

Construction Resources



HOLZWEG TECHNICAL SHEET H7

NATURAL EARTH AND MINERAL PIGMENTS

Use *Holzweg Natural Earth and Mineral Pigments* may be used to add colour to water-based emulsion paints and oil-based paints (when first mixed in linseed oil). They may be added to Holzweg Casein wall paint; and to Holzweg Colourwash Binder to produce the 'Lazuur' colourwash effect.

Properties *Holzweg Natural Earth and Mineral Pigments* are non-soluble granules supplied in powder form that can be used to create a wide range of natural tones and hues. They are easy to work with and completely free from poisonous heavy metals. To this day, the production of natural earth pigments follows classical physical methods. The earth is first dug out then cleaned; finely milled; and dried. It is this extra-fine milling and the removal of impurities that determine high quality.

Colours *Natural Earth Pigments*: yellow sienna, red sienna, iron oxide violet, iron oxide red, iron oxide mahogany, black oxide, brown Havana, red ochre, rust brown ochre, brown umber, grey umber, burnt umber, khaki umber; slate grey, green earth, ebony, yellow clay, Persian red.
'Mineral' Pigments: titanium white, ultramarine blue, ultramarine pink, ultramarine violet, sun yellow, orange, spinel green, spinel turquoise, spinel blue, bottle green, oriental red, salmon red, gold yellow, corn yellow, glimmer gold, glimmer silver, glimmer bronze, glimmer black gold and gold.

Containers 50g and 75g paper sachets (larger quantities available on special order).

Preparation Allow enough time for the pigment to be completely absorbed in the preparatory solution: a minimum of 2 hours and for best results overnight; particularly with the mineral pigments.
Using a glass jar or any container with a lid; mix the required amount of pigment thoroughly with enough water to ensure that all the pigment is soaked up and in solution - approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ pigment to $\frac{2}{3}$ water. Do not add too much water as this will thin the paint when it is mixed. Replace lid firmly. Shake vigorously. Leave the pigment to soak for 15 minutes, then shake well again. Any lumps should be pressed out with a spatula or spoon, as when making a flour-based sauce.
For oil-based paints; follow the same procedure using linseed oil instead of water.

Mixing Pigment with Casein, Emulsion and Colourwash

Pour the pigment solution into the base paint or 'lazuur' colourwash and *stir well*, ensuring an even distribution of colour. A paint-stirrer attachment on an electric drill is the easiest method but thorough mixing with a stick is fine. Rinse out the jar with a little water to ensure all the pigment is used up.

Maximum Proportions for Pigment Solution

Holzweg Casein wall paint: 0.5kg pigment per 1kg casein powder.

Emulsion paint: 100g pigment per litre emulsion. Also see Construction Resources Paint Colour Charts.

Holzweg 'Lazuur' colourwash: 75g pigment per litre colourwash binder (i.e. 5 litres of binder-and-water solution).

Mixing larger quantities

Holzweg Casein wall paint: When mixing larger quantities into Holzweg Casein wall paint, (i.e. ratios greater than 1 part pigment to 4 parts Casein powder); it is best to mix the pigment into the dry Casein powder thoroughly before following the Casein mixing instructions. It should be noted that 2 parts Casein to 1 part pigment (e.g. 4kg Casein to 2 kg pigment) is the maximum tinting strength allowed, and that only those with experience of this type of paint should try these strengths as it can be difficult to achieve the desired results.

Holzweg Colourwash Binder: For greater detail in using pigments with the Colourwash Binder please refer to technical sheet H6.

Storage Kept closed in a dry place, the pigments will last virtually indefinitely. Take care to avoid accidentally tearing the bags or spilling the pigments, as the fine powder can get everywhere.

Ingredients Cleaned milled and processed natural earth pigments. The 'mineral' pigments are synthetic in origin and follow a variety of manufacturing processes. A tiny amount of tri-sodium citrate is added to reduce the surface tension of the water mixed with the pigment. All Holzweg Pigments are free of poisonous heavy metals.

Safety The pigments are completely safe and non-toxic once mixed into a medium. However care should be taken while using in the pigments in dry powder form to avoid breathing in the very fine dust.

Risk class None

This technical information sheet is intended to provide guidelines for retailers and users. However, the user is responsible for testing the product on the intended surface to make sure that it is suitable for their requirements.

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