

PRODUCT ADVICE

SOFT DISTEMPER



All Farrow & Ball paints are eco friendly and comply with the latest environmental legislation regarding the VOC (volatile organic compounds) content of paints.

Availability: In 5 litre tins in selected Farrow & Ball colours, please refer to the Farrow & Ball colour card or website for full listing. Available direct from Farrow & Ball, our Showrooms and selected stockists throughout Europe.

Usage: A simple, traditional distemper bound with natural resins to create a flat powdery finish. It allows ceilings to breathe and can be used on fine plasterwork to enhance detailing.

Preparation: Requires no undercoat. 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.**

For further information on older or period properties, please refer to our Fact Sheet on The Decoration of Period Properties.

New surfaces – apply onto bare plaster that is free of salts. 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 gloss or eggshell, these need to be removed prior to painting.

Plaster ceilings that have salt problems will stain and blister paints, by using Soft Distemper it 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 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.

Distemper made in the traditional manner and using traditional pigments will inevitably have some small variations in colour. The colour will also change according to the surface it is applied to. The porosity and moisture content of the surface will affect the colour and can lead to changes in tone.

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. When diluting over 10% the strength of the binder will start to reduce.

Always stir distempers before adding water.

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

Please check for colour accuracy prior to use as we 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.

Apply by brush (or spray for fragile plasterwork or uneven surfaces). One coat will often be sufficient to achieve a good finish. When diluting more than 10% water, two coats may be required.

The product is unstable if applied too thickly and should be thinned down as appropriate to the porosity of the surface it is being applied to, refer to dilution section above. **Due to the traditional nature of this distemper, touching in should be avoided.**

Clean up: Clean brushes and rollers with warm soapy water.

Cleaning: This product is **not** washable or wipeable.

Formulation: A dispersion of pigments in a binder of cellulose glues and natural resins in water.

Storage: This product is not flammable. It must always be protected from frost and kept in a cool, dry place, between 5 - 20°C. It will separate if left standing. Stir to regain consistency. Use within 6 months of purchase. We accept no responsibility for the deterioration of contents or packaging after this date.

Disposal: Though water based, please do not dispose of into watercourse. Waste materials must be disposed of in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and relevant regulations made there under. For further information contact the Environment Office at your local council.

Health & Safety: Ensure good ventilation during application and drying. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. After contact with skin wash immediately with plenty of soap and water or a proprietary skin cleanser. Keep out of reach of children. **Safety Data Sheets are available for professional users on request.**

Environment: Actual VOC content g/l 0.5g/l

VOC content w/w: 0.03%

Classification: Minimal

2010 max. permitted limit grams per litre 30 g/l

CATEGORY a

Coverage	Drying Time	Recoat Time	Sheen Level	Thinners
Up to 65 m ² per 5 litres depending on the thickness of application and the porosity of the surface.	1-2 hours surface dry. Hard overnight.	One coat will often achieve a good finish.	2 %	Water if required

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