

Virginia La Vorgna's Classic Victorian Colors

Professional Quality China Paint
for Doll Artists

French Collection

POTPOURRI

German Collection

Congratulations! You have chosen the finest china paints and media obtainable. Every lovely Victorian tone is an exact duplicate of a color used on antique French or German dolls. Classic Victorian Colors and media are made entirely of professional quality ingredients and are designed to fulfill the special needs of dollmakers.

French Collection

OLD MASTER RED: True French red with rosy undertones. Use for all-over blushing of white heads, deep lip shading, cheeks, eye dots, small nose dots, and lip accent lines. It will never turn orange. Do not use for German lips.

FIRST KISS: Victorian pink. Apply lightly and blot for the undercolor on French lips or use alone for baby doll lips and cheeks. Perfect all-over blush on pink or white bisque. Do not use on German lips.

BLACK VELVET: A blend of blacks for sharp, non glossy French lashes. Mix half and half with Jumeau Brow for Black or Oriental dolls.

FRENCH BROW: Medium ash brown with green undertones, this popular color was used on both French and certain German dolls.

JUMEAU BROW: A deep ash brown that was very popular with several French companies during the middle period of Victorian dollmaking. It is also correct for certain German dolls.

BRU BROW: This is the classic greyed down eyebrow color with strong green undertones that was used extensively on the earliest French bébés. Many German doll brows are also this color.

ROSE MIRAGE: French eye shadow.

German Collection

GERMAN FLESH: Deep pink with the blue undertones found on most German dolls. Use as an all-over blush on white porcelain to get the true antique look. If you pour in pink porcelain, German Flesh will add depth to the complexion but the blue undertones will not come through.

This color is also the exact shade of the lips on a few French dolls, such as Paris Bébé and later Jumeaux.

REDGOLD: The red-orange lip color used on most German dolls, notably the character children and babies. Unlike similar colors, Redgold has depth of tone. Do not use on French dolls.

PERSIMMON: The other familiar German lip color, this is redder than Redgold and is normally found on German "dolly face" dolls. It was occasionally used as a cheek color. Do not use on French dolls.

ROSY CHEEKS: The standard German cheek color with blue undertones.

GERMAN BROWN: Lively medium brown with red undertones, German Brown was used extensively on K★R characters and many other German dolls. Use it for rich brown painted eyes. Do not use on French dolls.

DEEP AUBURN: A favorite color with German manufacturers, this brow color is found on many Kestners and some K★R dolls. Deep Auburn was also used by the S.F.B.J. for eyebrows and lashes on a majority of their dolls. Do not use on other French dolls.

BLOND BROWS: Beautiful dark blond is a very effective German color with pale blond wigs.

POTPOURRI

GOLDEN BROWN: One of the most extensively used eyebrow colors on antique French dolls, and also on some early German dolls. The undertones are ash, meaning that there is no red in the color.

NUT BROWN: A deeper brown than Golden Brown, this is used for painted eyes as well as rich ash brown brows. Correct on both French and German dolls.

BARELY BROWN: Marvelous for those smudged baby brows and the pale, one stroke brows on some German children. Correct for French and German dolls.

VERY DARK BROWN: This is the deepest of the eyebrow colors and yet it gives a soft appearance. Jumeau used this color on many of his heads marked 1907 and Déposé Tete Jumeau. It is also correct on some dolls by Kester.

ORIENTAL BLUSH: When this lovely amber is used as an all-over blush on white porcelain the resulting color is identical to the best Oriental dolls.

If you must pour in Oriental colored slip, please dilute the colored slip with at least 50% white slip for a less harsh color, then do an all-over wash with Oriental Blush. Do not use over pink porcelain.

CHARCOAL: The proper color for eyelashes on most German dolls. The three colors are blended for you in perfect proportions to give you the best lashes every time.

BLUE EYES: Just a hint of violet undertones makes this an authentic eye color for your lady, children and China dolls whether French or German.

CHINA DOLL: Chinas were painted in every shade of orange but the most desirable dolls had lips, eyeline and cheeks decorated in this soft pinky-peach. Some later German ladies were painted in the same color. Use it for your modern dolls, too.

MAUVE SHADOW: See below.

LAVENDER SHADOW: These gold based colors

are two of the three eyeshadow tints used on French dolls (The other is Rose Mirage in the French Collection.) I can't advise you on which color to use on a particular doll, but I will pass along my observations. The five H dolls I have seen all wore Mauve; most of the Long Faces wore Lavender; Brus seem to be divided equally among the three colors; A.T.s are mainly Mauve and Tete Jumeaux all seem to be wearing Rose Mirage. The most important thing to keep in mind is that adding shadow to your French doll is not only correct, it improves her looks and gives a finished, professional appearance.

WHITE SATIN: Smooth, white glossy paint.

NEW COLORS

ACCENTS: A true medium red with no orange tones. This pretty red is suitable for the lips and cheeks of any doll. Outstanding for the shading of arms and legs of modern dolls.

WHITE VELVET MATTE: Non glossy white gives better coverage over flesh colored bisque when painting eyes or teeth. If a gloss is desired, use White Satin as the second coat.

BASE COTE: Paint this pinky white on the entire fingernail of your modern doll. See below.

FRENCH MANICURE: Use alone to paint modern doll fingernails or use in the center of nail over fired Base-Cote, leaving the curved moon and tip of nails unpainted. This treatment gives a natural look to modern dolls. This extremely pale pink is also being used as a lip color.

BLACK HI-GLOSS: Highest quality black for hair, shoes, eye pupils, etc. It is too glossy for lashes.

RUBERT RED: Named in honor of Donna Rubert who designed this exquisite red. It is a basic neutral that will go with all other reds whether warm or cold. Genuine all-purpose.

MATTING MIX: To reduce or eliminate the shine in paint. Mix thoroughly with dry paint before adding media. Try about 25% Matting Mix with your color and test fire a sample prior to adding more.

These paints have earned the respect of contemporary and classic doll artists as being beautiful, easy to use and non-fading. The colors can be mixed with each other to create new and exclusive tones. Restoration artists rely on the quality and authenticity of our shades to repair priceless antiques. They will help you to be a better doll maker.

Classic Victorian Colors mature at Cone 018.

Use Cone 017 in the Kiln-Sitter as Insurance.
Thank You, Contemporary Doll Artist

Creators of Artist Dolls, both here and abroad have discovered the special properties unique to these doll paints. Compatible base tones enable the artist to combine colors to create the particular image he or she wishes to convey. They find that great depth of tone can be achieved as easily as transparent color. Virginia La Vorgna's china paint for dolls is dependable and versatile as well as beautiful.

The Firing Line

Most china paint, including mine, will mature at cone 018. HOWEVER, most kilns don't actually reach cone 018 unless a cone 017 is used in the sitter. Please use a cone 017 in the kiln sitter when firing an all-over blush. Self supporting test cones are cheap insurance.