

Craft & Finishing Natural Sponges

Sponge Painting Technique Instructions

Technique:

Step 1: Mix 1 part Paint with 4 part Glazing Liquid. Pour a small amount of the mixture into a tray or palette.

Step 2: Wet the Painting Sponge thoroughly with water, gently squeeze out excess and blot on a dry absorbent cloth. Determine which sponging method is to be used. Depending on the method being used follow either Step 3 or Step 4.

Step 3: Negative or "Sponging Off" Method. Using a standard paint roller or brush, apply the paint/glaze mixture to the surface. Using the Painting Sponge, dab the sponge on the surface, continually changing the position of the sponge by lifting, turning and twisting your hand between dabs to vary the pattern. Dab sponge on cardboard to remove paint buildup. **It is very important to make sure that the paint/glaze does not dry. Sponging off is best done with two people, one to apply the paint/glaze and one removing the paint/glaze with the Painting Sponge.**

Step 4: Positive or "Sponging On" Method. Dip your Painting Sponge into the paint/glaze (do not overload). Blot off excess paint/glaze on the edge of your tray. Dab the sponge on the surface, continually changing the position of the sponge by lifting, turning and twisting your hand between dabs to vary the pattern. It is better to have lighter sponge patterns in corners. Sponge can be cut for hard to reach areas.

Tips: You can use multiple colors when sponge painting. The color you want to show most should be the last color applied. Rinse the Painting Sponge if it becomes clogged and blot out excess water. To clean your Painting Sponge rinse with water until it runs clear.

Hint: The technique can be repeated in a 3rd color over the thoroughly dried first application. Adding additional colors can either soften or strengthen the overall effect depending on tone. We recommend you try the technique on a test board.