

FARROW & BALL®

HANDCRAFTED PAINT AND WALLPAPER

PRODUCT ADVICE SHEET

Exterior Eggshell

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.

Product Overview:

A versatile finish with a silky 20% sheen, Exterior Eggshell adds lasting colour to almost anything in your outdoor space, from wooden window frames and cladding to metal guttering and railings. Our flexible resin rich formula gently expands and contracts with the weather to avoid flaking, peeling and fading for up to six years.

Not Suitable For:

Not suitable for exterior decking or other pressure treated wood. This product isn't suitable for basements or buildings without a functioning, damp-proof course and membrane because this can cause failure between the paint and surface being painted, which can include flaking, peeling and blistering.

Available Tin Sizes: 750 ml 2.5 Litre

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.

Recommended Primer & Undercoats:

For use on exterior woodwork: Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat

For use on metal: Farrow & Ball Metal Primer & Undercoat

Priming and Undercoating Advice:

Using a Farrow & Ball Primer & Undercoat or mist coat seals the surface you're painting on. You should have a full, solid coat of Farrow & Ball Primer & Undercoat or mist coat before applying your topcoat, to ensure that your chosen Farrow & Ball finish sticks to it fully, is evenly absorbed, and has a smooth and even finish with rich depth of colour. Don't over dilute the Farrow & Ball Primer & Undercoat or mist coat. This will reduce their opacity, causing an uneven finish and incomplete colour development. Before applying the top coat, consider if a second, undiluted coat of Farrow & Ball Primer & Undercoat or mist coat is needed to achieve full opacity. This is especially important if there is a significant colour change.

Before You Begin Painting:

To get the best out of Farrow & Ball finishes, it's important to make sure your surface is correctly prepared. Poor preparation is the main cause of most paint problems. Surfaces must be in a sound condition, clean, dry and free from any surface contamination, such as dirt, dust, grease, mould and loose/ friable material. The surface should also be lightly sanded to create a slight texture for better adhesion, and then any resulting dust wiped away.

For exterior wood, if the surface is resinous or knotty then follow the instructions below for knotty or resinous wood preparation. For more severe knots, consider using a knotting solution or an aluminium-based wood primer or even completely remove the knot and replace with a wooden plug. Changing the colour of exterior woodwork from light to dark will greatly increase the amount of heat it absorbs from the sun. In some cases, this additional heat may cause resin and gases to be released by the wood, leading to warping and distortion of large items, such as garage doors. So, if you're planning a significant colour change on a wooden surface exposed to direct sunlight, consider avoiding our darkest shades and instead, choose a colour with a Light Reflectance Value (LRV) greater than 55 — for further information on this, contact our customer relations team.

For exterior metal, follow the advice given below for ferrous, non-ferrous, galvanised and radiator preparation. For cast iron, we recommend that a specialist primer (usually solvent based) is applied prior to painting as water-based primers may lead to flash rusting. For exterior ferrous metal in more severe environments, such as coastal areas, consider using a specialist metal primer.

When exterior coatings are applied under unfavourable conditions - such as high humidity, insufficient dew-point separation, or excessive film thickness - common failures like blistering, efflorescence, cracking, and premature delamination can occur. Exterior render coatings should be applied only when air, surface, and material temperatures are between 10°C - 30°C (50°F - 86°F). The surface temperature must be at least 3°C (5°F) above the dew point to prevent condensation during application and curing. Coating exterior surfaces that are too cold, too hot, or exposed to direct sunlight can cause rapid drying, resulting in cracking, lap marks, and uneven sheen. The ideal range for application is 40 - 80% RH. High humidity slows drying and curing and increases the risk of alkali attack or efflorescence, particularly on newer or moisture-retaining render. In coastal or fog-prone areas, coating should be delayed until the surface is fully dry and stable conditions are present.

Lead Advice:

Special precautions should be taken during the preparation of old paint surfaces (especially those from pre-1990), as they may contain harmful lead. For further advice and guidance see coatings.org.uk/paintsafe.

Health & Safety Advice:

Safety data sheet available on request. Contains 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one, 2-methylisothiazol-3(2H)-one and reaction mass of 5-chloro-2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one and 2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (3:1). May produce an allergic reaction. Read label before use. Keep out of reach of children. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. Ensure good ventilation during application and drying.

