



Product Specification

PORTER'S FRENCH WASH™

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:

Porter's French Wash™ creates the look of delicate broken colour - a subtle marble-like finish. This elegant, timeless effect can be created by both the professional painter and the DIY home decorator, using Porter's two-step French Wash™ system. French Wash™ can be ragged, rag rolled, dragged or sponged to produce a variety of painted effects. Step 1 is the application of Porter's Low Sheen Acrylic, tinted to an appropriate colour and used as a base. Step 2 is the application and ragging of the French Wash™ (usually tinted slightly darker) over the top of the Low Sheen Acrylic, creating the soft, broken colour effect.

LOCATION:

Interior.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION:

Porter's Paints use only premium-grade raw materials and wherever possible we buy from Australian suppliers. Our manufacturing processes are designed for maximum performance with minimum impact on the environment and user health.

SUGGESTED APPLICATIONS:

Can be applied to most suitably prepared plasterboard, plaster, wood, masonry and previously painted surfaces.

COLOURS:

We offer an extensive palette of carefully crafted colours, which can be viewed on our website and sampled through our online store. For specifiers, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you to curate the ideal base and French Wash pairing for your project.

Balancing the base coat and wash colour is an art. Backed by decades of colour development, experience shows that pairing colours outside our tested recommendations rarely yields the intended result. Getting this combination right requires expert guidance—please consult with our team before finalising your specification, particularly if matching with third-party paint brands.

LIMITATIONS:

Do not apply in high humidity, below 10°C or above 30°C.

PREPARATION:

NEW/UNPAINTED SUBSTRATES:

Substrate should be a clean, well-held surface free from loose material, dirt, grease, oil and mould. Dust down before proceeding.

On new unpainted plasterboard sheeting spot prime all joints then apply by brush, roller or spray 1 or 2 coats Porter's Prepare & Prime. Allow 2 hours dry time before overcoating.

On new unpainted, fresh set plaster do not proceed until plaster has thoroughly set and has dried completely. Firstly, apply 1 coat Porter's Mineral Silicate Primer by brush or roller. Touch dry 20 minutes. Allow 2 hours dry time. Then apply by brush, roller or spray 1 coat Porter's Prepare & Prime. Allow 2 hours dry time before recoating or overcoating with topcoat.

On bare masonry surfaces such as render or brick, spot prime all repaired areas with Porter's Limeproof Undercoat Sealer, then apply 1 coat of the same to the entire area by brush, medium nap roller or spray. Touch dry in 1 hour. Allow 6 hours dry time before recoating or overcoating.

PREVIOUSLY PAINTED SUBSTRATES:

Provided the surface is clean and sound, Porter's Low Sheen Acrylic is self-priming and can be applied directly over previously painted surfaces.

All varnishes, polyurethanes or surfaces previously painted with oil-based enamel paint should be thoroughly sanded to remove gloss and to create a "keyed" surface. Loose, peeling or flaking paint must be made sound by scraping off loose paint. Fill nail holes and cracks with a suitable filler, sand and dust off. Spot prime all joints and repaired areas with Porter's Prepare & Prime, then apply one coat of the same to the entire area.

Allow 2 hours dry time before recoating or overcoating with topcoat.

APPLICATION:

STEP 1 – APPLICATION OF PORTER'S LOW SHEEN ACRYLIC:

Stir paint thoroughly before use. Apply two coats by brush, spray, or a medium nap roller. Touch dry in 1 hour. Allow a minimum 2 hours dry time between coats. Allow 18–24 hours dry time.

Please Note: other brands of paint may not be suitable as the base coat. Non-compatible sheen levels can cause issues such as slipping, (the French Wash finish sags whilst drying), overloading, (the French Wash absorbs into the base), drying too fast, or other application problems.

STEP 2 – APPLICATION OF FRENCH WASH:

(For non-professional painters, the application of French Wash™ is a two-person operation).

Starting at the top left-hand corner of the wall the first person should apply French Wash™ using a wide brush (50–75mm) in a random pattern. It is important that good coverage is achieved and there are no areas where the product is not completely applied. Following closely behind, the second person creates the desired pattern by ragging muslin cloth over the freshly painted French Wash™ surface, turning the cloth in your hand to avoid a "stamped" pattern and using dry areas of cloth.

The method we recommend is *not* to hold the muslin on the surface and roll, but to use a large amount (at least 5m) of scrunched muslin and "pounce" or press this quickly and repeatedly to the wall, absorbing the French Wash and leaving a broken, subtle pattern of colour.

Care should always be taken to leave a wet edge (at least 15cm wide). Do not go back over completed work. Do not stop in the middle of a wall. All work should be arranged to allow completion at a natural division such as a corner. Corners can be ragged by flicking the muslin into the corner.

Touch dry in 2 hours. Allow 6 hours dry time.

Please Note: Do not change roles during application as each person has an individual style or technique, and an inconsistent result will be obvious on the wall.

