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## **ROLCO ARTISAN CLEAR OIL GILDING SIZE**

**ROLCO ARTISAN CLEAR OIL SIZE** has the qualities professional gilders value most, predictable working time and long lasting durability. This superior size produces a brilliant gilded surface and is specifically formulated to reach tack overnight (12 hours) and to stay open for gilding for an extended period when properly applied. Through dry occurs in approximately 5 to 7 days. Rolco Labs developed this size in association with Sepp Leaf Products for both interior and exterior projects. It should be noted that tack and dry times are subjective to the gilder's technique, thickness of the film and are approximate depending on ambient temperature and humidity when applied.

### **DIRECTIONS FOR USE:**

Surface preparation is critical to the durability and integrity of the finish. All surfaces must be clean, dry and free from contaminants such as oils, waxes, dust and fingerprints.

The surfaces must be cleaned thoroughly. Glass surfaces should be cleaned with a lint free cloth wetted with alcohol. Wipe the surface with a clean cloth and repeat. Clean painted surfaces with mineral spirits or naphtha. Clean in continuous wipes in a single direction. Reversing the direction will redeposit any contaminants on the cleaned surface. Change cloths frequently and be sure to spread out the cloths in an open area after using in order to allow any remaining solvent to evaporate thereby preventing spontaneous combustion.

Surfaces and finishes should be thoroughly dry, hardened and lightly sanded to allow the size to adhere to the substrate, particularly when gloss oil finishes and enamels are present. When there is a previously applied coating or finish, the applicator should test a small area for compatibility before proceeding. If pre-coating or priming is required, it is recommended that ROLCO's BURNISH/SEALERS be utilized. See the data sheet for the BURNISH/SEALERS.

**WARNING:** If you scrape, sand or remove old paint or coatings, you may release lead dust. Lead dust is toxic. Exposure to lead dust can cause serious illness, such as brain damage, especially in children. Pregnant women should also avoid exposure. Wear a NIOSH approved respirator to control lead exposure. Clean up carefully with a HEPA vacuum and a wet mop. Before starting to remove old paint or coatings, find out how to protect yourself and others by contacting the National Lead information hotline at 800-424-LEAD or log onto [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

## **APPLICATION:**

Application of the size can be by brush, roller or spray. Avoid any puddling in crevices. Small amounts of japan type oil based or universal colorants can be added when a color may be needed for size location.

It is important that all porous surfaces such as raw wood, plaster, stone, etc. be sealed. ROLCO'S BURNISH/SEALERS are a compatible ideal medium. See data sheet for the BURNISH/SEALERS.

In as much as the size may appear uniform in appearance, it is good practice to stir and mix thoroughly. Mix slowly to prevent entrapment of air and thereby creating bubbles when applied. Ideal conditions for application are that the size should be applied at 65 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit and 40 to 60 degrees of relative humidity. Differing severe conditions can compromise film integrity as well as affecting tack and dry times.

The size should be applied at the packaged consistency. If thinning is required, then use Mineral Spirits sparingly. If **BRUSHING**, use a high-grade black ox bristle or sable lettering brush used for gloss finishes. **ROLLING** is best used for large flat surfaces utilizing a very short nap roller. Insure that the lay-down is such that tack can be obtained within the prescribed parameters. **SPRAYING** is a function of the gilder's equipment and technique. Insure that a sufficient level lay-down is accomplished. Viscosity, atomization and technique are paramount for a proper working size application. Generally an airless or HLVP sprayer permits a more controlled level film. A thin film (less than 2 mils) causes tack to arrive more quickly due to faster solvent evaporation. Greater than 2 mils will adversely increase the proper tack arrival. The gilder should experiment as to what is required by spraying and gilding on test surfaces.

After the size is applied and the specified time of achieving tack arrives, it should have a slight sticky feeling. Test the applied size by applying a knuckle to the surface. The proper tack is when the size does not stick to the knuckle and you hear a slight "tick" when the knuckle is pulled away. If the size is too wet, the leaf will go into the size surface and any features will be lost. When the proper tack is achieved, lay down the leaf and insure that all of the sized areas are covered. Then rub the leaf lightly with a piece of flannel cloth or cotton to insure that all of the leaf is adhering evenly. If true gold leaf is to be burnished, then do so by further rubbing with a flannel or other soft cloth. For clean up use mineral spirits.

One can assume that the coverage for the size on a sealed non-porous are is approximately 200 square feet per gallon at a nominal brushed thickness of 2 mils.

**NOTE:** It is most important that any pretreatment of the substrate must be entirely removed. In particular is the utilization of acidic or alkaline materials. Any residue of such materials will cause composition leaf to discolor due to its copper and zinc composition. Silver and copper leaf will also discolor in the presence of sulphurous compounds or atmosphere prior to overcoat protection.

ROLCO'S ACRYLIC TOPCOAT will protect silver or copper leaf from discoloring, and extend the non-tarnishing of composition leaf when properly applied and sealed. Generally real gold leaf need not be top coated unless the surface is subject to handling or inadvertent abuse. Artisan size can be top-coated after a one week. See data sheet for ACRYLIC TOPCOAT.

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