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## **1.0 Earthaus Marble Finish**

### **1.1 Description**

Inspired by traditional Italian Venetian plaster, the Earthaus Marble Finish is a very fine grained formula that is polished by burnishing for an ultra-smooth and reflective finish. The darker the color, the more color variation and mottling will appear with burnishing. Marble Finish is not suitable for showers.

The short and long term aesthetic continuity and functional performance of an Earthaus Marble Finish is the result of the methods utilized by the installer and care and maintenance by the owner. Earthaus Plaster cannot guarantee any finish outcomes with Earthaus Marble products.

### **1.2 Materials Summary: total thickness: 1/16"**

1. Earthaus Primer Grit mixed into primer
  2. One Stone Plaster base coat, 1/32" \*
  3. Two Marble Plaster finish coats, 1/32"\*
  4. One coat of Olive Oil Soap Sealer
- \* 1/32 inch is the thickness of a credit card*

### **1.2 Properties**

- Earthaus plasters are made with high quality US-quarried and sustainability-made lime, pumice, mineral pigments, and plant-based binder.
- Earthaus Olive Oil Soap Sealer is sustainably sourced in the US.
- 100% natural materials
- Excellent adherence and workability
- Zero VOCs or chemical additives
- Lime plaster absorbs CO2 and becomes limestone as it cures
- Mold and mildew resistant finish
- Durable and breathable finish

### **1.3 Application Guide Disclaimer**

The information provided in Earthaus Marble Finish Sample Kit Guides is given in good faith, based on current knowledge and Earthaus Plaster's experience with the plaster products when they are properly stored, handled and applied in normal situations. The Sample Kit Guide is useful for information and consulting but is not legally binding. In particular, it does not exempt the user from testing and verifying the suitability of the product for the desired application and purpose. Any modification to the instructions and recommendations by the user, they will assume all the corresponding risk and responsibility. Earthaus Artisan Plaster reserves the right to modifications that improve the product or its application.

## **2.0 Marble Finish Sample Kit Contents**

The contents of Marble Finish Sample Kit will make 1 quart of plaster and cover up to 8 square feet; coverage may vary depending on type and condition of substrate, thickness of application, and tools used. The entire contents of the Kit should be mixed to ensure color accuracy. Due to differences in coverage rates, there may be small amounts of some materials left over.

### **2.1 Earhaus Primer Grit | ¼ cup**

Primer Grit is a fine pumice additive that is mixed into primer for a more toothy substrate: ¼ cup of Primer Grit is added to 1 quart of primer.

### **2.2 Earhaus Stone Plaster, powdered & pre-pigmente | 1.6 lbs**

Stone is a medium grain powdered plaster that is used as the base coat plaster to provide adequate absorption and to cover any surface imperfections in the substrate.

### **2.3 Earhaus Marble Plaster , powdered & pre-pigmented | 1.6 lbs**

Marble plaster is a very fine powdered plaster. Mineral pigments are added to the Marble plaster but may not be fully integrated; for color continuity, the entire contents of Marble plaster must be mixed at the same time.

### **2.4 Mesh Strainer**

Straining the Marble plaster before application removes any bits of unmixed materials. The Marble finish requires an exceptionally fine mix and straining the plaster ensures this.

### **2.5 Earhaus Olive Oil Soap Sealer | 2 oz**

Olive Oil Soap Sealer is a concentrate that must be diluted with water before application.

## **3.0 Preparation**

### **3.1 Gather Tools**

Many of the recommended tools for Earhaus Plaster Sample Kits are organized and listed on our website. Each tool is linked to an online purchase option.

[Recommended Tools](#)

### **Primer Mixing & Application**

- Small Cordless Drill
- Small Mixing Paddle
- Mixing Tub : larger than 1 quart but no larger than 2.5 quart
- Roller or Brush

### **Plaster Mixing, Straining, & Application**

- Small Cordless Drill
- Small Mixing Paddle
- Two Mixing Tubs, larger than 1 quart but no larger than 2.5 quart
- Mesh Strainer: 1 gallon, included
- Sponge
- Hawk
- Trowel

### **Soap Diluting and Mixing & Application**

- Mixing Tub: larger than 1 quart but no larger than 2.5 quart
- Roller or Brush

## **3.2 Sample Making: Substrate Options**

A 2 ft by 2 ft sample is recommended to best view the depth, texture, and, color of the Marble Finish.

### **A. Sample Boards**

Marble Finish samples can be made on sheetrock, Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF), tile backer board, or bisque ceramic tiles. Plywood and particleboard are not recommended because tannins can leach and discolor the plaster. For health, note that standard MDF board is made with formaldehyde, a known carcinogen. The substrate needs to be dry and free from impurities that could hinder the bonding of Primer and Grit.

### **B. Wall Sample**

Marble Plaster Finish can be applied to level-4 finished drywall or previously painted walls. The substrate needs to be dry and free from impurities that could hinder the bonding of Primer and Grit.

### 3.3 Review Video Tutorial

Viewable on our website or YouTube channel, the Earthaus Marble Finish Tutorial demonstrates application using full size products. While the plaster is not pre-pigmented like it is in the Sample Kit, the application demonstration is the same and may be valuable to view ahead of time.

