# Article information:

Alla Prima Portrait Painting with Oils Tutorial by Liam Dickinson | Ken Bromley Art Supplies  
<https://www.artsupplies.co.uk/blog/alla-prima-portrait-painting-with-oils-tutorial-by-liam-dickinson/>

# Article summary:

1. The process of Alla Prima Portrait Painting with oils begins with a reference photo, taken in the client's home to capture interesting backgrounds and lighting setups.

2. The artist uses a primed hardboard panel as the surface for the portrait, which provides a smooth texture for the oil paint to glide across. A glass palette is used for mixing colors.

3. The painting process involves drawing with a pencil using a grid as a guide, consolidating the drawing with an under-painting, blocking in the majority of the portrait, adding smaller details, and finishing off with background and hair.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Alla Prima Portrait Painting with Oils Tutorial by Liam Dickinson" provides a step-by-step guide to painting a portrait using oils. While the article offers some useful tips and techniques, there are several potential biases and limitations to consider.

Firstly, the article is published on the website of Ken Bromley Art Supplies, which sells art materials including oil paints. This suggests a potential bias towards promoting their products and may influence the information provided in the tutorial. The author mentions using Ken Bromley's Artist brand oil paints, but does not provide any evidence or comparison to other brands to support their claim that these paints have a "lovely buttery consistency" and are "excellent value for money." This lack of evidence raises questions about the objectivity of the information presented.

Additionally, the article only presents one approach to portrait painting - alla prima - which involves completing a painting in one sitting. While this technique can be effective for some artists, it is not suitable for everyone and may not be explored as thoroughly as other methods. The article could benefit from discussing alternative approaches to portrait painting and their advantages or disadvantages.

Furthermore, the article does not address any potential risks or safety considerations when working with oil paints. Oil paints contain toxic substances such as lead and cadmium, which can be harmful if ingested or inhaled. It would be responsible to include information about proper ventilation, protective measures, and safe disposal of materials.

The tutorial also lacks exploration of counterarguments or alternative perspectives. For example, while the author recommends using a grid for drawing accuracy, they do not discuss potential drawbacks or alternative methods for achieving accurate proportions in a portrait. Including different viewpoints would provide readers with a more comprehensive understanding of portrait painting techniques.

Lastly, there is an element of promotional content throughout the article. The author mentions specific products from Ken Bromley Art Supplies without providing sufficient evidence or comparisons to support their claims about their quality or value for money. This promotional tone may undermine the credibility of the information presented.

In conclusion, while the article provides a step-by-step guide to portrait painting with oils, there are several potential biases and limitations to consider. The author's affiliation with Ken Bromley Art Supplies raises questions about objectivity, and the tutorial lacks exploration of alternative techniques and perspectives. Additionally, there is a promotional tone throughout the article that may undermine its credibility.

# Topics for further research:

* Alternative techniques for portrait painting with oils
* Pros and cons of alla prima portrait painting
* Safety considerations when working with oil paints
* Different methods for achieving accurate proportions in portrait drawing
* Comparisons of different oil paint brands for portrait painting
* Tips for promoting ventilation and safe disposal of oil paint materials

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