

BOTANICAL PEN AND INK (BEGINNERS and INTERMEDIATE) – KEW GARDENS
17 – 19TH and 24 -26th October 2025

MATERIALS LIST

1. Drawing equipment:

Pencils: at least 2 different hardnesses, ideally 2H and HB. In any form, either: wooden artists pencils of good quality (e.g. Staedtler, Faber Castell) OR a clutch pencil/lead holder which holds a 2mm-sized lead (e.g. Mars Technico or Staedtler).

Sharpener: a blade (e.g. scalpel or stanley knife); or lead pointer for a lead holder.

Eraser: a white plastic eraser.

Measuring device: a clear plastic ruler or set-square ruler. Dividers (simple ones with two points, OR proportional dividers. The latter are very expensive so not necessary to buy, although cheap versions are available).

2. Paper for pencil drawing: 2 - 3 x A4 sheets of good quality, heavy cartridge paper, e.g. 160 – 200gsm, with a relatively smooth surface (although not too smooth – a little tooth/texture is desirable).

If you have an existing sketchbook you like to work in, bring it

1 x A4 sheets of tracing paper

3. Paper for pen and ink drawing: smooth, bleed-proof paper such as “Bristol board” 250gsm, various brands, loose or in a pad. 2 or 3 A3 sheets which can be cut down to A4 if necessary, or 4 sheets of A4. (Small amounts of Bristol board will be available to purchase by sheet, in class).

4. Ink pens – a set of different sizes of *lightfast and waterproof* fineliner pens from brands such as: Pigma Micron, Unipin, Derwent Graphic, Steadtler; minimum 3 sizes including: 005, 01, 02. These pens are often available in sets containing a good range of sizes; **OR**

A set of different sizes of refillable “Rotring” isograph pens, e.g. sizes 0.13, 0.18, 0.25. These are however expensive and can be challenging to maintain.

FOR ALL QUERIES ABOUT MATERIALS, please email Lucy Smith: l.smith@kew.org

Useful links (for description purposes only) of materials listed above:

Clutch pencil, 2mm leads:

Mars Technico (different leads can be purchased)

<https://www.staedtler.com/intl/en/products/technical-drawing-instruments/technical-pens-drawing-ink/mars-technico-780-leadholder-m780/>

Staedtler [https://www.faber-](https://www.faber-castell.co.uk/products/TK9400clutchpencilHB%c3%982mm/139400)

[castell.co.uk/products/TK9400clutchpencilHB%c3%982mm/139400](https://www.faber-castell.co.uk/products/TK9400clutchpencilHB%c3%982mm/139400)

<https://www.faber-castell.co.uk/products/TK4600clutchpencil%c3%982mm/134600>

“lead pointer” sharpener for 2mm clutch pencil:

<https://www.staedtler.com/intl/en/products/pencils-and-accessories/sharpeners/mars-502-lead-sharpener-tub-502/>

Wooden pencils:

Staedtler Mars Lumograph: <https://www.staedtler.com/intl/en/products/pencils-and-accessories/graphite-pencils/mars-lumograph-100-drawing-pencil-m100/>

Faber Castell 9000: https://www.cultpens.com/i/q/FC05496/faber-castell-9000-pencil?glCountry=gb&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIj_Hi7dTu8QIV4oBQBh3RbQJxEAQYBSABEgKTQvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds#FC05496-HB-1

Eraser: <https://www.staedtler.com/uk/en/products/pencils-and-accessories/erasers/mars-plastic-526-50-eraser-in-premium-quality-526-50/>

Dividers: <https://www.pullingers.com/p/JK1152/technical-drafting-tools/jakar/jakar-dividers>

For cheap brass proportional dividers, search for “6” brass proportional dividers”

Proportional dividers: https://www.londongraphics.co.uk/ecobra-proportional-divider?gclid=EAlaIQobChMI1eGw_OD6-AIVSJ7tCh2zNgw5EAQYAiABEgKpJfD_BwE
<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/201824027360>

Paper: <https://www.cassart.co.uk/surfaces-category/paper-surface/product-type-paper/cass-art-heavyweight-cartridge-pad-200gsm-25-sheets.htm>

Bristol board

<https://www.winsornewton.com/na/paper/sketching-paper/bristol-paper/>

(other brands available. 250gsm)

Fineliner Ink pens

Staedtler: <https://www.staedtler.com/uk/en/products/products-for-colouring/fineliners/pigment-liner-308-fineliner-m308/>

Derwent: [https://www.derwentart.com/en-gb/p/2305559/professional-products/pens/derwent-line-maker-black-\(6\)](https://www.derwentart.com/en-gb/p/2305559/professional-products/pens/derwent-line-maker-black-(6))

Pigma Micron: <https://www.cultpens.com/i/q/SK21084/sakura-pigma-micron-drawing-pen>

Unipin: <https://uniball.co.uk/all-products/brands/pin/>

Rotring Tikki Graphic (01-0.3): <https://www.cultpens.com/i/q/RT08420/rotring-ticky-graphic-drawing-pen>

Rotring pens

Isograph (refillable ink)

<https://www.rotring.com/uk/technical-pens/50-isograph-pen-4006856151008.html>