[Earthaus Marble Application Video Tutorial](#)

### 3.4 Safety Precautions

As lime-based products, Earthaus Stone and Marble Plasters are highly alkaline during mixing and while wet. It's recommended to wear a dust mask and safety glasses and cover exposed skin during mixing, and wear neoprene gloves and protective clothing during application. If skin comes in contact with wet Base or Tadelakt plasters and causes irritation, rinse skin with white vinegar to neutralize the lime. If Base or Tadelakt plaster gets into your eyes, flush your eyes with an eyewash.

[Materials Safety Data Sheets](#)

### 3.5 Preparing the Substrate

#### A. Suitable Primers

Earthaus does not make a primer product. We recommend choosing a primer with zero to low VOCs. For a list of suitable primers:

[Primer Grit Product Guide](#)

#### B. Application of Primer with Earthaus Grit additive

1. Add full contents of the Kit's Primer Grit into 1 quart of primer of choice.
2. Mix with a drill and paddle for 30 seconds until well integrated.
3. Use a brush or roller to apply one coat evenly to the substrate.
4. Allow the primer to dry fully until the Grit is completely bonded to the surface.

## 4.0 Marble Finish Application Guide

### A. Tips & Considerations

1. **Even coats:** Paying attention to applying plaster coats evenly and preventing any high spots or ridges in the basecoat particularly will minimize aesthetic issues in the finish coat and help ensure color continuity.

2. **Thickness of coats:** Novices tend to apply too thick of coats which can show up as ridges and trowel lines. Too thick of coats will increase the risk of cracking.
3. **Burnishing:** Polishing for high sheen is a time sensitive technique. Using lots of pressure and approximate 45 degree angle on the trowel to burnish for high sheen; the plaster should be wet still but firm enough that no material comes off on the trowel when burnishing.
4. **Color variation:** Burnishing done too hard can bruise a plaster finish and darken the color. Burnishing in areas with high spots or ridges are very easily bruised. Color variation and color mottling can increase with burnishing
5. **Texture variation:** Marble can be made matte/un-Soaped/un-burnished

## **B. Base coat: Stone Plaster Mixing & Application**

### **Mixing:**

1. Add 1.5 cups (400 ml) of water to a mixing tub larger than one quart.
2. Slowly pour the powdered Stone plaster into the water while mixing with the cordless drill and small mixing paddle.
3. Mix for 3 minutes to remove all lumps. If needed, adding a small amount of water may be necessary to make a workable consistency.

### **Application:**

1. Apply an even coat of Stone plaster approximately 1/16 inch thick.
2. Take care to remove any unwanted texture and trowel lines from the Stone basecoat.
3. Allow the Stone base coat to dry fully before applying the Marble finish coats.

## **C. Finish Coats: Marble Plaster: Mixing, Straining, & Application**

Marble is a two coat, "wet-on-wet" application. This means that the two coats are applied in succession and the coats should not dry between coats. For both coats, the total thickness is 1/32", the thickness of a credit card, which means that the coats are applied very thin.

### **Mixing**

1. Add 2 ¼ cups (550 ml) of water to a mixing tub larger than a quart.
2. Slowly pour the powdered Marble plaster into the water while mixing with the cordless drill and small mixing paddle.
3. Mix for 3 minutes to remove all lumps.
4. Once mixed, add two tablespoons of water to the mixture and mix. The addition of this amount will support ease of straining in the next step.

### **Straining**

1. Place the strainer over a second clean mixing tub larger than a quart.
2. Pour the mixed Marble plaster into the strainer. Scrape the sides of the mixing tub to ensure all of the plaster goes into the strainer.
3. With gloved hands, gently squeeze all of the plaster through into the second tub.
4. Allow the mixed strained plaster to sit for 30 minutes to thicken slightly before application.

### **Application**

1. Apply a “tight coat” which means a coat just thicker than the largest grains of aggregate in the Marble plaster.
2. When the first tight coat is firm but still wet, “double back” (apply another) tight coat.
3. As the plaster begins to firm, use a clean trowel to burnish the surface.
4. If an unsealed matte finish is desired, the Marble finish is complete.

## **D. Olive Oil Soap Sealer: Mixing & Application**

Allow the Marble Plaster to dry completely before Olive Oil Soap application (minimum 12 hours). Olive Oil Soap comes concentrated and must be diluted.

### **Mixing**

1. Dilute Olive Oil Soap with 8 parts water to 1 part soap: Add 2 cups of warm water and the Soap to a mixing tub to achieve the correct ratio.

### **Application**

1. Start at the bottom of the sample and work upwards to avoid drips on unsealed plaster. Apply the Soap with a roller or brush in a random crosshatch pattern.
2. Take care not to drip or have the soap run as both can stain the finish.
3. Once the surface has been fully covered with Soap, wipe off excess with a clean cloth.
4. The color will lighten and stabilize once fully dried, approximately 12 hours later.

## **5.0 Completion**

### **5.1 Storage**

Once mixed, Stone and Marble Plasters will keep for 14 days covered at room temperature. To rework previously mixed Stone and Marble after storage, it is essential to remix the plasters using a drill.

### **5.2 Clean Up & Disposal**

To clean primer tools and dispose of excess primer, follow the directions from the manufacturer. The strainer can be disposed of in the trash. To clean plaster tools and dispose of excess Stone and Marble Plasters, allow the plaster to fully dry in the container. Once dried, the plaster will become easily removable from the container and can be disposed of in the trash.