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. When colour drenching a room in the same colour, best results can be achieved by using the same finish on all surfaces. Dead Flat, Modern Emulsion, Flat Eggshell and Modern Eggshell are suitable finishes for colour drenching across multiple surfaces.

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.

Exterior Previously Painted Wood Surface Preparation:

Ensure all surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Remove any areas of old paint which are peeling or blistering as flaking or peeling can occur if you paint over weak paint layers. Blend and 'feather' the edges of areas of old paint, as this helps to smooth out the surface. Fill any cracks, holes and open joints with a water based exterior wood filler. Lightly sand the surface to improve paint adhesion. In environments where wood rotting fungi is likely to occur, treat with exterior wood preservative prior to priming. Prepare any knotty or resinous areas as above and patch prime with Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat. Apply one coat of Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat (and allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats). Then apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats. Please note: Repeatedly repairing cracks, holes and open joints in a surface may indicate that the surface is nearing the end of its life and will require additional effort to maintain it. If this is the case consider renewal or replacement.

Exterior Bare Wood Surface Preparation:

Ensure surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Fill any cracks, holes and open joints with a water based exterior wood filler. To improve the paint's adhesion, lightly sand the surface. In environments where wood rotting fungi is likely to occur, treat with exterior wood preservative prior to priming. Prepare any knotty or resinous areas as above and patch prime with Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat. Apply one coat of Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat, and allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time. Apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats. Please note: Repeatedly repairing cracks, holes and open joints in a surface may indicate that the surface is nearing the end of its life and will require additional effort to maintain it. If this is the case consider renewal or replacement. Not suitable for exterior decking or other pressure treated wood.

Ferrous Metal Preparation:

Thoroughly clean and degrease new and previously painted metal surfaces. Remove any weak paint and rust back to bare metal. Apply two coats of Farrow & Ball Metal Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat, and allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats. Apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats. Cast Iron: We recommend that a specialist primer is applied to Cast Iron surfaces prior to painting as water-based primers may lead to flash rusting.

Non-Ferrous Metal Preparation:

Thoroughly clean and degrease new and previously painted metal surfaces. Remove any weak paint and lightly sand surface to improve adhesion of your primer & undercoat. Apply two coats of Farrow & Ball Metal Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat, and allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time. Apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats.

Galvanised Metal Preparation:

Treat all surfaces with an Etch Primer or Mordant Solution, ensuring any excess product is removed before you begin painting. Apply two coats of Farrow & Ball Metal Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat, and allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time. Apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats.

Painting Over Exterior Wood Fillers:

Follow the filler manufacturer's application instructions and drying times and patch prime with Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat. Apply a coat of Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat in the correct colour tone for your top coat. Allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats. Apply two coats of your chosen Farrow & Ball finish, allowing the correct drying time between coats.

Painting Over Putty:

If replacement putty is required for new or existing glazing, for best results use an acrylic based glazing putty which is designed to work well with modern water based paints and primers. Bare wood must first be primed with an undiluted coat of Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat, including the end grain, and allowed to dry for a minimum of 4 hours before applying the glazing putty. Apply the glazing putty following the manufacturer's application instructions and drying times before applying your chosen Farrow & Ball finish as follows: Exterior Eggshell and Full Gloss - Apply an undiluted coat of Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat in the correct colour tone for your top coat (allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats) followed by 2 coats of your chosen top coat (once again allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats). Ensure the glass is thoroughly clean and overlap the final top coat onto the glass by approximately 1mm to achieve a seal.

Knotty or Resinous Wood Preparation:

Heat the knot to draw out any excess resin (we recommend using a hot air paint stripper). Scrape off any residue resin, and then thoroughly clean the area with white or methylated spirit. Allow the area to dry thoroughly before continuing.

Oily Wood Preparation:

Certain woods, such as oak, teak and rosewood, can be quite oily and need additional preparation. Wearing gloves, clean the surface with a cloth soaked with methylated spirits. Continue until the cloth can be rubbed over the surface and removed without any discoloration. Methylated spirits are hazardous, so always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Wipe the surface with hot water and a sugar soap solution and allow to dry fully. Prepare any filled, knotty or resinous areas by patch priming with Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat. Allow to dry, then apply one undiluted coat to the whole surface. Allow four hours drying time between coats. Follow with two coats of your chosen topcoat.

