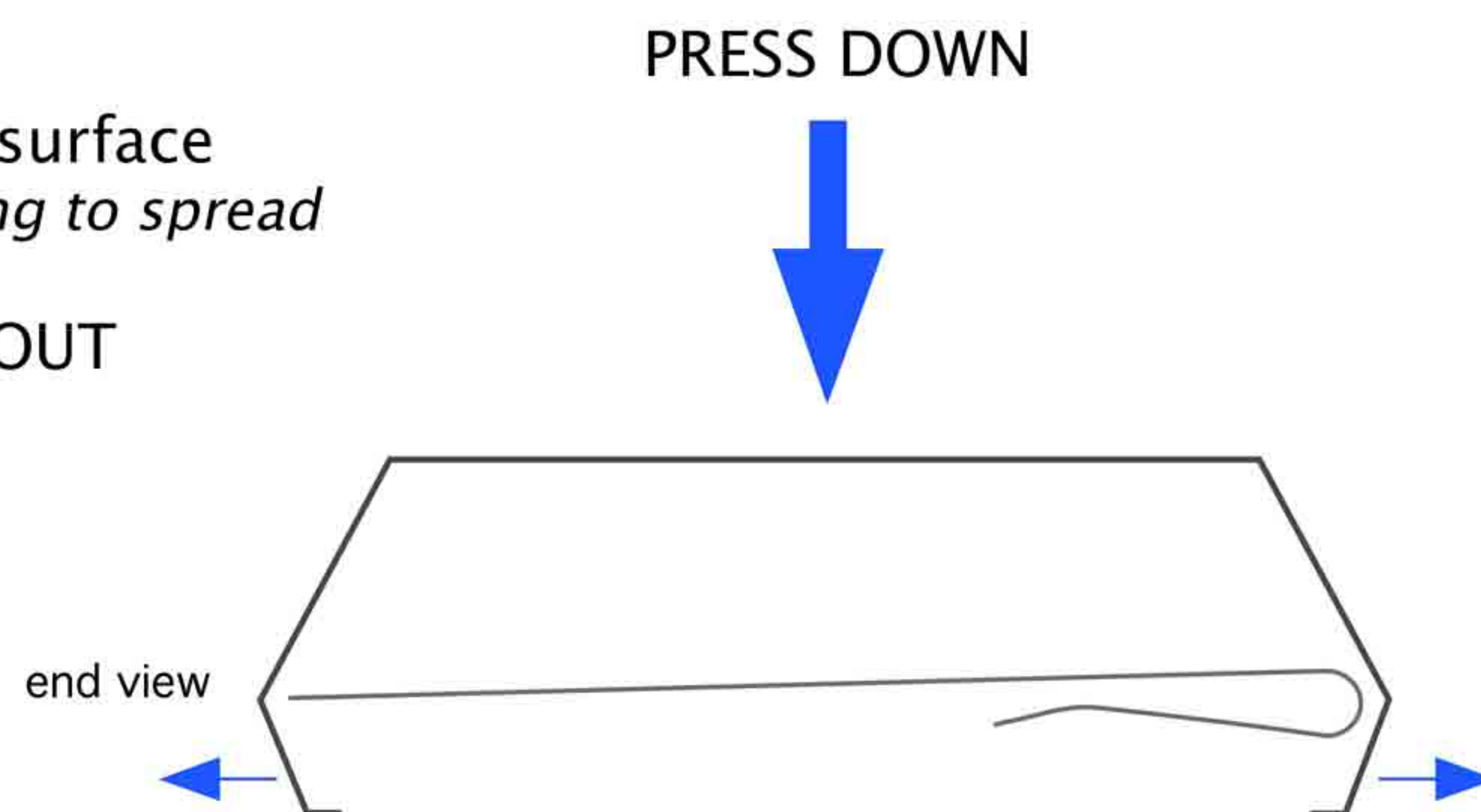




Paint-Saver Palette™ (PsP) Quick-Start

To easily slide *PsP* in and out of its housing—

- 1—Place housing on a flat surface
- 2—Press your palm down firmly on its top surface
(This will cause the side “legs” of the housing to spread slightly, relaxing its grip on the palette)
- 3—Use your other hand to slide *PsP* IN or OUT



INSTRUCTIONS for PREPARATION and USE:

Laying out your paints: Aluminum is an ideal, inert support upon which to place and store oil paints — but before laying your colors out on the *Paint-Saver Palette (PsP)*, please carefully consider the following to ensure best performance:

