



WOOD FINISHES DIRECT

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For purchasing information visit:
[Farrow and Ball Soft Distemper](#)

FARROW & BALL®

HANDCRAFTED PAINT AND WALLPAPER

PRODUCT ADVICE SHEET

Soft Distemper

All Farrow & Ball paints are water based, making them low-odour, low-VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds), and quick to dry. They also score the highest possible A+ rating for indoor air quality in accordance with the independently conducted French Indoor Air Quality Decree N° 2011-321 – Arrêté April 2011.

Available Tin Sizes: 5 L,

For colour availability, please visit farrow-ball.com. Available to order direct from farrow-ball.com, through our Customer Services team at sales@farrow-ball.com or on +44 (0) 1202 876141, and in showrooms and selected stockists internationally.

Product Overview:

An exquisitely powdery finish for fine interior plasterwork, Soft Distemper is a blend of natural resin and minerals that can be easily removed from detailing and cornices. Not washable or wipeable.

Cleaning Prior to Painting:

For best results, make sure your surface, tools and product are clean before you begin. For most surfaces we would recommend using a dilute Sugar Soap solution following the manufacturer's instructions. We do not recommend using solvent-based cleaning products or strong alkaline solutions as these can impact adhesion. After cleaning, wipe the surface with a damp cloth and allow to dry. When opening a new tin of paint, don't allow any dust or debris to fall from the lid into the contents. If you're reusing a tin of paint, we recommend straining it. Make sure your tools are clean, including your stirrer, and we recommend dampening your brush or roller then removing excess water before loading with paint.

Colour Accuracy:

Check for colour accuracy prior to use as Farrow & Ball will not be liable for decorating costs caused as a result of an incorrect colour being applied. When more than one tin of the same colour is to be used ensure that batch numbers are identical or intermix before use. Stir thoroughly before use. Please note that different application tools (e.g. brush, roller, spray) may give a slight visual difference in the final colour. For some darker shades, finishes with different sheen levels painted alongside each other may appear to vary slightly in colour when viewed at certain angles.

Painting with Soft Distemper:

Requires no undercoat. Dilution: As supplied Soft Distemper requires an addition of at least 10 % water. For ceilings of varying porosity a further dilution may be required to provide good flow and minimise variations in colour and tone. Ensure all surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Flaking or peeling may occur if painting over weak paint layers. New surfaces – Newly lime plastered surfaces should be fully carbonated and cured for 4-5 weeks prior to application. Previously distempered surfaces – wash off the existing distemper thoroughly, paying particular attention to the crevices of delicate mouldings, and allow to dry. Previously painted surfaces (modern finishes) - It is not suitable for surfaces painted with modern finishes such as emulsion, gloss or eggshell, these need to be removed prior to painting. Plaster ceilings which have salt problems will stain and blister subsequent paint coatings, using Soft Distemper will allow the ceiling to breathe and enable the problem to be monitored. Structurally damaged surfaces - such as cracking or loose plaster must be repaired or filled with an appropriate filler. Farrow & Ball do not recommend the use of modern fillers on lime based substrates as they will trap moisture and are too hard, leading to cracking and uneven porosity when painting. Considerations: Due to the traditional nature of this finish, Farrow & Ball Soft Distemper will not accept subsequent layers of modern paints. Soft Distemper is made in the traditional manner using fine pigments and will inevitably have some small variations in colour. The porosity and moisture content of the surface it is applied to will affect the colour and can lead to changes in tone.

How to Apply Soft Distemper to Ceilings & Intricate Plaster Mouldings by Brush:

Stir thoroughly before use. Ensure all surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Please note that flaking or peeling may occur if you paint over weak paint layers - to avoid this sand back any previous weak paint layers before you start painting. Using a fine-tipped synthetic bristled brush, apply the paint in a vertical direction then spread the paint out evenly in a horizontal direction. On application of the final coat lay off the paint in a single direction to ensure that any brush marks and brush patterning effects (sometimes visible in certain lighting conditions) are minimised.

How to Apply Soft Distemper to Ceilings & Intricate Plaster Mouldings by Roller:

We do not recommend applying Soft Distemper by roller to large areas such as walls and ceilings as a slight surface texture (stippling) may be visible.

Masking:

Masking tapes are available in a range of tack levels. Always use a quality masking tape which is appropriate to the decorating project. Some masking tapes incorporate proprietary paint locking technology which can give a superior result.

