



Antiquing Paint - Application Tips:

- ❖ Tip your can upside down and shake well. Open and stir thoroughly.
- ❖ For most projects, the only prep work is a simple cleaning and dusting of the surface! However, there may be rare occasions when you do need to sand first. For example, you may need to sand to remove chipping paint, rust, or other surface imperfections, or when the surface is slick/glossy (this includes melamine and laminates). You may also choose to use a liquid de-glosser in combination with sanding on very slick surfaces.
- ❖ For pieces that require a deeper cleaning prior to painting, like old furniture or cabinets, we recommend using odorless Mineral Spirits. After wiping down your piece with Mineral Spirits, be sure to allow them to completely evaporate prior to painting.
- ❖ For most projects, 1-2 coats will provide full coverage. Wait 4 hours in between coats.
- ❖ However, certain coatings found on vintage furniture may cause a stain to emerge through the paint. To remedy, simply apply a clear shellac to the stained area, and repaint. Additionally, we recommend applying clear shellac to any open grains/wood knots on untreated wood - this will block out tannins from bleeding through to your painted surface.
- ❖ After painting with Chalkworthy™ Antiquing Paint, be sure to apply Chalkworthy Soft Wax to protect and enhance your project's finish. Once your project is complete, allow 1-2 days for paint to reach full hardness and adhesion.



Soft Wax - Application Tips:

How do you apply the Clear Soft Wax?

Use a wax brush or soft cloth and apply Clear Wax in a loose circular motion over your antiquing paint and then in the direction of any wood grain or brush strokes. A wax brush will leave the smoothest/even finish. Do not apply too much wax, as this will cause the surface to feel “tacky.”

*Tip: Dab your wax brush on the lid of the can to remove excess wax. A little bit of wax goes a long way – it’s like lotion for your furniture!

If there is still excess wax, wipe it off with a lint free rag or old undershirt. Do not scrub or work in a small concentrated area as this may cause the paint to rub off. You want to remove the wax gently, evenly, and in the same direction as your painted brush strokes or wood grain. Allow to dry at least 1 hour. If you desire a higher sheen, buff with a clean soft cloth, brush, or use #0000 steel wool. If the wax seems difficult to buff, allow more dry time. If sheen is uneven, go over lightly with straight, even strokes using #0000 steel wool.

*Do not seal outdoor surfaces with wax. The outdoor heat/temperature variations may reactivate the wax and make the surface tacky.

How do you apply the Black or Burnt Umber Soft Wax?

For a darker, full coverage distressed look, you may choose to apply your Black or Burnt Umber Wax directly over your Chalkworthy™ as the dark tint will absorb into your antiquing paint application.

For a subtler distressed look, or if you only want the Black or Burnt Umber Wax to accentuate some cracks, detailing, or crevices but not heavily soak into the

entire surface, you will want to first apply the Chalkworthy™ Clear Soft Wax. By first applying the Clear Soft Wax, you add protection and help prevent the stain in the dark wax from directly penetrating the Chalkworthy™ antiquing paint. This allows you to feather or blend more strategically and is the more typical choice.

Apply the Black or Burnt Umber Wax just like the Clear Wax application described above. But be sure to work your dark wax into any brush textures, furniture detailing, molding or recessed areas to create a pronounced aged look. You can also add dark wax to isolated areas using a smaller artist brush.

My wax is tacky and will not dry, WHY?

Tacky wax that doesn't seem to dry is a sure sign you have too much wax! One of the most common errors is applying too much wax and not wiping off the excess. Be sure you are simply wiping the excess and not actually buffing your piece during this step. Very thin and uniform coats are best.

If you have a tacky piece, first take a clean cloth or rag and lightly rub on one area of your piece for 20 seconds. Feel and see if any of the tackiness has disappeared. Sometimes the tackiness can be removed with this type of thorough rubbing method. However, if the tackiness is still there, you may apply a fresh coat of Clear Wax and this time be sure to remove the excess. When you apply a fresh coat of wax, it activates the top layer of the previous tacky application. Another option of removing the tackiness, is to use a little mineral spirits to clean off the wax build up.

How do I care for my finish?

Use a soft cloth dampened with water + mild soap to remove any marks or stains on your finish. Do NOT use any liquid furniture polishes or cleaners with harsh chemicals.