OUR BEST TIPS FOR OUTSTANDING RESULTS:

- Use a **minimum length of 5 metres of muslin** that has been unravelled, opened out, and scrunched into a loose ball. If your muslin cloth is smaller than 5m it will likely create obvious lines and patterns on the wall, instead of a soft cloud-like finish. It can also mean that the applicator's fingerprints show as light spots in the finished result.
- **Keep the muslin moving in your hands**, changing the muslin surface where it hits the wall, to prevent getting a stamped, repeated pattern.
- Also be mindful that you **do not slide or slip the muslin** against the wall, which can happen if working at an angle. This results in scrape marks in the finish. Position yourself directly in front of the section you are working on.
- Leave a wide wet edge. As you work, **do not allow your leading edge of French Wash to dry**, either by ragging it with the muslin or by leaving it to naturally dry. The result will be distinctive striping and long dark marks throughout the wall.
- **Be subtle with your sections**. Do not section the wall into squares, columns or rectangles to work in, because if the wet edge dries even a little, the result is very obvious blocks of work. Keep your sections natural and random, as shown in the "In Pictures" section below.
- **If your muslin starts to feel heavy and wet, change it for a new dry piece**. (The wet muslin dries quickly if you open it out to dry). Not using dry muslin and continuing with heavily soaked muslin means that not enough product is being removed from the wall, which results in an unsatisfactory finish.
- **Ensure that you are removing enough product**. It should feel like you are removing nearly all the French Wash so the result is a subtle and soft variation in tone. If you leave too much product on the wall, the result is coarse and heavy-looking.

IN PICTURES:

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



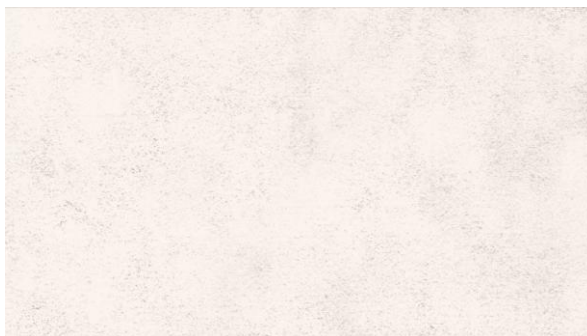
8.



9.



10.



ADDITIONAL APPLICATION TIPS:

For a softer, more subtly aged look – just when the French Wash™ is nearly dry, use a dry flogger brush to lightly brush in all directions, breaking up darker areas and creating a very subtle colour variation.

For a more complex colour-layered effect, multiple coats of French Wash™ in varying colours can be added if the previous coat is completely dry.

COVERAGE RATES:

Porter's Low Sheen Acrylic covers approximately 12-14m² per litre, depending upon porosity, surface texture and wastage rates.

Porter's French Wash™ covers approximately 25m² per litre, depending upon porosity, surface texture and wastage rates.

WASH UP:

Water.

COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS:

Porter's Prepare & Prime (coverage 12-14m² per litre).

Porter's Limeproof Undercoat Sealer (12m² per litre).

Porter's Universal Primer (coverage 10-12m² per litre).

Mineral Silicate Primer (coverage 10m² per litre) is recommended for priming new set plaster before undercoating.

PACKAGING:

Porter's Low Sheen Acrylic is available in 1 litre, 4 litre, 10 litre & 15 litre sizes.

Porter's French Wash™ is available in 500ml, 1 litre, 4 litre & 15 litre sizes.

STORAGE:

Store in a cool, dry area, protected from frost.

PRECAUTIONS:

Keep out of reach of children. Avoid swallowing. Avoid eye contact. Avoid prolonged skin contact. Provide adequate ventilation. If accidental contact occurs, rinse immediately with water. Check colour before use.

POST INSTALLATION MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE:

1.

Use a damp microfibre cloth to lightly dust and wipe surfaces. Persistent surface stains should be gently removed with a damp, but not saturated, cloth. A mild detergent may be used. Avoid harsh or abrasive scouring pads or cleaning agents with abrasive powders.

2.

Examine the surface for wear and tear or any damage. Any superficial damage to the French Wash coat may be able to be touched up in detail with a small fine brush, and ragged off again with muslin, but the likelihood is that any areas of new French Wash will overlap the existing French Wash and show a distinct dark mark.

If this happens, or if any damaged areas go beyond the French Wash, the surface will need to be repainted from edge to edge.

3.

Repair section with suitable filler, allow to dry, sand, and spot prime with 1 coat of Porter's Limeproof Undercoat Sealer. Apply 2 coats of Porter's Low Sheen Acrylic from a clean edge to a clean edge. Allow 24 hours to Dry. Apply French Wash as per standard instructions.

4.

Areas of high wear, excessive handling, or in need of repetitive cleaning should be considered for application of a water-based, low-gloss clear coat to protect surfaces.

MANUFACTURER'S/DISTRIBUTOR'S DETAILS:

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