Preparation for Spraying:

When spraying Farrow & Ball paints onto any given surface, it is important to remember that the resulting finish will only be as good as the surface you are applying it to. Most surfaces will need to be clean and degreased, prepared by surface filling, sanding and then suitably primed/undercoated. Flattening with finishing papers in between coats as required, to achieve a smooth flat surface before spraying your chosen Farrow & Ball finish. This process may need to be repeated several times to obtain a satisfactory surface when applying trim finishes. Make sure your spraying apparatus (including the gun and compressor unit) is appropriate for the size of the area being painted and your chosen finish. If dilution is required, keep this to the minimum possible according to the instructions of your apparatus and our suggested dilution ratios.

Spray Settings:

We do not recommend HVLP spray application for large areas such as ceilings. Airless Spraying – Best results can be achieved with a typical set up of a 410 nozzle tip and 180 bar air injection pressure. Note that these are typical settings for most airless spray systems and some adjustment of the air pressure in relation to the nozzle tip will be required depending on the make and model of airless spray apparatus used.

Clean Up:

Remove as much product as possible from brushes. Clean brushes with warm soapy water.

Picture Framing:

As Soft Distemper has a matt finish, care should be taken when painting darker shades of colour. Always keep a wet edge while painting as losing the wet edge during application can lead to a common decorating problem known as “Flashing” (a halo effect where two edges of paint meet).

Other Product Applications:

If you wish to use Farrow & Ball products for any applications which are not featured here, please contact Customer Services for advice on +44 (0) 1202 876141 or email customer.services@farrow-ball.com. Please note that calls may be recorded for training purposes.

Application Information:

Do not paint in temperatures below 10°C or in excessive heat above 30°C.

Coverage Rate (m²/l per coat): : Up to 13

Drying Time: : Dry in 2 hours.

Sheen Level: : 2%

Recommended Number of Coats: : 1*

*Darker/stronger colours may require additional coats. Please note: The drying and recoat times provided are based on applying paint in normal conditions - drying times may be longer in cooler and/or higher humidity environments.

Darker colors may take longer to dry.

Density: : 1.2 - 1.4 g/cc

Wet Film Thickness: : 80 - 120 µm

Application Humidity: : < 80 % RH

Wet Abrasion Class: : No Classification

Cleaning:

Soft Distemper is not washable or wipeable. Please note that very matt finish of this paint will mean that some colours will become marked or scuffed when washed. For areas of high wear consider using Farrow & Ball Modern Emulsion.

Storage Advice:

This product is water based and should be protected from frost and extreme temperatures. We recommend using within 6 months of purchase and are unable to accept responsibility for the deterioration of contents or packaging after this date. This product contains preservatives to protect from spoilage under normal conditions. To minimise contamination and provide maximum shelf life we recommend that the product is decanted into a clean paint kettle before use and all tools are thoroughly cleaned before and after each use. Repeated opening and use can increase the risk of microbial contamination; therefore we recommend keeping this to a minimum to maximise the shelf life of the product.

Environmental & Disposal Advice:

Do not empty into drains or watercourses. Dispose of contents/container to waste disposal site in accordance with local/national regulations. Contact the local Environmental Department for disposal instructions. Metal containers may be recycled.

VOC Content Information:

EU limit value for this product (cat. A/[a]): 30g/l (2010). This product contains max 1 g/l VOC.



Application Information:

A water based dispersion of pigments in cellulose.

Liquid water permeability according to DIN EN 1062 3 (w24 [kg/m²√24h]):

1.48 (Class I, limit >0.5). This is the volume of water absorbed into a 1m² area through the paint surface within a 24 hour period. The lower the w24 value, the more waterproof the paint film. Paint water absorption is class rated, from Class I to Class III. Class I in this instance denotes a low waterproof rating.

Health & Safety Advice:

Warning! Hazardous respirable droplets may be formed when sprayed. Do not breathe spray or mist. Keep out of reach of children. Ensure good ventilation during application and drying. Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Do not use solvent thinners or White Spirit. IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. IF SWALLOWED: Call a doctor if you feel unwell. Safety data sheet available on request. When sanding any surface prior to painting, the creation of dust should be kept to a minimum and adequate & suitable Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) should be worn as a sensible precaution.

Contact Us:

For advice on colours, paint finishes or wallpaper our customer services team is on hand to help you, just call +44 (0) 1202 876141, email sales@farrow-ball.com, or write to us at Farrow & Ball, Uddens Estate, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 7NL, UK. Please note that calls may be recorded for training purposes. Imported in EU by Farrow & Ball, Kaiserstraße 25, Frankfurt am Main, Deutschland, +49 (0) 69 2424 6269.

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The information given in these specification sheets and technical advice - whether verbal, in writing or by way of trials - is for guidance and is given in good faith but without warranty, since skill of application and site conditions are beyond our control. For further information please contact our Customer Services Department. We can accept no liability for the performance of the products arising out of such use, beyond the value of the goods delivered by us. This does not affect your statutory rights.

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