

ARISTA®

THE PROFESSIONAL'S CHOICE

PHOTO OILS • BY GAMBLIN

Arista® Photo Oils are high quality, transparent oil paints, manufactured by the #1 brand of oil colors in the USA, Gamblin Artist's Oil Colors. For more than 25 years, Gamblin has been manufacturing oil paints to the highest quality standards with a specific commitment to providing artists with safer, more permanent materials. Many members of Freestyle Photographic Supply's Advisory Board of Photographic Professionals have used Gamblin Oil Colors for many years and have recommended them as an excellent choice for handcoloring your black and white photographs.

Handcoloring black and white photographs is a time-honored tradition all the way back to the early years of photography. Oil paints have been used to simulate realistic/natural color in photographs as well as to allow the artist to create an altered reality from the original source material. Because of the detail work involved, handcoloring creates an inherent intimacy with ones own photographs.

Arista® Photo Oils, as with all photo oils, are best suited for use on matte surface, fiber-base, black & white photographic papers. Other papers can be used but must first be sprayed with a matte spray such as Krylon or McDonald's. Testing is necessary to achieve optimal results. Arista® Photo Oils can be used with some inkjet papers as well. Again, matte-surface fine-art papers such as Arista-II® Fine-Art 100% Cotton Inkjet papers work best.

Handcoloring on B&W Photographic Paper:

B&W, fiber-based, matte surface photographic paper prints which have been printed slightly lighter than normal and have been fixed using a non-hardening fixer work best. Arista® Photo Oils are transparent so only a small amount needs to be used for tinting. Mixing of colors is an excellent way of expanding your pallet. Experimenting with various ratios will allow you to perfect your technique. Make sure to document your favorite combinations. The Arista® Photo Oils Introductory Set is designed to give you primary colors, plus black and white so that you can create almost any color you want. The Advanced Oils Set gives you more variety of colors with the most potential for creating additional personalized colors. It also includes Arista® Photo Oils Thinner/Cleaning Solution and Extender, two additional accessory items to enhance your handcoloring technique.

Applying Color to B&W Photographs

In order to secure your print it can be useful to tape it to a smooth board using drafting tape or other low tack tape material. We also recommend using white cotton gloves to protect the print from oily fingertips while handling. Both Arista® Photo Oils kits come with Prep/Blending Solution. This medium can be applied to the entire surface of the print, allowing you to "work" the colors for days after initial application. You can also directly apply the colors to the print without the Prep/Blending Solution for faster drying. Using a pallet of cardboard, plastic, or scrap photographic paper

will aid in mixing your paints. Apply the colors using the included toothpicks and small pieces of Webril Wipes. Create your applicator or "brush" by taking a small bit of Webril Wipe and twirling it on to the tip of a toothpick. Use whatever amount is necessary to completely cover the tip of the toothpick. Apply a small amount of color to coat the area you wish to cover, then wipe off to tint your photograph. The matte surface of the paper should hold onto a thin layer of the color. You can also use a section of a Webril Wipe to cover larger areas. Good quality cotton balls and Q-tips will work as well. Make sure to use the best quality cotton you can find so that you don't leave behind loose fibers on your print. For even more transparency use a small amount of Prep/Blending solution to help in diluting the paints. Using Extender will not only thin down the paint but also add a pastel-like effect.

Removing Color from B&W Photographs

To remove color from unwanted areas or border areas, use a small amount of Prep/Blending Solution on a Webril Wipe or simply use a white eraser. Extender is used for both thinning colors to make them even more transparent and to remove color from very fine detailed areas using your Webril Wipe & toothpick applicator. You can also use Arista® Photo Oils Thinner/Cleaning Solution to clean larger areas. This solution is a highly distilled version of mineral spirits and is odor-free and safer than comparable products. It does, however, require some time to dry. There are many different techniques used to handcolor photographs. Experimentation is usually the best form of education.

Handcoloring on Inkjet Papers:

Yes, many people want to experience the same creative process of handcoloring their photographs on inkjet paper. Here are some helpful tips that will allow you to do so. Remember, inkjet emulsions react very different from standard B&W paper silver emulsions. The results on inkjet paper be a bit different but still very beautiful and appealing. Please follow these directions and remember experimentation is the best form of education.

1. As with standard photographic paper, using Matte surface papers work best.
2. Since most inkjet papers have microporous emulsions designed to absorb ink quickly, the same thing will happen with oil paints. Oils will dry very quickly therefore using a brush rather than Webril Wipes is recommended. Matte, Vellum and Retouch coating sprays help in keeping oil paints from seeping in to inkjet papers.
3. Prep/Blending Solution will absorb into inkjet papers quickly and will stain through to the back side, therefore it is not recommended to use directly on these papers. Instead we suggest using oils mixed with a small amount of Prep/Blending Solution separately on a piece of wax paper or pallet. Do not treat the surface of the paper with Prep/Blending Solution! Use brushes, paper towels and Q-tips for general use on large areas.
4. You can use Extender to help remove color as it doesn't seep into the paper as readily as the Prep/Blending Solution.
5. On Glossy Inkjet papers, you may have to experiment with combinations of Prep/Blending Solution and oil paints to keep the paint from separating on contact with the emulsion.

Distributed Exclusively by Freestyle Photographic Supplies

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