Waxed or Highly Polished Surface Preparation:

If you are painting onto previously waxed or highly polished surfaces, you will need to remove the existing coating of treatment by sanding back prior to painting. We recommend testing a small area as Farrow & Ball paints may not be compatible with some waxes and polishes.

Difficult Surfaces (e.g. Melamine, PVC, ABS, Wall Tiles, Laminates etc.):

Difficult surfaces such as melamine, PVC, ABS, wall tiles and laminates will require careful preparation prior to painting. The surface may need to be degreased with a proprietary cleaner, lightly abraded to achieve a physical key and thoroughly cleaned prior to any coating being applied. Best results will then be achieved by applying a specialist adhesion primer following the manufacturer's instructions prior to applying your chosen Farrow & Ball finish.

Painting Interior Brickwork:

Farrow & Ball Exterior Eggshell may be used on interior brickwork – with the exception of Fletton bricks – but we recommend taking a few extra precautions before and during application. Make sure all dirt, mould, salts and other visible contaminants are removed with a stiff bristle or synthetic brush or specialist cleaner, ensuring the brickwork is fully dry before applying any coatings. We also recommend checking that all mortar is fully cured before painting. Extra care should be taken when painting solid brick walls, and any walls that aren't damp-proofed, as loss of adhesion may occur and salts may appear. Dilute 20% with water before application. We do not recommend the use of Farrow & Ball Masonry & Plaster Stabilising Primer, as this is not intended as a general primer for sound brick surfaces.

Painting Exterior Brickwork:

Farrow & Ball Exterior Eggshell may be used on exterior brickwork – with the exception of Fletton bricks – but we recommend taking a few extra precautions before and during application. Make sure all dirt, mould, salts and other visible contaminants are removed with a stiff bristle or synthetic brush or specialist cleaner, ensuring the brickwork is fully dry before applying any coatings. We also recommend checking that all mortar is fully cured before painting. Extra care should be taken when painting solid brick exterior walls, and any walls that aren't damp-proofed, as loss of adhesion may occur and salts may appear. Dilute 20% with water before application. We do not recommend the use of Farrow & Ball Masonry & Plaster Stabilising Primer, as this is not intended as a general primer for sound brick surfaces.

Painting Terracotta:

The following Farrow & Ball finishes may be applied to terracotta: Exterior Masonry, Full Gloss and Exterior Eggshell – 2 coats may be applied directly (allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats).

How to Apply Paint to Trim by Brush:

Stir thoroughly before use. By 'trim' we mean: skirting boards, picture rails, dado rails, doors, door frames and architraves, interior window sills and window frames (providing they aren't plastic). Farrow & Ball paints are water borne, and unlike solvent borne paints, water borne paint is more resistant to sagging and you will achieve the best finish by painting a thicker coat. For best results use a quality fine-tipped synthetic bristled paint brush (e.g. Farrow & Ball paint brush). Load the brush well and apply a generous first coat. Brushing first in a vertical direction then in a horizontal direction until an even coating has been applied. Finish by 'laying off' the paint in one direction using light pressure, with the brush held at an angle of approximately 30°. Do not "overwork" the paint or attempt to brush it out in thin even coats as you would a traditional solvent borne paint as this may create excess brush marks. Allow to dry completely (for a minimum of 4 hours) before applying a second coat following the same technique as before. When painting doors or cabinetry, it's important to lay off (paint your final strokes) in the direction of the grain, finishing the brush stroke at the visible carpentry joints for a flawless finish.

How to Apply Paint to Trim by Roller:

Stir thoroughly before use. By 'trim' we mean: skirting boards, picture rails, dado rails, doors, door frames and architraves, interior window sills and window frames (providing they aren't plastic). This paint finish can also be applied using a medium pile woven polyester roller. This will provide a good finish with minimal stippling and is a quick method of application. However, where an optimum finish is required, we would recommend brush application using a fine-tipped, synthetic bristled brush (e.g. Farrow & Ball paint brush).

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, which is suitable for the type of finish that is desired. 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:

Airless Spraying – Best results can be achieved with a typical set up of a 410 nozzle tip and 60 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. **HVLP Spraying** – Depending on the apparatus used, the paint may need to be diluted with water by up to 25%. Experiment with air control valve, material flow adjustment, fan size and spray pattern settings on a piece of cardboard or an inconspicuous area until a satisfactory finish is achieved. Apply several thin coats, allowing each coat to dry fully before applying the next one. A typical air pressure of 9.5 psi with a 1.3 mm needle/nozzle gives good results. We do not recommend HVLP spray application for large areas such as walls & ceilings.

