NOTE:** To apply the alum you will need a sponge and either a bowl or a spray bottle. You will also need protective gloves (household gloves are fine) when handling alum in either dry or liquid form.)

Acrylic paints

Soft body and liquid acrylics only. Do not use hard body.

Paper

Papers with neutral to low pH and those that are unbuffered are best to marble on. However, it's not always easy to get that type of information unless you go directly to the manufacturer, so don't get lost in those details. Just avoid glossy papers (which won't absorb the alum) and very thin papers (like a rice paper) which will fall apart in the bath. Colored paper (not construction!), pages from books, and sheet music are fun to marble on too!

Tank and Rinse Board

You can either buy or make your tank (as simple as using a cardboard box lined with plastic) and rinse board (flat cardboard box or sturdy piece of plastic like an acrylic sheet) ~ and either option is perfectly suitable for a beginner (and advanced!) marbler.

Marbling Tools

- Stylus ~ anything long, sturdy, and thin like a bamboo skewer, chopstick, or thin knitting needle
- Whisk ~ Made from plastic or natural broomstraw.
- Droppers ~ Glass lab droppers, medicine droppers, or pipettes.
- Rakes/Combs ~ can be purchased or made from wood screen trim (found at hardware stores) and straight pins or from plastic corner bead (found at hardware stores) and hair pins.

Miscellaneous Materials

Distilled and tap water, measuring spoons, spray bottle or small bowl, sponge, protective rubber gloves, containers to hold mixed paint in, newspaper, drying line and clothespins.

Clouds on Water

A JOURNEY INTO THE WORLD OF MARBLING

Marbling Kits Available

The **Starter Marbling Kit** (includes tank and rinse board) and the **Just-the-Basics Marbling Kit** (does not include tank and rinse board) pulls together almost everything you need to get started marbling. This not only eases the trouble of ordering from multiple suppliers, but you'll also feel confident knowing you'll be working with Barb's preferred tools and favorite materials which have been vetted by her.

[Order Your Kits Here](#)

(US shipping only)

Starter Marbling Kits

The [Starter Marbling Kit](#) is available in two sizes:

- 11"x14" tank
- 18"x24" tank

Included in the Kit:

- Clear, acrylic marbling tank
- Rinse/cover board
- Carrageenan ~ 1/4-pound or 1/2-pound
- Alum ~ 1/4-pound or 1/2-pound
- Dispersant ~ 2 oz. (large tank only)
- Stylus
- Plastic Comb (1-inch spacing)
- 10 eye droppers
- Plastic broomstraw ~ enough to make up to 10 whisks

Not included:

- Acrylic paint
- Paper (or other materials on which to marble)
- Other size rakes and combs
- Miscellaneous items such as water, sponge, spray bottle, rubber gloves (for applying alum), paint containers, and high-speed blender (to make bath)!



Just-the-Basics Marbling Kit

The [Just-the-Basics Marbling Kit](#) is geared toward those who want to source or make their own tank and rinse board but would like all the other goodies instead!

The kit is available in two sizes (small and large) and starts at \$49 plus shipping.

Included in the Kit:

- Carrageenan ~ 1/4-pound or 1/2-pound
- Alum ~ 1/4-pound or 1/2-pound
- Dispersant ~ 2 oz.
- Stylus
- Plastic Comb (1-inch spacing)
- 10 eye droppers
- Plastic broomstraw ~ enough to make up to 10 whisks



Not included:

- Tank and rinse/cover board
- Acrylic paint
- Paper (or other materials on which to marble)
- Other size rakes and combs
- Miscellaneous items such as water, sponge, spray bottle, rubber gloves (for applying alum), paint containers, and high-speed blender (to make bath)!