

Cornish
MILK

MINERAL PAINT



FREE Beginner's Painting Guide

The Ultimate Cornish Milk Mineral Paint, beginners Painting Guide.

Created by Reece & Joe -
The Cornish Furniture
Painters

INTRODUCTION

Reece and Joe know the positive impact a quick home and furniture transformation can have on your life. We want you to feel the happiness that comes along with creating something beautiful, using Cornish Milk Mineral Paint.

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint is a very easy paint to use and with our FREE beginners Painting Guide, we will both help you to achieve your perfect finish.

The quality and versatility of Cornish Milk is like no other. You can attain a variety of finishes using just Cornish Milk Mineral Paint.

We will teach you six techniques to create our most common finishes for furniture, floors, cabinets, accessories, and so much more.

BASIC FINISH, SMOOTH FINISH, TEXTURED FINISH, DISTRESSED FINISH, DRY BRUSHING FINISH AND A WASH FINISH.

As well as teaching you finishes, we also tell you how to care for your painted projects, how to care for your paint brushes, best tips of storing your paint tins, colour mixing and so much more.

Now it's time for you to get started...

Read our Free Beginners Guide and follow each simple step to easily achieve your desired finish. We also include many helpful tips that will have you painting like an expert in no time.

GETTING READY TO PAINT

PREPARING YOUR SURFACE

In most cases, you do not need to do much to prepare your piece for Cornish Milk Mineral Paint. If your surface has noticeable dust, dirt or grime, you will clean it with our safe-to-use biodegradable cleaner "BioClean" and rinse with warm water. Even trace amounts of harsh chemical cleaners can prohibit the paint from adhering properly.

Before you begin to paint, make sure the surface is completely dry and has had a light sand to remove any sheen, with a low grade sandpaper. Cornish Milk hardens and adheres more over time. It can bond to almost any surface, including wood, previously painted surfaces, metal, matte plastics, brick, concrete, and stone.

You can prime your surface prior to painting if you chose to, but this step is not required, unless painting on some stained woods like mahogany.

If you would like to prime then our plant based Traditional Eco-Primer is one of the best primers for furniture and projects. Free from VOC's, contains no chemicals and is 100% plant based and vegan.

RAW WOOD

If the piece you are painting is made of raw, untreated wood, apply a clear shellac to any knots or open grains to block bleed-through from tannins. After painting your first coat, you may need to sand your surface in order to achieve a smoother finish as the moisture from the paint may raise the grain of some types of woods.

STAINED WOOD

The stains on some woods, such as mahogany can bleed through the first coat of paint. If you notice this, apply a thin coat of a shellac to your surface to protect the stain from peeking through. Allow shellac to dry fully before painting another coat.

We do not recommend sanding mahogany before painting as its stains are especially likely to bleed through. Use our Traditional Eco-Primer as a base coat.

BRICK AND STONE

When painting brick and Stone, lightly spray your surface with water to help draw the paint into the nooks and crannies of the surface.

SHINY SURFACES, PLASTIC AND METAL

If the finish of your piece is particularly shiny and/or smooth to the touch, we recommend lightly sanding the piece with a medium grain sandpaper before painting to ensure that the paint adheres well. Paint your first coat and let it dry for 24 hours before applying the next. This will allow the curing process to begin, the paint to harden, and promote adhesion.

To speed up this process, you can use our Traditional Eco-primer and then paint over this within one hour.

FABRIC

Cornish Milk can be used on textiles and fabrics. Add up to 40% water to your Paint in a mixing container and apply the paint in thin layers to your fabric with plenty of time to dry between coats, preferably overnight. The easiest fabrics to paint are natural fabrics and leather.

Please keep in mind that this technique is most successful when executed on upholstery where fabric is pulled taut. On furniture that allows a lot of give, such as a comfortable sofa that you sink into, you may notice cracks in the paint over time. For additional durability, a coat of clear finishing wax can protect your painted fabric.

OPENING YOUR TIN AND GETTING THE RIGHT PAINT FOR YOUR FINISH

SHAKING

Before you open your Cornish Milk tin, turn the tin upside down and shake it vigorously for a minimum of 30 seconds.

