



VP ANTICO: THE BASICS

ARTISAN ENHANCEMENTS™ BASIC TECHNIQUE SERIES

INTRODUCTION

Artisan Enhancements™ VP Antico is a thick water-based plaster medium used to create smooth and textured Venetian plaster effects. VP Antico is non-toxic, zero VOC, and eco-friendly!

VP Antico can be used to create traditional Venetian plaster effects and build surface texture. VP Antico's unique formula contains linseed oil to make it easier to smooth, polish, and burnish. An ideal medium for stippled, 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™ VP Antico
- Artisan Enhancements™ 25mm or 37mm Round 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.

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

Step Two: Stir VP Antico.

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

Step Three: Three basic VP Antico applications!

Brush: Basic Brush Application –Dry Brush

VP Antico can be stippled with a round brush to create light to heavy texture plaster effects. To load the brush, hold the brush vertical and upright, dip the bristles of the round brush into the VP Antico. To apply the VP Antico to the

Brush:
...continued

surface, while still holding the brush upright, “pounce” the brush up and down on to the surface. Pouncing pushes the bristles into the surface to create the stippled effect. Reload the brush and repeat until surface is covered. The up and down lifting action creates small peaks in the stippled pattern. If desired, as the plaster begins to set-up the peaks can be knocked down by dragging a drywall knife over the peaks to achieve a slightly smoother stipple textured effect. Once first coat is dry, a second coat can be added for more coverage and heavier texture.

Trowel: *Basic Trowel Application*

VP Antico can be applied to flat surfaces using a trowel, palette/drywall 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 additional texture, reload the tool and repeat the process if desired.

Roller: *Basic Roller Application*

VP Antico can be rolled on to flat surfaces. For a smoother texture, use a low-nap high density foam roller cover. For a heavier textured look, use a thick-nap roller cover. Dip the roller into the VP Antico product. Make sure the roller has good coverage of VP Antico for an even coat. Roll the VP Antico onto a piece of cardboard or paint tray to test the consistency. Off-load any excess or an over loaded roller as needed. Apply VP Antico to the surface, slightly overlapping the previous roll with each pass to avoid lap lines and voids. Reload roller and repeat until surface is covered. Similar to stippling, rolling VP Antico creates small peaks in the finish. If desired, as the plaster begins to set-up the peaks can be knocked down by dragging a drywall knife over the peaks to achieve a slightly smoother effect. Once first coat is dry, a second coat can be added for more coverage and heavier texture.

Optional: *How to Burnish VP Antico*

VP Antico can be burnished and polished once dry. To burnish VP Antico, using a fine grit sandpaper (400 - 1000 grit depending on level of polish desired) very lightly sand the plaster. Work in small circles until the level of sheen or polish is achieved. The higher grit sandpaper will produce a smoother higher polish. Wipe the surface with slightly damp cloth to remove plaster dust from sanding before adding additional layers or sealer.

Note: Basic VP Antico texture applications can be layered with a variety of products such as paint, foil, glazing, Nature's Wood Stain and Crackle Tex. Layering VP Antico creates multi-dimensional and one-of-a-kind techniques.

Step Four: Seal your project.

Seal! VP Antico applications can be sealed with Artisan Enhancements™ sealers or wax. (See Sealer Tip sheet for proper sealer application)

Thanks for following along!

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