

# OLD WORLD EUROPEAN LIMEWASH

## *Product Data Sheet*

### **Product Highlights**

US Heritage Group's handmade Traditional Limewash is a breathable shelter coat that is ideal for historic masonry that requires a vapor permeable finish. Water is the vehicle for limewash; the viscosity is slightly thicker than that of water, causing it to absorb into material in the same fashion as a stain. As the water is absorbed into the substrate and evaporates, the lime is deposited on the surface to color and protect. Lime wash can be applied to any material that is capable of absorbing water, such as brick, wood, stone, plaster, and concrete. This quality prevents it from being applied to materials that have been previously sealed or waterproofed.

The combination of a "breathable" stucco or plaster finish, and limewash coating is most appropriate for historic masonry or the construction of a new home, made to look traditional. When ordering, we suggest that you first purchase a small one-quart sample of your preferred color, the white wash base coat, and apply it to the substrate. Please follow the application instructions. Please make your decision 24 hours after the material has been applied to the wall, which gives the limewash sufficient time to cure.

They can be applied to a variety of surfaces including brick, stone, plaster, and even wood. U.S. Heritage Group can also provide traditional lime stucco or plaster to suit your project requirements.

### **Limewash Package**

- 1-gallon containers
- 3.5-gallon pails
- 5-gallon pails

This traditional material is available in 24 unique colors. Custom colors are available for an additional charge.

### **Application Procedures**

One gallon of limewash will cover approximately 200 square feet. The minimum recommended application is 2 to 3 coats. Successive coats will increase the intensity of the color. Limewash is a sacrificial layer and it is meant to wear away over time, requiring reapplication approximately every 3 to 5 years depending on its exposure to the elements.

### **Surface Preparation**

The surfaces to be limewashed should be cleaned, free from dirt and grease. Damp them down with a hand pumped spray or by splashing from a brush until they are sufficiently wet that any further water would not soak in. However, the surface should not be running wet.

### **Application**

Apply the limewash in very thin coats. When limewash from high-calcium limes is applied it will have no body at all and may look quite transparent, but as it dries and carbonates it builds up its body and color. Use large brushes and paint quickly, always maintaining a wet edge. If the surface has been correctly dampened there will be no drag against the brush. Grass brushes are often used, but any brush with a rough textured surface to the bristles will work well. Never use limewash brushes for other paints as any residual lime in the stock can spoil their formulation. Thin limewashes may also be applied by spraying.

Keep the limewash stirred throughout the work so that the last brushful is as thick as the first. The



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best way to stir is with a caterer's balloon whisk in a round-bottomed bowl.

Do not let the work dry out quickly. In hot weather cover the work with damp sacking and polythene sheeting. If these are not available, keep dampening down with a fine spray. Do not use limewash in direct sunlight or strong drying winds, as it will not carbonate if it dries too quickly.

Wait at least a day before applying the next coat. If the first coat has not had time to carbonate it may lift off as the next coat is applied. Dampen again before applying the next coat. The color and body from the first coat may disappear when it is re-wetted, but it will return as the next coat dries.

The way in which the limewash dries will affect the coloring. If a wall has dense impervious stones set in soft porous mortar then the variations in suction between the stones and the mortar will mean that some parts of the wall dry more quickly than others. This may draw the pigments to the surface differentially and cause a pattern staining, concentrating the pigments at the damper areas. When the wall eventually dries fully the patterning will largely disappear, but there may still be some variations.

### **Limited Warranty**

U.S. Heritage Group, Inc. warrants this product to be of merchantable quality when used or applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. This product is not warranted as suitable for any purpose or use other than the general purpose for which it is intended. Liability under this warranty is LIMITED to the replacement of the product (as purchased) found to be defective, or at the shipping companies'

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