

WEEK 1 - LEARNING IS NOT LINEAR

In this first week, you will:

- Identify your personal artistic goals.
- Gather your unified references.
- Create masterful compositions using thumbnails and storyboards.

WELCOME TO LEARNING TO SEE WEEK 1!

The **Learning to See** course fuses abstract solutions with representational techniques. It has been carefully constructed with your love of painting in mind. Our primary goal is to help you discover a myriad of approaches and techniques that empower you to create the kind of work that you have longed to see on your easel.

As you work on gathering and planning your compositions in Week 1, consider how you can work on multiple paintings throughout the next 8 weeks or more. Can they become a series? The goal is to use your own references to create a set of cohesive compositions. In the upcoming weeks, you will transform these compositions into paintings. We'll be exploring multiple techniques for merging your representational elements with abstracted playgrounds. Working in multiples allows us to try different techniques on different pieces while maintaining a sense of unity throughout the work. You will discover what works for our individual process and what makes your art – and your voice - stronger.

Just keep this in mind – **Learning is not linear!** The art you create along the way is not likely to happen in a step-by-step process. It's a journey to find the sweet spot in your art.

STEP 1 **Check your Supplies and Materials for this week** □

These are recommendations – as always, use what you have as creative alternatives.


- HOME PRINTER & PAPER or access to a print shop.
It doesn't have to print color or produce amazing quality images. In fact, standard printer paper will work better for you. You may get better results from a laser printer than an inkjet for making transfers. You can also get amazing results from your local print shop.
- Sketchbook: Minimum size Inches 8 ½ x 12, Cm 22 x 28
- Pencils: F, H, HB, 2B, B
- Kneadable Eraser
- Optional: Black Sharpie and White-out, Posca Pens or creative alternatives

STEP 2 **Make sure you are logged in <https://8paint.net/classlogin>** □

Go to your Course Dashboard and head to WEEK 1!

STEP 3

Watch all the lessons in the Week 1 class and download all the handouts:

 Allow yourself about 2 hours to watch all of the Lesson videos this week.

 Handouts can be found under the relevant Lesson video or in the Handouts Index in your Dashboard

LESSONS

☆	Introduction	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	What Connects you to your art?	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Learning to Take Stock	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HANDOUT: Taking Stock	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Gathering Your References	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Working in a Series	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Storyboarding Your Vision Part1	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HANDOUT: Thumbnail Boxes	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Storyboarding Your Vision Part2	
	- Thumbnails in Pencil	<input type="checkbox"/>
	- Thumbnails in Sharpie	<input type="checkbox"/>
	HANDOUT: Value Scale	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Photographing Your Art	<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 4 **Work on the Assignment(s)**

- 1 Take some time to thoughtfully fill out the LEARNING TO TAKE STOCK handout. This is for you. Be present for yourself and your artistic future. □

- 2 Lesson 2: Gather your references together and print them out. □

Begin selecting the images that inspire you. This part can be challenging, but the more references you have the better. Ideally, the majority of the photo references should be your own. Avoid use of copyrighted images.

It's very helpful to be able to see all of my references at once. You are creating a body of work. You can print these out on plain paper, in black and white if you wish, they are just placeholders. Organize the originals in a digital folder so you can find them easily.

Spread the prints out on the table or tape them to the wall. Establish which ones relate to each other. Begin separating your references into groups by theme.

Sometimes a single reference can be a jumping off point for an entire painting. Sometimes several references work together to create a composition.

- 3 Lesson 4: Select 3 to 5 compositions as standouts that work best together. Create thumbnails of each of the designs using black and white. □

- 4 Share some of your thumbnails in the Learning to See Facebook Group! □

STEP 5 **Join the discussion in the Comments section under each of the Lesson videos! Ask questions and share your thoughts! Read what others are saying!**

STEP 6 **Submit an image and question for adjustment.**

Each student is invited to post one new image of their artwork-in-process in the **Week 1 Group Q&A Album** in our **Learning to See Facebook Group**. When asking a question, be specific.

“I’m lost, help!” doesn’t give us any insight into the specific problem you are trying to solve.

Submissions must be uploaded to the Group Album by Wednesday, 12:00pm PST to allow the team time to review them before the Friday Live Q&A call.

You can still submit work in a Weekly Group album from a previous week’s lessons. There is no falling behind. For example, if the Group album is in Week 6 and you are in Week 3, you can submit your Week 3 work in the Week 6 album. Everyone will be at different stages throughout the course. Work at your own pace – we will meet you wherever you are in the Learning to See experience.

Please Note: As much as we would love to discuss every student’s work in the calls, sometimes, not all artwork submitted for the Friday Live Q&A calls can be discussed live due to time constraints. However, you will still receive feedback in the form of comments in the Weekly Facebook Group Album.

STEP 7 **Join the Friday Live Q&A Call at 10:30am PST**

Gabriel and the 8paint team will field some of your questions that have come up over the week, walk through image adjustments and talk about what’s coming up next.

You can join the call using the **Zoom** link (that will be in your email on Friday morning) or by watching the live stream in the **Learning to See Facebook Group**.

MY NOTES & COMMENTS for WEEK 1

Questions that I encountered:

My key takeaways, discoveries and Ah Ha! Moments:

My goals moving forward: