

HOW TO PROPERLY PAINT LATEX SURFACES

Due To the Flexing Nature of Latex Materials, Special Painting Techniques are Required to Keep Paints From Chipping Or Cracking

PROBLEM: Latex mask making is not complete without the addition of color. But because as paints dry they become brittle and inflexible they tend to chip as the latex rubber is handled. Here are two excellent painting methods that will not only adhere to latex, but will withstand the flexing of the material without cracking.

METHOD 1—USING AN ACRYLIC/LATEX PAINT BLEND:

Supplies Required:

- 407 Mask Making latex rubber
 - Mat finish acrylic paint in the desired colors
 - White vinegar (Acetic Acid)
 - Cheese cloth
 - Water
 - Ammonia
- **Prepare the Mask** by coating with white vinegar. Either spray on or paint on using a chip brush. Allow the vinegar to dry or to hasten the drying pat dry with paper towel or soft cloth.. The application of the vinegar acts as a primer for better paint adhesion.
 - **Prepare the Paint.** Mix 1 part 407 Latex with 1 part mat finish acrylic paint. (Behr Interior Mat Acrylic Paint found at Lowes's works well) You can adjust mix ratio according to control the thickness of the blend by adding more latex or adding more paint. The 50/50 mix ration is just a target. Let your artistic sensibilities provide you with the best thickness for your project.
 - **Screen the Blend.** Use cheese cloth to screen the blend to ensure a uniform, consistent mixture with no lumps.
 - **For Sprayable Mix.** Blend the paint/latex mix with water again, with 50/50 with Water or Water/Ammonia Mix. Also you should adjust mix ratio according to the viscosity needed for your project. This is a good mix for airbrushing.

METHOD 2—USING RUBBER CEMENT/PAINT BLEND

Supplies Required:

- Rubber Cement
 - White vinegar (Acetic Acid)
 - Cirius Silicone Pigment
 - Xylene Solvent Thinner
- **Prepare the Mask** by coating with white vinegar. Either spray on or paint on using a chip brush. Allow the vinegar to dry or to hasten the drying pat dry with paper towel or soft cloth.. The application of the vinegar acts as a primer for better paint adhesion.

FEATURES

- Method to properly paint latex surfaces
- Eliminate chipping and cracking
- Extremely detailed reproductions
- Excellent storage stability
- Easy to apply

- **Blend Rubber Cement.** Next, blend rubber cement with desired amount of the Cirius Silicone Pigments using just a small amount of the pigment
- Typically, mix no more than 2-3% of **Cirius Silicone Pigment** to total weight of latex rubber cement as Cirius Silicone Pigments are very concentrated.
- **50/50 Mix with Solvent.** Then, adjust thickness of mix with the solvent xylene with a target ratio of 50\$ xylene and 50% cement/pigment.. This helps to expedite the cure of rubber cement. ■

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