If your paint has been sitting for a long time, make sure the lid is sealed and flip the can upside down for a hour. This will help to more evenly distribute pigment which may have settled at the bottom of the tin.

STIRRING

After thoroughly shaking your paint, open the lid and stir well. Use a stir stick to move the paint around in the tin and pull the paint from the bottom up to the top. Stirring very well will ensure that pigments that might have settled on the bottom of the tin are distributed throughout all of the paint.

THICKENING

For more texture in your finish, you can leave your paint tin open for about 30 minutes before painting. This will allow some of the water to evaporate and thicken the paint. This is great if you would like a classic textured Shabby-chic finish.

THINNING

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint is water-based, which means that you always have the option to easily thin out your paint by adding water. We recommend doing this in a separate mixing container and adding water slowly in controlled increments. Never add water directly into the tin as this can contaminate your paint.

If too much water has been added, then simply leave your paint out in a warm room for around 30 minutes to an hour, for the water to evaporate.

BASIC FINISH

STEP ONE

Apply a coat of Cornish Milk Mineral Paint using a paint brush. Paint in the direction of the wood grain, as this will leave you with very subtle brush marks, which will self-level away once dried. Allow the paint to dry completely. Dry time usually takes about 10 minutes but varies based on climate and thickness of paint application.

STEP TWO

Once dry, apply a second coat of paint, following the same instructions as above.

STEP THREE

Once dried you will be required to leave your painted surface to cure for around 48 hours before use. If you do intend on using the piece, then remember to be very careful, as Cornish Milk Mineral Paint will need some time to harden and cure. The full curing process can be completed within seven to ten days.

STEP FOUR

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint does have an added top-coat added into our beautiful formula, but you may want to add more protection if the surface is a high traffic area, such as a table top or chairs.

We recommend using an eco water-based topcoat and follow the manufactures instructions for applying.

We recommend using a flat matt varnish if you would like a matt finish, or a satin sheen/egg shell finish for a slight sheen. Gloss varnishes can also be used for an ultra shinny finish.

SMOOTH FINISH

STEP ONE

To ensure the smoothest base for your paint and to remove any surface debris or scratches, sand your surface in the direction of the wood grain with a medium or fine Sandpaper.

STEP TWO

Pour some of your Cornish Milk Mineral Paint into a separate mixing container and add a small amount of water (about 5-10%). Stir well. Paint should flow nicely off your brush without being runny or drippy. Use a Flat Brush to apply long, smooth strokes of the diluted paint in the direction of the wood grain. Hold your brush at an angle and apply light pressure as you paint. Finish with continuous, even strokes from end to end to avoid start and stop brush marks.

Allow paint to dry. Dry time usually takes about 20 minutes but varies based on climate and thickness of paint application.

STEP THREE

Use fine Sanding paper to remove any unwanted texture and wipe away sanding dust before proceeding with the next coat. Apply additional coats of paint in the same manner as the first until you have adequate coverage. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying the next. Do not sand the last coat of paint as it may cause the wax/varnish topcoat to be absorbed unevenly

STEP FOUR

Apply your additional topcoat if you choose to use one. Following the same directions in the basic finish.

DISTRESSED FINISH

STEP ONE

Apply a coat of Cornish Milk Mineral Paint using a paint brush. Paint in every direction, leaving subtle brush marks and slight texture.

Allow the paint to dry completely. Dry time usually takes about 20 minutes but varies based on climate and thickness of paint application.

TIPS: • A single coat will allow you to see MORE of the underlying surface after distressing. • A second coat of the same colour will provide MORE COVERAGE and will allow you to see LESS of the underlying surface after distressing. This coat should be thinner and can be diluted with a small amount of water (5-10%) for easier distressing. Allow the paint to dry completely. •

To see TWO COLOURS in your final finish, apply the first coat in a more textured manner. Apply a second coat with a different Cornish Milk colour. This second colour will be the most prominent in your final piece and the first colour will peek through after distressing. Allow the paint to dry completely

STEP TWO

While the paint is beginning to dry, load your brush with paint. Lay the bristles angled to the side and gently drag and pull your brush across the surface. The fresh paint will latch on to the still damp first coat, creating additional texture. To vary your texture, pounce the brush in a few areas.

