

MAKE A MILK OF LIME



Tools needed



Liming



Whitewash



Lime water



Patines

The whitewash is a natural protective paint (whitewash), decorative (natural pigments), toilet (properties alkaline sterile and bactericides) and without risk to health (mineral paint, toxic solvents or volatile organic compounds). Milk of lime also has the advantage of being breathable.

• DOSING MATERIAL :

Dissolve slaked lime with water to obtain a creamy milk (about 1 part lime to 2 parts water). You can color it by adding natural pigments or other. Then apply with a brush, a roller, sponge... in one or several layers based on the power of the bracket hook.

Tests are useful because milk of lime can be made more or less fluid depending on the desired result. Lime water, patines, whitewash, colored or not, variants are many.

Here are the main variants of use :

- **Liming** : traditional painting used for the protection of the coatings. Once applied, it is possible to smooth it for a glossy look. Thick preparation, about 1 volume of water for 1 volume of lime.

- **Whitewash** : the most common, primarily used outdoors. See above.

- **Lime water** : This is a very diluted lime milk, the more fluid mixture. It often applies on whitewash or liming and allows to achieve transparency and high finishes colourful effects. It allows to vary the appearance of the underlayment. Mix one volume of lime for 4 to 6 parts water. This mixture is used especially to bring color.

- **Patines** : This mixture allows to standardize a coating and gives it an appearance aged by time. It applies most of the time on a whitewash or a lime water, using a bristle brush or sponge. Mix one volume of lime for 15 to 20 volumes of water. Pigments are often added.

• SUPPORTS :

- **Ground, stone, brick, concrete hemp** and other materials that allow water vapor, **cellular concrete, reconstituted stone** : No difficulties, preferably spend 2 layers in all cases if you are looking for a good power protective or covering.

- **Concrete, drywall or cement** : Milk of lime is struggling to be hung to these supports. Start with a thick mixture (less water) to create a tack coat. Once dry (a few hours to 2 days depending on the thickness and climate), add several layers (at least 2) for a finer appearance. For exterior walls, add an additional layer every 2 years to prevent the deterioration partly because of the support. A more secure alternative is to use a layer of mixed acrylic paint incorporated hook with very fine sand, or an artificial fixer.

- **Wood** : Hard support for the lime which will quickly tend to flake on the wood ; it is essential to first pass a layer of hook named «*gesso*», made from rabbit skin glue (natural Fixer) and blanc de Meudon (chalk) or white of Spain. The gesso preparation : 120g skin glue in 1 litre of water and allow the mixture to swell. 24 hours later, heat the mixture in a water bath (without boiling) and apply the glue (still hot) on wood (glue both sides of the wood if it is not solid wood to prevent distortion). Once dry, fix a new glue for a second layer by adding 250g of Meudon white to hot glue and apply (warm) on the first. When the gesso is dry (and sanded if irregularities) the wood can be covered with limewash without problem.