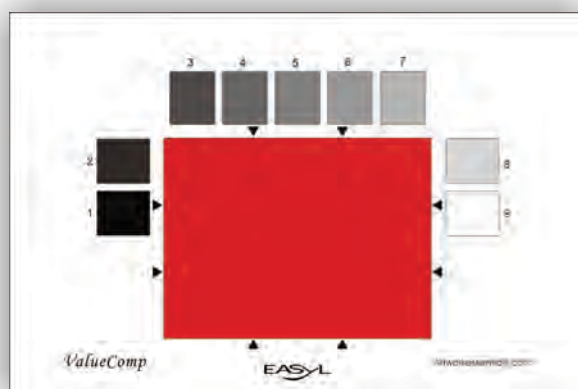


Preparing The Palette Surface

The general idea is to prepare the surface of the palette for easier cleaning, and with a medium gray tone for comparing the mixing color value.

When mixing color on a palette, always compare the value of the color with the mid gray tone on the palette, this will help you to get the correct color value. Usually, on a plain air canvas, we only paint 5 different value scales: The medium (5), two lighter (6, 7), and two darker (3, 4) value scales. Avoid using the extremes (except a small spot of highlight). Refer to the value chart on the **ValueComp** shown below.



You may tone the palette surface with oil paint or a gray primer spray. However, We found the primer spray is a little bit too dark. Therefore, instead of using the primer spray, you may just use your oil paint to mix a lighter gray to tone the wood. It is only a personal preference.

Remember, colors are relative. If you choose a darker gray as your medium tone, then your work will look darker even all the values are correct. Because the outdoor light is very bright, all color seems lighter under the sun, then you will find the work looks too dark when viewing indoor.

After the gray paint is completely dried, you can either cover the surface with a piece of glass, or Plexiglass. Use some Silicon glue to affix the glass from moving.

Since the glass is heavy and easy to break, we suggest to cover the gray surface with a few layers of PU instead. You may buy a can of clear PU spray from any home supply shop. The PU spray is clear. Apply thin layers of PU on the surface (gray toned) about 10 to 15 layers. Make sure the one layer of PU is dried before applying another layer. You will get a clear hardened surface of palette.



Please try the process on a separate piece of wood first, and you are happy with the result before doing so on your Pochade box.