

FRANCESCA'S PAINTS LTD

FRANCESCA'S LIMEWASH

Suitable Surfaces

Francesca's Limewash relies on being absorbed by the surface it is applied to and can be used on **exterior** and **interior** walls.

Best Surfaces are:

Lime Plaster, Limed-skimmed walls, Absorbent, rendered surfaces, Stucco Roughcast Cement Masonry Blocks and Porous Bricks

Do not apply on wood, glazed bricks and tiles, paved floors and on any porous surface

SURFACE PREPARATION

Before application, surfaces must be cleared of loose material, grease, and oil.

1. Type of Surface: **Lime Plaster, lime plaster skimmed walls, stone and porous brick walls with NO filling**
Apply the limewash directly to the above surfaces by brush.

These are the perfect surfaces for the limewash because they are porous and the limewash penetrate and bonds with the wall.

2. Type of Surface: **Gypsum plaster, gypsum plaster boards, skimmed walls, cement render, and previously painted surfaces that require filling or that may have been filled previously, and lining paper.**

For the above surfaces we created our unique Limewash Primer to help apply the limewash on surfaces where normally it would not be possible. Our Limewash Primer is made with quartz and sand to give you a breathable base coat. It acts like a support between the limewash and surfaces. Our primer allows the limewash to properly bond, carbonate (harden naturally), and achieve the beautiful, natural finish it would on a naturally breathable surface, it can be used for both interior and exterior applications

- Abrade the surface slightly if the paint on the wall is glossy and shiny.
- Dilute the Limewash Primer with 10% water. Apply one coat of Limewash Primer all over the surface by roller or brush.
- Allow to dry for 24 hours before applying the limewash. This is essential, as it needs to harden. (PLEASE READ THE LIMEWASH PRIMER PREPARATION AND APPLICATION SPECIFICATION)

Francesca's Limewash only needs 2 coats, it covers 4-6 sqm per litre, depending on the porosity of the surface.

Stir the limewash before and during the application to prevent the lime from settling at the bottom.

Francesca's Limewash cannot be applied by roller, it needs to be brushed on, for best result get our **Omega Limewash Brush**

How to prepare our limewash paint

Our limewash paint is fully mixed but needs to be diluted with water for interior **and** exterior application, please follow the dilution below.

Colour	How much water?	By the litre
Light/medium	20 – 25%	1 litre: 200-250 mls water
Dark	5 – 10%	1 litre: 50 – 100 mls water

PLEASE TURN OVER

Very important: the limewash needs to be applied over a dampened surface.

APPLICATION

Using a mist sprayer, dampen the wall down with water. Do the same if you have primed the wall with the limewash primer.

1. Apply one coat of Francesca's Limewash with a limewash brush in a criss-cross technique.
 - Start from the top corner of the wall, using your arm length going down the wall.
 - You'll need to work fast – spread the paint well, without leaving blotches
 - Take care to maintain a wet edge.
 - Do not interrupt application in the middle of the wall, or a dry-edge mark will appear on the finished wall.
 - Paint edges and architraves only as you reach them.
2. Allow light/medium colours to dry for a minimum **six** hours. For darker colours allow 24 hours. **Francesca's Limewash dries 70% lighter than when wet.**
3. Before applying the second coat, dampen the wall down with a mist sprayer. This will help you to spread the paint better and allows the carbonation of the lime to act.
 - Apply the second coat in the same manner as the first.
4. Avoid retouching the final coat.

Note: For exterior application only

When the air temperature is below 14°Celsius avoid applying the limewash.

It must not rain on the painted area for at least five days otherwise the limewash will not be able to carbonate and will lose its colour, if possible, cover the painted area.

After the application of the final coat, let the surface dry completely and then mist spray the wall at least 6 times to help the lime to carbonate.

Please keep in mind that the limewash painted in strong colours in external applications discolours fast especially if the exterior is exposed to harsh elements and it will need to be repainted every two to three years.

The exterior application of the limewash is designed to slowly weather and age, it develops a soft patina on exterior walls. Once the carbonation process starts, natural patchiness, uneven colouring, and streakiness, may appear.

Expect beautiful variations in colour and texture. The curing process of Francesca's Limewash will continue for approximately 12 months. This does not happen with internal applications as there is no weather effect that interferes and the limewash does not discolour at all but stays vibrant and mottled as when first applied.

If you decide the limewash look is not for you, you can paint over it, by removing as much paint as possible with a dampen sponge and then paint on top.

General information

Limewash is a **breathable paint**. Colour variation may occur between batches due to the natural pigments used. We recommend that you purchase all limewash at the same time.

As an undiluted product, it lasts forever. Just make sure the lid is on tightly and that it is stored in a protected and safe place.

We recommend wearing gloves during the application as the limewash contains lime and once diluted with water becomes slightly caustic.

Rinse brush with water. Keep out of reach of children. Do not swallow and avoid eye contact. If accidental contact occurs, rinse eyes with copious amounts of water.

Do not empty product into drains or watercourses.

Breathable interior limewash paint prevents issues such as condensation, mould, and mildew.

For preserving the integrity of building materials – such as lime plaster – always use breathable paint.