

COUNTRY LIVING

ARTISANS COLLECTION

Distressed for Success



Decorative Finishes
by
Caromal Colours®



*Add character and age to furniture,
accessories or architectural elements*

*D*istressing can add charm and character to any object. Painting a piece of furniture to change its color is a simple task. Telling a story about that piece of furniture through the art of distressing is clearly a whole different experience. When you decide to distress something, think about the story you wish to tell. This will help you accomplish this painted finish in a whole new way. For example, when applying your basecoat color, if you paint it thin and do a lot of sanding, your piece may look as though the paint has been worn away over time by wind and weather. If you apply the paint thick and sand only the edges it may look as though your piece has had many coats of paint over the years and has gotten minimal wear and tear. Don't be afraid to paint thick or thin, to sand a lot or a little, to bang with a brick or a nail. Have fun and remember, it's your distressing story to tell.

Tips

- We suggest cleaning the surface with a mild cleaning solution and making sure the surface is thoroughly dry.
- Caromal Colours Basecoat or Textured Basecoat makes almost any surface paintable.
- It can be applied over an oil, varnish, urethane, or latex surface.
- It will bond to raw or painted wood, metal, tile, glass, brick, stone, or even plastic.
- If you are painting an extremely challenging surface and you notice the basecoat crackles slightly when drying. Simply sand the crackling areas and apply the basecoat again.
- No need to worry about the way you apply the basecoat. The more irregularly you apply it the more interesting your distressing story will become.
- On the piece of molding shown here, we brushed the textured basecoat every which way. We pushed and mused, separating the bristles of the brush, painted it sideways and pounced the paint this way and that. That will achieve the interesting texture you will see in our end result.

Step one. The basecoat.



Be sure your surface is clean and dry.

1. Apply the basecoat. You can use the chip brush provided, a larger brush or even a roller for a large surface.

2.

2. Allow it to dry.



Tips

- Sand as much or as little as you like. Use 220 grit sandpaper for mild sanding and 80-100 grit for more dramatic distressing.
- Adjust the size of your sandpaper to the size of the item you are sanding by tearing or folding or both.
- Avoid even or repetitive sanding, (like going over all the edges perfectly the same)
- You can sand flat areas as well as edges and wear areas.
- You may also want to “ding” and “bang” your object using things like old keys, bricks, or putting in little nail holes to represent wear from bugs.

Step two. Sand to distress.

1. Think about where normal wear and tear would occur on your piece and concentrate your sanding in those areas. For example...a chair would be more distressed on the arms or bottom of the legs, where the back would hit the chair rail and where you would sit and lean on it.



2. You can “cheat” by using a little hand sander as shown. No household should be without one of these!



3. Brush or wipe sanding dust from object.

Tips

- The way you use your toner will help to tell your distressing story.
- Leaving more toner, heavier in crevices, will give you a more dramatic effect.
- Sanding back areas to raw wood will allow the toner to “stain” the edges creating a darker effect on those areas
- There is no right or wrong when it comes to how much toner to leave on or remove.
- You can always reapply a second layer of toner to certain areas to distress even more.
- You can seal your surface using any topcoat as desired.

Step three. Toning.



1. Apply the toner. You can use the chip brush provided, a larger brush or even a roller for a large surface.

2. Wipe back the toner using any soft cloth. If the cloth is slightly damp it will remove more of the toner. Or you can use a dry cloth that will "smear" more and remove less of the toner.



Toner wiped with damp cloth.



Toner wiped with dry cloth.

Optional Step. Flyspecking.



4. Using an old toothbrush, dip it into the toner, dab off some of the toner onto a cloth or paper towel and create "flyspecks" by pulling your finger or thumb through the toothbrush. Flyspecks add age and character to any piece.

5. Finished Piece!



Caromal Colours® knows that color is part of your lifestyle. Whenever your home needs a fresh start, a little lift or a big change . . . color is usually involved.

With Caromal Colours® decorative finishing is fun because we have *demythified* the process.

The key to your success are our amazing, easy-to-use and diverse materials.

You will be overwhelmed by your results because these are *the materials* used by professionals!

These materials work over basically any surface, enabling you to apply these finishes not only to walls, but also to almost any object in and around your home.

All you need is your enthusiastic, creative spirit!

Caromal Colours® will help you finish a room, save an old treasure, or customize anything you have in mind.

The possibilities are endless and you are only limited by your imagination.

Enjoy Caromal Colours® and you will understand how we can be . . . "The Icing on your Space!"

10 PAINTERLY POINTERS...

Have fun

Do it with a flair of your own

Remember, it's just a finish...and it is fun to watch it dry

Do it with a friend...children are great friends too!

Finish everything!

Show it off to a friend

Get a little crazy...maybe get some color on your socks

Give a finish as a gift

Go ahead...brag about it

Take time and enjoy the finishes!



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For other distressing ideas, technical assistance or questions, contact us at:

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