

Construction Resources



TECHNICAL SHEET H1

HOLZWEG CASEIN WALL PAINT

VERY IMPORTANT – please read these instructions carefully before using the paint.

- Uses** *Holzweg Casein Wall Paint* is a traditional paint for all internal walls and ceilings. It is suitable for use on some previously painted surfaces, wallpaper/lining paper, plaster, lime or earth render. It is especially suitable for use in traditional buildings. The wall paint can also be used as a base coat for various special glazing techniques using *Holzweg Pigments* and *Holzweg Colourwash Binder*.
- Properties** One of the most natural wall paints available, *Casein Wall Paint* allows surfaces to breathe and absorb variations in humidity. It is anti-static resulting in a more comfortable and healthy internal living environment. It is also unique in terms of appearance, giving a chalky matt surface. Casein wall paint is the most sound in terms of the environment and health of the user and occupant. It is however not a direct eco-replacement for conventional emulsion (Construction Resources does however stock such product). It is not as scrubable as a conventional emulsion and should not be used areas where the property of repeated washability is required. Washability can be improved by painting on one coat or two coats of *Holzweg Colourwash Binder* diluted with 2 parts water though this could change to tone of the finish slightly.
- Colours** Used alone the paint is a natural chalk white, but can be tinted by adding pigment, to give a very wide pastel palette.
- Containers** 4, 15, and 25 kilogram Kraft paper sacks with polyethylene inner sacks.
- Coverage** Approximately 8-10 m² per kilogram of untinted casein paint powder, or up to 15 m² if mixed with pigment.
- Preparation** Put the required amount of water into a bucket then gradually add the paint powder while stirring continuously. Use a ratio of about 0.8 litres of water to every kilogram of casein wall paint. It is important to add the powder to water NOT the other way around; this makes for easier mixing and helps to ensure that all the powder is mixed.
- For best results stir the solution with a paint stirrer attached to an electric drill. But do not stir too fast as this can introduce air into the paint that can spoil the finish on the wall. Leave for 30 minutes to thicken. Then slowly add about 0.2 litres of water per kilogram of paint powder to bring the mixture back to a creamy consistency, and then stir thoroughly. It is now ready to use. More water can be added if desired to produce a thinner consistency that is easier to spread.
- The paint will continue to thicken during the first 12 hours and so it should be diluted from time to time by mixing in a little more water. Keeping the mix for much longer than this time is not recommended as the amount water that will need to be added will dilute the paint to such an extent that unacceptable colour variation could occur.

IMPORTANT: Casein can react badly with residues of glue, wallpaper paste, starch and some plasters. It is therefore advisable that patches are used to test surface suitability.

The finished appearance of coloured casein wall paint can be slightly mottled and uneven; this is normal and part of the unique aesthetic of the product.

Application The paint should be stirred well both before and during application. Visually the paint looks better applied with a broad block brush, though it is possible to apply with a medium pile roller. Do not apply coats that are thick: two thin coats will produce a better result than a single thick one. Each coat should be allowed to dry completely before the next one is applied. If it is likely that a new batch is needed to finish a room then cut in at the nearest wall edge. This compensates for the possibility of slight shade differences. On very absorbent surfaces such as fresh plaster, it is advisable to apply a priming 'mist' coat of 20% water diluted paint. On fresh plaster, such as lime plaster the moisture content of the plaster must be less than 20%. If the paint appears 'bitty' on the wall this is due to insufficient stirring and only requires brushing over to break up the unsoaked Casein powder. This should be done immediately.

Holzweg Casein Wall Paint is a specialist traditional/natural paint product and behaves differently from conventional 'emulsions'. The paint contains no oils or lubricants which means that it can be difficult to spread over absorbent surfaces. On immediate application it has only limited covering power, looking almost translucent. The covering power becomes apparent once it starts to dry. For good results it is important not to apply the paint thickly in an attempt to compensate for what looks like thin coverage when it is wet.

Drying times Completely dry within six to 24 hours, depending on the underlying surface, but it is recoatable after two hours. Treat with care for the first 21 days.

Storage Sealed sacks of casein powder stored in a cool, dry place will last indefinitely.

Ingredients Casein, white lime, chalk, aluminum silicate, china clays, cellulose, calcium carbonate, asbestos-free talc, sodium phosphate (water softening salt: 300g per 200kg of powder), earth pigments.

Safety This product is biodegradable and completely non-toxic: any left-overs can be put onto a compost heap.

Risk class None (non-inflammable).

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 his or her requirements. This sheet was issued on 18 November 2005 and may be superseded by later editions.