The Met Copyist Program: Guidelines for Requesting to Copy a Work of Art

We encourage you to visit The Met in person to see the location and position of your chosen artwork before submitting your request. Often a request to copy is denied because the gallery containing the selected artwork is too small, or because the workspace might potentially block visitors’ views of the artwork. You may propose to work in any areas of the Museum’s collection; however, due to size constraints and traffic flow, the following galleries do not allow for copying:

600, 602, 603, 604, 605, 616, 624, 625, 626, 627, 632, 635, 636, 641, 642, 644, 748, 767, 772, 758, 800, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 821, 822, 823, 826, 829

Additionally, no works by Cézanne, Monet, or Van Gogh may be copied in any galleries, nor may El Greco’s View of Toledo be copied. Works in temporary exhibitions are also not available for copying.

Materials

Previous gallery-approved projects include:

- Oil painting (with restrictions on solvents)
- Painting with other media including acrylic and gouache
- Sculpture with oil-based clay

We will consider requests to use other materials in the galleries, but please keep in mind the safety of the artwork when completing your application. Visitors are free to sketch in pencil throughout the Museum at any time, and therefore the Copyist Program does not accept requests to draw in the galleries.

The Met Sketching Policy

- Sketching, in pencil only, is permitted in all the collection galleries of The Met. Sketching is also permitted in most exhibitions; please inquire at the Information Desk in the Great Hall about current exhibitions and guidelines.
- The use of ballpoint pens, ink, markers, fountain pens, or watercolors is not permitted at any time. Crayon, pastel, and charcoal are permitted only on Museum-supervised tours that specifically authorize their use.
- While sketching, please do not hinder visitor traffic flow in the galleries.
- During periods of high attendance, the Museum reserves the right to make any necessary adjustments to this sketching policy.

For any questions, please contact publicprograms@metmuseum.org.