



PEARL PLASTER: THE BASICS

ARTISAN ENHANCEMENTS™ BASIC TECHNIQUE SERIES

INTRODUCTION

Artisan Enhancements™ Pearl Plaster is a thick water-based acrylic plaster medium used to create opulent pearlescent effects. Pearl Plaster is non-toxic, zero VOC, and eco-friendly! Pearl Plaster was developed to create shimmery finishes, reminiscent of a luxurious velvet. Pearl Plaster is an ideal medium for embossing, relief, and trowelled techniques. Great for a variety of interior and exterior projects such as: furniture, cabinetry, decorative arts, and walls.

SUPPLY LIST

- Artisan Enhancements™ Pearl Plaster
- Artisan Enhancements™ 25mm Round Brush
- Sea Sponge
- Inexpensive Flat Chip Brush
- Trowel/Palette Knife/Color Shaper
- Foam, Wool, or Sponge Roller
- Artisan Enhancements™ Sealer
- Brushes for sealers
- Cardboard (for off-loading)

THE PROCESS

Step One: Surface Preparation.

Surfaces should be free of cleaner residue, dust, dirt, and debris. Surfaces should be dry before Pearl Plaster application. If painting/staining/layering before Pearl Plaster application, make sure the basecoat of paint/stain/layerers are completely dry before application of plaster. For best results let surfaces dry overnight before Pearl Plaster application. Note: Raw, stone, or untreated surfaces may need to be sealed with Artisan Enhancements™ Clear Topcoat prior to plaster application.

Step Two: Stir Pearl Plaster.

Stir from the bottom up before every use to make sure plaster is fully mixed.

Step Three: Four basic Pearl Plaster applications!

Brush: Basic Brush Application –Dry Brush “Zinc” or “Silken” Effect

Pearl Plaster can be dry brushed to create a soft pearl effect. The “Zinc” effect works best on black/charcoal colors or dark backgrounds. The “Silken” effect works best on white colors or light backgrounds. Lightly dip the bristles of a dry chip brush into the Pearl Plaster. Only a small amount of plaster is needed to achieve a hint of pearlized texture. If the brush gets too

Brush: overloaded, off-load excess chunky Pearl Plaster onto a piece of cardboard or paper towel. Off-loading will help create a faint hint of pearl accents rather than a blotchy painted pearl finish. Using light pressure, apply the Pearl Plaster to the surface in linear, one-directional strokes (left to right). Repeat as desired. Experiment with different basecoat backgrounds to see how the effect changes!

Stipple: *Basic Stipple Application – Brush or Sponge*

Pearl Plaster can be stippled with a round brush or sea sponge to create light to heavy textured effects.

To stipple with a brush, load the brush by holding the brush vertical and upright, then dip the bristles of the round brush into the Pearl Plaster. While still holding the brush upright, “pounce” the brush up and down on to the surface to apply the Pearl Plaster. Pouncing pushes the bristles into the surface to create the stippled effect. Reload the brush and repeat until the surface is covered. Once the first coat is dry, a second coat can be added for more coverage and heavier texture.

To create more of an organic stippled effect, use a sea sponge. For a sponged stipple effect, load the sponge by dipping a lightly moistened sea sponge into the Pearl Plaster. Without off-loading, pounce the sea sponge across the surface. The sponge will leave varied patterns and voids in the application. Reload the sponge and repeat until the surface is covered. Once the first coat is dry, a second coat can be added for more coverage.

Trowel: *Basic Trowel Application*

Pearl Plaster can be applied to flat surfaces using a trowel, palette knife, or Color Shaper to achieve an overall plaster effect. To begin, load a small amount of plaster on to the edge of the tool. Apply plaster to the surface while holding the tool at an angle of 30 - 45°, working from wet to dry areas, to cover the entire surface. As the plaster begins to set-up, keeping the edge of the tool at an angle, smooth the surface to eliminate ridges and uneven areas. Allow the first coat to completely dry. To build more texture, reload the tool and repeat the process if desired.

Roller: *Basic Roller Application*

Pearl Plaster can be rolled on flat surfaces for a velvety suede-like textured effect. For a smoother finish texture, use a low-nap foam roller cover. For a heavier textured look, use a thick-nap roller cover. Dip the roller into the Pearl Plaster product. Make sure the roller has good coverage of Pearl

Roller:
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Plaster for an even coat. Roll the Pearl Plaster onto a piece of cardboard or paint tray to test the consistency. Off-load any excess or an over loaded roller as needed. Apply Pearl Plaster to the surface, slightly overlapping the previous roll with each pass to avoid lap lines. Reload roller and repeat until surface is covered. Once the first coat is dry, a second coat can be added for more coverage and texture.

Bonus:

Bonus Application Tip!

Combine Basic Roller application with Basic Dry Brush Silken effect for an extra luxurious finish. First, roll on Pearl Plaster with a low-nap smooth finish foam roller. Apply 2 rolled coats. Allow to dry overnight. Once dry, using a dry brush and light pressure, apply the Pearl Plaster to surface in linear, one-directional strokes (left to right).

Step Four:

Seal your project.

Pearl Plaster applications can be sealed with Artisan Enhancements™ sealers or wax. Reference our Sealer Tip sheet for proper sealer application.

Thanks for following along!

To learn more about Pearl Plaster visit your local Artisan Enhancements retailer, review tip sheets, and visit FAQ section at www.artisanenhancements.com