

Materials List

In order to create your vision or mood board, you'll need to have some materials on hand. I have put together a list of must-haves and then a separate list of nice-to-haves.

You can create vision boards with very little supplies on hand so don't worry about investing a lot of money into what you'll need. If you have craft supplies at home already, there is a good chance you could make some really stellar boards with what you have on hand!

I purchase most of my supplies at Wal-Mart and the Dollar Store but I'd also recommend checking out Michael's and other arts and crafts stores. You can also think completely outside of the box and incorporate things like makeup sponges, cotton balls, rice, food colouring, etc. Look around the house to see where inspiration strikes!

Ready to get started? Me too!

Must-Haves

Magazines

I like to have a range of magazines on hand that focus on different aspects of life. For example, home décor / interior design, lifestyle, fashion, parenting, etc. Since the interior style of each magazine is different, it can provide different looks for whatever it is that I'm creating.

Before purchasing your magazines, ask your friends and family members if they have any hanging around the house. Most people are more than happy to recycle them and know that they will be going to good use!



You'll be using the magazines to cut words and photos out of to collage onto your vision and mood boards.

Paper / Canvas

The most important part! You'll want to get a good working surface. What you use is completely up to you, however! I've created vision and mood boards on all kinds of surfaces that even stretch outside of the traditional paper route. I've built the boards on cork boards, whiteboards and stretched canvases.

The easiest route, however, is paper. My most favourite medium is a poster board style of paper and I found sheets at Wal-Mart that were the perfect size (about the size of an 11x14 photo).



However, you may find that you want something really big or perhaps a regular sheet of 8.5x11 paper will do just fine.

Glue / Tape / Adhesive

Another important part of the vision boarding process is affixing your words and photos to the paper. For this, I like to have a mix of adhesive types. Here is a short list of what I've used for this:

- White glue
- Glue sticks
- Mod Podge
- Washi tape
- Scotch tape
- Double-sided sticky tape or adhesive stickers



The goal is to find whatever you enjoy working with and go with it. Glue sticks are the easiest whereas the adhesive stickers take a bit longer to work with. Mod Podge is a great overall sealant to keep everything in place but you'll still need to affix them to the paper to start.

Scissors / Hole Punch

In order to cut up those magazines, you're going to need a sharp tool to do it with!

Another tool that I like to have on hand, just in case, is a hole punch. I've punched holes in my vision and mood boards before and pushed tissue paper flowers through the holes or weaved ribbon through it.

If you have them at home, shape cutters and other tools like that can also add to the creative flair!

Also pictured: my glue gun! Perfect for affixing accents.



Nice-to-Haves

Card Stock / Tissue Paper



I like to have a variety of card stock, paper types and tissue paper on hand so that I can incorporate different mediums into the vision and mood boards. While it's not necessary, you may find that it provides a different visual and textural feel to your work.

I've picked up the mini card stock booklets at WalMart for less than \$6 whereas the larger Martha Stewart books will run you closer to \$25. Tissue paper can be purchased relatively inexpensively at the Dollar Store.

Stencils

Another fun thing to have on hand is a variety of stencils. Stencils can be a fun way to incorporate some patterns into the background of your work before you begin layering other pieces (ie: magazine cut outs, words, etc.)

With stencils, you'll want to purchase some daubing sponges as they work best with the stencils (they are in the jar in the photo). They have an angled handle, which makes daubing paint onto the stencil easy while you hold it down with one hand) and the sponge is much easier to work with than a paint brush (in my experience).



Paint & Paint Supplies



I use paint on my vision boards and mood boards... a lot. The paint becomes the background for the board and I've found that it adds a fantastic base on which to layer the other elements.

I mostly use acrylic paint but also have watercolours on hand as well. My paint brushes are cheap – I am not creating the next Mona Lisa here so high quality brushes aren't needed. I simply like them to be able to transfer paint from the palette to the paper.

Speaking of palettes, I get most of my palettes at the Dollar Store. They are plastic and washable (just don't wash them in the dishwasher... trust me, it bakes acrylic paint into everything else in the dishwasher... yes, it's happened to me!) and if they get really terrible, you can always recycle them and buy new ones.

Also, if you don't want to spend a small fortune on a wide range of color, invest in a large bottle of white and a few smaller bottles of your primary colors and mix your own!

Accents

Another thing that is a nice-to-have are accents. I have a wide range of these in my office, mostly due to having a four year old in the house, and I collect them often.

Accents can include:

- Glitter
- Flowers
- Stickers
- Confetti
- Mini Clothespins
- Gems



Get creative! Look around the house – my guess is you have more on hand than you think!

Markers, Pencil Crayons & More



While not a necessity, they can be nice to have on hand as you work through your vision boards. I like to have Sharpies in a wide range of colors, pencil crayons, regular markers and, sometimes, crayons.

I will often use the markers (specifically, the Sharpies) for adding additional text or accents that I don't have on hand in my magazine cut outs or in my accents supply.

Plus, having this many Sharpies on hand at any given time is just awesome... Am I right? ;)

Card Stock / Tissue Paper

I really should move this to the must-haves because I use both of these items ALL THE TIME.

Clean up is important and, if you are adverse to getting messy, you'll want to have these accessible. I mostly use baby wipes and Lysol wipes. Baby wipes for continuously wiping my hands when I'm working with paint and the Lysol wipes for bigger messes and for end of session clean-up.

And no, this isn't an ad for Lysol wipes ;) You can use any wipes you like!



Your Turn!

I would love to hear from you! What are your favourite materials to have on hand? Feel free to drop your own list in the [Facebook group](#).

Happy creating!