Projects finished with Chalkworthy™ Antiquing Paint & Soft Wax are very durable against everyday wear and tear, but remember to treat your pieces with consideration. Avoid excessive/trapped water and protect your finish from extreme temperatures or humidity. Please allow your new finish to harden and cure before placing items onto the surface that may scratch or mar the finish.

Water-based paints (like Chalkworthy™) typically take approximately 3 weeks to fully harden and cure. So, although your project will be dry to the touch within hours, it is important to remember the finish is still sensitive during this cure time. The Soft Wax is also hardening and curing during this time. Variations in temperature, humidity and application thickness may affect the drying and curing time.



Common Application Techniques/Looks:

The Standard “Vintage Look”:



Apply 1-2 coats of Chalkworthy™ Antiquing Paint depending on your project or until you reach full coverage. Once dry, apply Chalkworthy™ Clear Soft Wax with a brush or lint-free cloth, working the wax into the paint and removing any excess as you go. If you would like to further distress your worn look, lightly use fine or medium grit sandpaper on the edges, corners, and molding until under layers or surfaces are apparent.

Still want to take your distressing further? Try our Chalkworthy™ Black or Burnt Umber Soft Waxes. Or you can mix our White Linen paint with our Clear Soft Wax to a paste; this will create a light dusty wax tint that contrasts nicely over darkly painted surfaces. Work these tinted waxes into any brush textures, furniture detailing, molding, or recessed areas creating a pronounced aged look! If you want this to be subtle, then apply while your first Clear Wax layer is still “wet” or only apply in particular areas of high detail.

Smooth & Modern:



Smooth or remove any prominent textures with medium-grit sandpaper. Lightly water down your Chalkworthy™ Antiquing paint. Then, in long even strokes, apply paint in the same direction as the grain until you reach full coverage. This will give you a smooth finish. Apply 2 diluted coats for full coverage.

*Optional: Once dry, use a fine #600 grit sandpaper or higher to smooth or buff the surface. Lastly, apply Chalkworthy™ Clear Soft Wax with a brush or lint-free cloth, working the wax into the paint and removing any excess as you go. The wax should be applied in long, even strokes. Sealing with the Soft Wax will help protect all your creative reinventions!

“Multi-Tone” Distressing:



Choose two of our colors that you feel will contrast nicely. Apply 1-2 coats of a base color, such as Cast Iron. Once the base color is dry, apply the second color to your coverage preference. For example, you may apply the second color, such as White Linen, more densely, only showing hints of the under color. Or, you may expressively brush on light accents of the second color.

Once dry, apply Chalkworthy™ Clear Soft Wax with a brush or lint-free cloth, working the wax into the paint and removing any excess as you go. If you would like to further your distressed worn look, lightly use fine or medium grit sandpaper on the edges, corners, and molding until under layers or surfaces are apparent.

Still want to take your distressing further? Try our Chalkworthy™ Black or Burnt Umber Soft Waxes. Or- you may mix our white Linen paint with our Clear Soft Wax to create a light dusty wax tint that contrast nicely over darkly painted surfaces. Work these tinted waxes into any brush textures, furniture detailing, molding, or recessed areas creating a pronounced aged look! If you want this to be subtle then apply while your first Clear Wax layer is still “wet” or only apply in particular areas of high detail.

The “Years of Use” Chippy Look:



Apply 1-2 coats of antiquing paint. Wait until each coat is dry to the touch before moving on to the next step. Apply more coats of nicely contrasting colors over your base color if you want a “multi-tone” chippy look. Apply petroleum jelly over areas you would like for paint to resist or “chip.” Then, apply your final thick coat of paint directly over the entire surface, including the petroleum jelly. While the paint is wet, apply heat over the entire area with a hair dryer to help create the look of distressed cracks. The areas above the petroleum jelly will crack more visibly. Chip off the paint to your style preference using any tool available i.e.: putty knife.

Still want to take your distressing further? Try our Chalkworthy™ Black or Burnt Umber Soft Waxes. Or, you may mix our White Linen paint with our Clear Soft Wax to a paste; this will create a light dusty wax tint that contrast nicely over darkly painted surfaces. Work these tinted waxes into any brush textures, furniture detailing, molding, or recessed areas creating a pronounced aged look!

If you want this to be subtle then apply while your first Clear Wax layer is still “wet” or only apply in particular areas of high detail. Lastly, apply Chalkworthy™ Clear Soft Wax with a brush or lint-free cloth, working the wax into the paint and removing any excess as you go.