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. Remove the masking tape while the paint is still slightly wet by pulling gently and slowly at an angle of 45°. If the masking tape is left on too long then trimming along the edge with a sharp blade may be required.

Over Coating Pale Colours with Dark Colours:

Changing the shade of exterior woodwork from light to dark will greatly increase the amount of heat the surface is able to absorb from the sun. In some cases, this additional heat may cause resin and gases to be released by the wood, particularly from any knots. This can result in peeling and blistering, which may not have occurred when painting the same surface with a lighter shade. To minimise the risk of this happening, and to achieve a long-lasting finish, we recommend removing as much of the previous coating as possible to expose any knots and resinous areas so that they can be prepared as above, before patch priming with Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat. This should be followed with a coat of the Farrow & Ball Wood Primer & Undercoat in the correct tone for your new paint colour, and then by your topcoat.

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.

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 flush paint down the drain, including when cleaning painting tools. Dispose of contents/container to comply with local regulations.

Chemical Strippers:

If the surface has existing paint in poor condition or there are many layers and detail has been lost, it may be best to strip the paint with chemical paint stripper. These products can be hazardous, so always follow the manufacturer's instructions and wear protective equipment. Once the paint has been removed, the chemical stripper may need to be neutralised with a neutralising solution. Again, follow the manufacturer's instructions, rinsing with clean water and checking the pH until it's less than eight. Allow the surface to fully dry before applying the correct Primer & Undercoat and your chosen topcoat.

Clean Up:

Remove as much product as possible from brushes or rollers before cleaning.

Cleaning Surface Stains:

When cleaning, wipe gently with a soft damp microfibre cloth or sponge, keeping the area you work over to a minimum. Some cleaning solutions may mark the surface so be sure to test on an inconspicuous area before use and do not use bleach-based cleaning products. More stubborn stains may require treatment with decorator's cleaning wipes or cleaning spray. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Surface scuffs and marks can sometimes appear more visible on darker colours – but these can be easily wiped away with a damp microfibre cloth. Staining can be minimised if you use an absorbent tissue or cloth to remove as much of the stain as possible, as quickly as you can – not allowing time for the stain to penetrate the surface.

Cleaning:

Wipe gently with a soft damp cloth or sponge. Some cleaning solutions may mark the surface. Test on an inconspicuous area before use. Do not use bleach-based cleaning products. Allow at least 14 days before cleaning to allow the paint film to fully cure.

Technical Information:

Application Temperature: Do not paint in temperatures below 10°C or in excessive heat above 30°C. Avoid painting in direct sunlight. Avoid applying outdoors if there is a likelihood of rain. For best results apply early in the day, allowing the product time to dry before the evening (when condensation can occur). This product should be applied in accordance with Annex C of BS 6150: Code of practice for painting of buildings.

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

Drying Time: Dry in 2 hours.

Typical Recoat Time: Recoat after 4 hours

Sheen Level: 20 %

Curing Time: Please note that some darker paint colours will take up to 14 days to achieve full hardness, strength and durability.

Recommended Number of Coats: 2*

*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 colours may take longer to dry. Allow a minimum of 14 days before applying over solvent based coatings.

Density: 1.2 - 1.4 g/cc

Wet Film Thickness: 80 - 120 µm

Application Humidity: < 80 % RH

Wet Abrasion Class: 1

Substrate Moisture Content: Exterior Wood = < 15 % , Interior Brick = < 1 %

VOC Content Information:

EU limit value for this product (cat. A/[d]): 130g/l (2010). This product contains max 1g/l VOC.



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

0.02 (Class III, limit <0.1). 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 III in this instance denotes the highest waterproof rating. We are pleased to confirm that Farrow & Ball Exterior Eggshell is rated - Class III (Low).

Water-vapour transmission rate (Permeability) according to DIN EN ISO 7783-2 (sd [m]):

0.125 (Class I, limit <0.14). This is the resistance of the paint film to water vapour expressed as the equivalent thickness of air in metres. The lower the sd value the more breathable the paint film. Paint breathability is class rated, from Class I to Class III. Class I in this instance denotes the highest level of breathability. We are pleased to confirm that Farrow & Ball Exterior Eggshell has the highest rating - Class I (High).

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.

Disclaimer:

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.

Issue Date: 18/02/2026