Please note: because of the thickness of application, this finish will require additional time to dry.

STEP THREE

Distress your dried surface with a fine Sanding Pad over edges and raised details reveal small amounts of the underlying surface and additional colours. This will achieve a really beautiful Cornish rustic Farm House distressed finish.

TEXTURED FINISH

STEP ONE

Apply a liberal coat of Cornish Milk Mineral Paint using a paint brush. Paint in every direction in a crosshatch pattern, leaving generous amounts of thick and uneven texture. Allow the paint to dry partially for a few minutes until some (but not all) areas begin to dry. Do not let the surface dry completely

STEP TWO

While the paint is beginning to dry, load your brush with paint. Lay the bristles angled to the side and gently drag and pull your brush across the surface. The fresh paint will latch on to the still damp first coat, creating additional texture. To vary your texture, pounce the brush in a few areas.

Please note: because of the thickness of application, this finish will require additional time to dry.

STEP THREE

Use fine Sanding paper to remove any unwanted texture and wipe away sanding dust before proceeding with the next coat. Apply additional coats of paint in the same manner as the first until you have adequate coverage. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying the next. Do not sand the last coat of paint as it may cause the wax/varnish topcoat to be absorbed unevenly

STEP FOUR

Apply your additional topcoat if you choose to use one. Following the same directions in the basic finish.

DRY BRUSH FINISH

STEP ONE

Choose two Cornish Milk Mineral Paint colours that offer a soft contrast. The first colour will be your base and the second colour will be your accent.

Apply a coat of your base colour using a paint brush. Paint in every direction, leaving noticeable brush marks and slight texture. Allow the paint to dry completely. If more coverage is needed, apply a second coat of your base colour before moving on to step two.

STEP TWO

Load a very small amount of your accent colour to your paint brush by dipping just the very tips of the bristles into the paint. Offload your brush onto a cloth/paper towel to remove any excess paint.

Now using only the tips of the paint brush and light pressure, brush in a crosshatch pattern over your painted surface or along edges and other raised details. Slowly build up your colour until you are happy with the results.

STEP FOUR

Apply your additional topcoat if you choose to use one. Following the same directions in the basic finish.

"When choosing colours, we love to lighten the base colour and use it as our dry brush coat. A base coat of "Goose" with "Bake House" as the accent, gives you a beautiful finish.

WASHED FINISH

You can apply a colour wash over either a painted surface or raw wood, for a beautiful Cornish sea wash design.

STEP ONE

To begin, pour some of your Cornish Milk Mineral Paint colour into a separate mixing container and add water in small increments until the paint is slightly transparent (about 30-50% water). The more water you add, the more sheer your wash will be.

The paint should not be drippy or runny. Stir well. Brush on the diluted paint using a paint brush, making sure to work the paint into any details and texture. Do not allow the paint to dry yet

STEP TWO

While the paint is still wet, remove some of it by gently wiping over the surface with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth in the direction of the wood grain, continuing to wipe until you are happy with the results.

Allow the paint to dry completely. Please note: dry time will be shortened due to the thin quality of the coat.

STEP FOUR

Apply your additional topcoat if you choose to use one. Following the same directions in the basic finish.

PAINTING FOR EXTERIOR USE

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint can be used for painting furniture and accessories that live outside. It adheres well to exterior walls, brick, metal, concrete, matte plastic and garden furniture.

Teak and other naturally oily woods should not be painted with Cornish Milk Mineral Paint, without using a primer first, we recommend using our Traditional Eco-Primer for these surfaces.

Your finish will weather naturally over time, but to stop this, then we recommend using an exterior matt/satin varnish.

STEP ONE

Choose your desired colour and finish from our guide above and follow the steps to paint your piece.

Do NOT apply any wax to your finish for exterior furniture, as wax is not good for outside furniture and can melt in the sun, leaving you with a patchy melted wax finish.

