



SPECTRUM AQUEOUS DISPERSION SYSTEM

The Spectrum Aqueous Dispersion system is a means of making your own acrylic paints in the quantities you need. For artists using large quantities of acrylic paint it is a very versatile and economical system.

Basically the paint is created by adding the pigments to one of the binders. The character of the paint can then be modified using other additions.

THE PIGMENTS

The pigments are supplied dispersed in water to simplify the process of mixing the colour with the binder (certain colours are extremely difficult to mix when dry). These pots of colour cannot be used as a paint by themselves - if they are they will simply flake off the support when dry.

THE BINDERS

There is a choice of four binders in this range, and it is essential to have one of these in your paint - Acrylic Gel Medium, Matt Acrylic Gel Medium, Copolymer Emulsion, Matt Copolymer Emulsion.

MODIFIERS

Base

is used to increase opacity and it can also help to control the sheen of the paint.

Matting Agent

is used as an alternative to base to control the gloss of the paint when you wish to create strong transparent colours. It can also be used to adjust the sheen of paints in conjunction with the binder.

Colloid or Polymeric Thickener

is used to thicken the paint.

Water Tension Breaker

- use a few drops when handling watery paint to stop beading and improve the flow of the paint.

Anti-Foam

- add a few drops to help prevent the bubbling of wet paint when it is worked vigorously.

please turn over

SPECTRUM AQUEOUS DISPERSION SYSTEM (continued)

HOW TO MIX THE TYPE OF PAINT YOU NEED

THICK GLOSSY TRANSPARENT PAINT = GEL MEDIUM + PIGMENT

THICK MATT TRANSPARENT PAINT = MATT GEL MEDIUM + PIGMENT

FLUID GLOSSY TRANSPARENT PAINT = COPOLYMER EMULSION + PIGMENT

FLUID MATT TRANSPARENT PAINT = MATT COPOLYMER EMULSION + PIGMENT

THICK GLOSSY OPAQUE PAINT = GEL MEDIUM + BASE + PIGMENT

THICK MATT OPAQUE PAINT = MATT GEL MEDIUM + BASE + PIGMENT

FLUID GLOSSY OPAQUE PAINT = COPOLYMER EMULSION + BASE + PIGMENT

FLUID MATT OPAQUE PAINT = MATT COPOLYMER EMULSION + BASE + PIGMENT

* Water may also be used to thin the paints to a more fluid consistency but if too high a proportion is used it will weaken the binding power of the paint. Not more than 50% is recommended.

PROPORTIONS

Add up to 20% of pigment to medium

(do not add more or you risk lack of adhesion and binding power)

125ml of pigment will make at least 625ml of paint

For the most opaque paint : Add up to 1 part base to 2.5 parts binder

To increase the thickness of the paint

Add up to 3% Polymeric Thickener or up to 5% of Colloid

For more information on primers we recommend
"The Artist's Handbook of Materials and Techniques"
by Ralph Mayer

While we take every care to ensure the information supplied on these sheets is accurate and up-to-date Paintworks Ltd will not accept any liability for loss or damage resulting from use of the information provided.

©Paintworks 1996



PAINTWORKS Ltd
99-101 KINGSLAND ROAD
LONDON
E2 8AG