

**Online White Line Woodcut and Beyond**  
**Materials List**  
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**Wood**

My favorite wood is shina plywood, available from McClain's: [www.mcclain's.com](http://www.mcclain's.com). A good size to get started is 8" x 10" or 9" x 12". It's helpful to have two blocks of the same thickness; one will be used as a registration block. As an alternative, a strip of foam core board or such, that is the same thickness (or slightly less) as your woodblock, will work as a registration board.

Pine is the traditional wood used by the early Provincetown printers. Home Depot or any other lumberyard sells clear pine (knot-free) by the board in a few different widths, typically 8", 10" or 12". They will cut it down to size for you in the store.

Artist and Craftsman sells a plywood block called Craft Plywood in their model-making section that works well.

Some art supply stores sell packs of 5 wooden panels for painting on that work fine as woodcutting blocks. They have a reddish color. I think they are luan plywood; which has a "seedy" grain pattern.

**Paper**

Japanese washi paper is wonderfully soft and absorbent, and therefore is my preferred paper for white line. McClain's sells many types of washi of different thicknesses and quality. In order to hold up to the repeated inking and rubbing, your sheet will need to be medium-heavyweight: 90-140 gm/sq.in. Masa professional is a good one to start with.

Artist and Craftsman sells some washi in their store, not online yet. Shiramine is one I've used that has worked well.

Western papers such as the all-cotton Rives BFK may work well; I haven't used them, though.

**Inks**

Akua liquid printing inks are the gold standard for white line printing. It would be an investment to have to buy a whole set, though. I used ordinary Windsor and Newton tube watercolor for several years, and they work fine, too. The Akua inks have richer, denser colors; formulated specifically for printing.

**Tools**

Wood carving tools:

You will need at least one V-gouge. Flexcraft are good. Amazon sells a Mikisio Powergrip set of 5 tools for approximately \$25 that are nice. Other places to try: Artist and Craftsman, Dick Blick, Rockler, Art Supplies Wholesale.

Printing Baren:

Speedball makes a plastic one that is serviceable for around \$20. I have found a bamboo one at Artist and Craftsman (and most likely Blick's and Jerry's Artarama has them, too) that works well, for about \$10. In a pinch, a wooden or metal spoon, or smooth doorknob will work.

Brushes:

Watercolor brights (pointed tip) in size 10 or 12, no smaller.

**Miscellaneous**

Sketchbook or drawing paper

Pencil and eraser

Watercolor palette with large areas for mixing

Tracing paper

Carbon paper or transfer paper

Waxed paper

Paper towels

Ruler

Rubber shelf liner mat

Duct tape

Masking tape

Plastic or glass water holder such as a yogurt container

Small rubber roller for inking traditional-style blocks

Tool sharpening: Flexcraft slipstrop