STEP TWO

Always allow the paint to dry and harden overnight, before exposing your piece to the outdoor elements, wipe it down with a damp cloth.

If painting a front door, then you can use an additional top-coat such as a matt/satin varnish.

If you would like your projects outside right away, then please use an additional top-coat.

CLEANING AND AFTERCARE

Caring for your chosen finishes and newly painted projects.

CLEANING

To clean your painted piece, wipe the surface with a damp cloth. Follow with a soft dry cloth to wipe away any remaining moisture. To remove marks or stains, add a small amount of water and mild soap to your cloth before wiping.

Alternatively, for more difficult to remove marks, Clear furniture Wax can be used to buff them out. Refrain from using furniture polishes and oils.

CARE

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint is very durable as we designed the paint to have a great added protective finish within the paint formula.

We have three young children and three large dogs, so know that it is vital to have the best protection.

Cornish Milk is scratch and chip resistant, but sometimes accidents do happen. Having a busy home like ours, is when we recommend the most for our painters to use an additional varnish top-coat, for extra durability,

CARING FOR YOUR PAINT AND PAINTING EQUIPMENT

CARING FOR YOUR PAINT

It's important to always keep the rim of the container/tin clean and to leave as little paint in the groove as possible. This will help ensure that the lid fully seals. Close your containers tightly so that the paint does not dry out.

We recommend using a rubber hammer to securely knock in the lid or a sealing wrap such as airtight food wrap to keep the air out.

STORAGE

Paint should be stored in a dry, temperature-controlled place.

If you experience a cold winter, do not put paint in a place where weather will affect its temperature, such as a garage.

Protect Cornish Milk Mineral Paint from freezing. Storing correctly will give your paint a five year shelf-life.

CARING FOR YOUR PAINT BRUSHES

WASHING YOUR BRUSH: After painting, squeeze out as much paint as you can from your paint brushes. Wash your paint brushes with warm water and gentle soap and your wax brushes with hot water and grease cutting soap. To lengthen the life of your brushes, occasionally condition with a hair conditioner.

DRYING YOUR BRUSH: Hang or lean your brush to dry bristle-side down to avoid sending moisture towards the ferrule or the handle.

COLOUR MIXING

Mixing paint colours with Cornish Milk Mineral Paint is fun and exciting.

Cornish Milk Mineral Paint is highly pigmented and most colours are made with little or no black, which allows you to make gorgeous mixtures without losing intensity.

HOW TO MEASURE

Use a spoon to measure out small portions of Cornish Milk Mineral Paint to determine the ratio you will need. Each time you add a spoonful, consider that a “part.” Keep track of how many parts you use of each colour (*hint: write it down*) so that you can use the same ratio when you mix a larger amount.

After perfecting your colour, continue on to mix your batch colour using a mixing container or a measuring cup.

Think about the final volume of paint you want to mix, then divide by the total number of milliliters within the tin, that you need for your custom colour. This will determine how much paint you should pour into your mixing container for each “part.”

DOING THE MATHS

$500\text{ML} \div 5 \text{ parts} = 100\text{ml PER PART}$ for larger paint batches if painting a large project in a custom mix.

Our large tins are 500ml's and Small tins are 250ml's. So always work in ML's to help make sure you have the right measurements for your recipe

TINTING WITH WHITES

Our Cornish Milk whites can be used to lighten one of our pre-tinted colours or a custom colour that you create.

We recommend adding a small amount of white at a time, measuring as you go, because it is always easy to add more.

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This is a Free Beginners Guide for use with Cornish Milk Mineral Paint.

Created by Reece & Joe "The Cornish Furniture Painters".

For more Painting guides and painting tips, please visit our website www.cornishmilkmineralpaint.co.uk or your local Cornish Milk Stockist.

For additional information, then Cornish Milk Mineral Paint has a handy Free FAQ section on our website and you can also email Reece and Joe direct at "hello@cornishmilkmineralpaint.co.uk"

We are always here to help our customers and Cornish Milk painters achieve the best finish for your projects

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