- 1—**Plan your arrangement of colors:** Your *PsP*'s surface is laser-etched with a 30-slot grid to help you plan a well-organized layout of colors. With the *PsP* acting as your *color keyboard*, you can be sure of which colors are which, and reach for them quickly and intuitively. Give your color arrangement some thought beforehand — you might first pencil in your planned arrangement, using the template provided (see other side), before actually laying your paints out. (Your colors can be arranged according to your own preference — or to one of the recommended palette layouts on the FineArtTech.com website.)
- 2—**Leave some room:** Be sure to designate a place (like the area around and above the FineArtTech logo) to remain clear of paint so you'll have some room to grip the *PsP* with your fingers when transferring it to and from its housing. Also, try to limit the quantity of paint you place near the very edges of your *PsP* (see #6 below).
- 3—**Surface prep:** Before placing colors on the *PsP*, it's a good idea to wipe its surface with some rubbing alcohol or mineral spirits to ensure you have a clean, dry, non-oily base on which to place your paints. (Like a typical artist's hand-held palette, the *PsP* is designed to hold your paints in place while its surface is tilted at a slight angle toward you — how much of a tilt will depend on how oily your paints are.)
- 4—**Minimize excess oil in your paints:** It's not unusual for the oil in tubes of paint to separate, resulting in a “gusher” of fluid upon opening. Don't lay out paints having a runny consistency directly, since they may slide into adjacent colors, or off your *PsP* when it's tilted. Especially with a fresh tube of oil paint, it's always best to begin by placing your first “squeeze” onto an absorbant surface, like a paper towel or a coffee filter. If there's lots of oil separation, the towel or filter will soak up most of the excess oil in about an hour. You can then transfer your colors onto the *PsP* using your painting knife, and they should stay put. (See “A NOTE FROM Camille” below!)
- 5—**Press paint firmly onto surface:** If you're sure of the consistency of your colors, be sure to press the paint firmly down onto the *PsP*'s surface as you dispense it directly from the tube. If you are using your painting knife to transfer a color from the paper towel or filter, first try to create a solid “footprint” (thin layer of paint). In either case, you want to establish a wide, solid area of contact that anchors the paint and keeps it from sliding around.
- 6—**Limit paint at palette's edges:** To avoid smearing your colors when storing the *PsP* in its housing, take care to maintain a small (1/8”) margin at the edges of the *PsP* that is relatively clear of any thick amount of paint. (In fact, it's best to slightly taper your paint supply away from the edge so that the thickest amount of each color is placed closer toward the center of the *PsP*, where there's little danger of the walls of the housing coming into contact with it.)
- 7—**Transport and store in housing with paint facing up:** When you're not painting, don't challenge gravity — ensure your paints remain in place by always trying to handle, transport, and store your *PsP* with your colors facing up (especially in warm temperature conditions).

Be prepared: Don't wait until you're just about to paint to lay your colors out. Take your time to carefully arrange and lay out your colors BEFORE an event or workshop, and then put the *PsP* in the freezer. You'll then be ready to paint UPON ARRIVAL!

A NOTE FROM Camille —

You have your new *Paint-Saver Palette*. It feels like the first day of school. You are excited about your new palette — and getting your colors carefully laid out.

***IMPORTANT:** Before you put the paint on this new, shining surface, you have to make sure that you have put the more oily paints on the paper towel or coffee filter to absorb some of the excess oil. You have done this but a few of the paints may slowly slip off the palette if it is tilted — they may still be too oily. Do not despair as this will stop happening once a thin film of oil paint has formed and the surface isn't so shiny. Perhaps in the beginning it would be prudent to tilt your palette at a less extreme angle to make sure the paint will not slip off. The palette over time will be more forgiving.

Storing *PsP* in Freezer:

- 1—**Plastic carrying case:** When you've come back from painting, you can simply put the plastic carrying case, with the *PsP* and housing still inside, into the freezer. (**Note:** Be careful with the plastic carrying case when removing it from the freezer — frozen plastic can become brittle and shatter if dropped!)
- 2—**Plastic bag:** If the plastic carrying case doesn't fit in your freezer (or you don't want to worry about it shattering), just put the *PsP* and housing in a plastic bag before placing them in the freezer (the housing itself is about the size of a standard ice cube tray).

Traveling with your *PsP*: The plastic carrying case will help to keep your paints (and you!) clean during transport. Remember to keep the side of your *PsP* that's loaded with paint facing up when traveling.

Attaching *PsP* to your setup:

Hand-held palettes: Clip the *PsP* onto your hand-held palette where you would normally lay out your colors.

- 1—**Clipping onto 1/8” thickness:** The *PsP* is designed to clip onto a 1/8” thick support. Most hand-held palettes are about 1/8” thick (in order to be as lightweight as possible), as are all the accessory panels (Clip-Boards and Easel Kits) we offer. A good way of loosening the *PsP*'s grip if you feel it is gripping your 1/8” panel or palette too tightly is to repeatedly clip it on and then unclip it off a slightly thicker support (a sheet or two of paper folded over the edge of your 1/8” support). This will stretch the *PsP*'s clip, and relax its grip on the 1/8” support.
- 2—**Clipping onto 1/4” thickness:** The *PsP* can be clipped onto a palette or panel with a thickness of up to 1/4”. However, remember, doing so will stretch the clip's grip so that it will no longer tightly grip a 1/8” support.
- 3—**Making the grip tighter:** The *PsP*'s clip, once stretched, is very difficult to bend back again. However, you can easily make its grip tighter by simply taping or gluing some thickness (e.g., a thin strip of cardboard) on to the back of whatever support you're clipping it onto.

Easel Kits and Clip-Boards: The *PsP* has been designed to clip onto a variety of Clip-Boards that can be adapted for use on a wide variety of easels (see website for photos). Your *PsP* Kit comes with a Basic Clip-Board.

- 1—**Attaching Clip-Board to an easel:** To attach the Basic Clip-Board to your easel set up, simply orient it in a variably tilted position as shown at the website, and secure in place using the two 10” bungee cords provided. You can place whatever palette or mixing surface you have been using under the Clip-Board, or just in front of it. You'll want enough tension on the Clip-Board to keep it stable in the tilted position you've chosen, but allow it to be pulled slightly away from what it's leaning against (in order to slide the *PsP* on and off).
- 2—**Adjusting bungee cord tension:** To add more tension in order to hold the Clip-Board more securely, shorten one or both of the bungee cords by tying knots in the elastic. (See “Accessories” page of website to learn how you can permanently shorten the bungee cords.)
- 3—**Clipping on the *PsP*:** Before placing the *PsP* loaded with paint onto the Clip-Board, it's sometimes a good idea to make absolutely sure you've got the Clip-Board firmly anchored in place. Then pull the top of the Clip-Board forward slightly, and slide the *PsP* onto it.

* See our website's “FAQs” page for more tips on placing your paints on your *PsP*. Also, if you're not sure how to attach the Clip-Board in a stable orientation on your setup, visit the “Easel Kits” page, and look at the photos of the setups that are similar to your model easel.