



Milk paint instructions

There are two major companies that make genuine milk paint. "Old Fashioned Milk Paint" and "Real Milk Paint". Both are good, although they do differ a bit in use. In general, I prefer "The Real Milk Paint" brand, but my favorite all time finish is Pitch Black over Barn Red from "Old Fashioned Milk Paint". I would stay away from the General Finishes "shelf stable" milk paint, because milk that stay good forever doesn't make much sense.

Mix paint about 2:1. 2 parts water 1 part paint. Maybe a little less on water. 1.75:1 you can always add more water but it is hard to remove water.

Pour water in and stir it around to wet the powder. Let sit for 15 minutes so powder can soak up water. Stir like real good. Let sit another 15 mins, and stir again. Stir it really well.

Filter the paint. You have to use a medium mesh filter. The cheap cone filters from Lowes are perfect for this. If you get paint filters from some high tech paint store they will be way too fine and the milk paint will not go through them, so make sure you get medium paint.

2 coats of base coat. 3 coats of top coat. Let each color (not coat) dry 24 hrs. before moving on to next step.

Sand lightly in between - your goal is to get a smooth surface here - it really only takes a light swipe. I would recommend getting some 320 or 400 grit sandpaper. Both would be better. The whole purpose of this is to kind of smooth any thick paint out and give yourself a smooth surface. When you polish with steel wool it will go a lot faster because there isn't a bunch of paint caked on.

After last coat, lightly sand again then polish with 0000 steel wool. Stay away from the edges because that burns through very fast. Save the edges for last then you can control where paint is coming through.

Top coat with oil, shellac, or anything. I like an oil varnish blend.

3 parts.

1 part oil - linseed oil Tung oil. (Just use boiled linseed oil here)

1 part thinner - mineral spirits or turpentine. (Turpentine dries a bit faster)

1 part poly - use polyurethane or spar varnish aka spar urethane. (Helmsman spar varnish is what I use)