



Nutshell Natural Paints Ltd.
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NUTSHELL Earth & Mineral Pigments

Revision: 1.1 2010-01-25

- Product** This is a wonderful range of natural pigments, derived from earth and rock, and containing no toxins or heavy metals. The pigments are non-soluble and light fast colour particles, in powder form.
- These pigments can be used in virtually any medium, to achieve an enormous range of effects. A summary of the media with which they can be mixed, and instructions for mixing to create colour washes, artists paint and many more are given below.
- Ingredients** The production of earth pigments is even today a purely mechanical operation. The earth is mined, cleaned, dried and then finely ground. Sienna Red and the Ultramarines are clays which are mixed with sulphur and heated to high temperatures, during which time their particular colour emerges. Spinells are synthetically created at temperatures over 1000o Celsius and then ground to a particularly fine grade. Sodium citrate is mixed with the powdered pigments. This helps with the dispersion of the pigment in watery mediums, yet remains neutral in an oily medium. This addition is ecologically sound and has no health implications.
- Coverage** N/A
- Uses** Earth & Mineral Pigments may be used in a wide variety of ways, according to the medium with which they are mixed. PLEASE NOTE: When using strongly coloured pigments, for example Iron Oxide Red, and Green, cloud like colour irregularities can occur on the final paint finish. That is why with these colours, special care has to be taken when mixing the pigment into the paint.
- Casein Emulsion: Mixed with this white emulsion, the pigments may be used to achieve a wide range of shades, for a flat finish on paper, wood, stonework, and plaster in any interior situation. Please refer to our colour chart for colour samples of various amounts of pigment mixed with this versatile medium. NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion: The pigments may be added to this matt, wipeable and ready to use emulsion, to create pastel to medium shades, suitable for use on interior walls and ceilings Colourwash and Transparent Oil Glaze: Our pigments can be mixed with Colourwash Medium and Transparent Oil Glaze to form a colour wash, suitable for application to interior surfaces. Used over Casein paint or NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion, this gives a translucent effect. Pigments mixed with Casein paint and water can also be applied as a wash. Colours prepared in this way, will be more opaque and dramatic.
- Varnishes: NUTSHELL Interior/ Exterior Matt Varnish can be tinted with our pigments and are suitable both for interior and exterior applications. Please note that in order to create an opaque paint colour within a clear medium, such as a varnish, the addition of some White pigment is usually helpful. For translucent stains and varnishes just add the pigments of your choice to the desired intensity of colour. Many interesting finishes and stains can be mixed in this way.
- Other uses: Earth & Mineral pigments may be used to make artists' water colours, oil paints, egg tempera, children's paints, face paints, make-up, and even to dye cloth.



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Size Available in 75g and 500g glass jars.

Preparation NUTSHELL Earth & Mineral pigments can vary in their colour intensity from batch to batch. In general, Iron Oxides have a notably stronger colouring power than other pigments, whereas Slate Grey and Green Earth are particularly soft shades. It is always advisable to mix a small quantity of pigment with your chosen medium and apply it to a small area to test the finished colour and overall effect.

NUTSHELL Casein Paint: For pastel to medium dark shades mix the pigment with a little water to form a smooth paste and leave to soak overnight. Add paste to the already mixed NUTSHELL Casein Paint and stir well. Note that the colour will lighten as it dries. To create dark colours (Full Tones) mix up to 1 part of Pigment to 2 parts of NUTSHELL Casein Paint dry and then carefully add water to make a smooth paint. This mixture is ideal for painting all types of absorbent surfaces, including furniture, and can be finished over with wax or varnish when dried for many different effects.

NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion: To make pastel to medium tones, soak pigment in some water for several hours before adding to NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion. Pigments and colourants have to be stirred into the Emulsion thoroughly. Attention has to be paid to a regular application of the paint when it has been tinted with intense colours like Iron oxide Red, Ultramarine Blue and Spinell Green

NUTSHELL Colourwash Medium: This can be used on top of white NUTSHELL Casein Paint or NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion. Soak any amount of Pigment with double the amount of water. Leave for several hours, then add water as necessary, to obtain the desired intensity of colour. Dilute 750 ml of NUTSHELL Colourwash Medium to 4 litres with water and slowly add the pigment until the desired depth of colour is achieved. We recommend trying it out in an unobtrusive place before painting the whole area. As a rough guide this would be sufficient to colourwash an average sized room. We also recommend a large sponge for the application of the wash. All NUTSHELL Earth & Mineral Pigments are suitable for making these colour washes. If several layers of colour wash are desired, a drying time of 12 hours is recommended between each coat. In this way, layers of colour can be built up to achieve an impression of great depth. With each wet coat going on a Casein or Eco Emulsion painted surface, the background will appear to become translucent and old colours may show through. This is the nature of the natural materials and has no effect on the dried and finished result. More opaque, stronger colour washes and dramatic effects can be made by using any amount of NUTSHELL Earth & Mineral Pigment and NUTSHELL Casein paint up to a mixing ratio of 1 to 2 (Full Tones) mixed with water to consistency and applied with a large sponge. Build up layers of great depth with different colours.

NUTSHELL Transparent Oil Glaze: Used over NUTSHELL Eco Emulsion this gives rich and dramatic colourwash effects. To mix, stir the pigment powder with a little thinner or Oil Glaze to form a smooth lump-free paste, cover and leave to soak overnight. Grind into a fine paste before adding to the required quantity of varnish, add thinner to give the required consistency and stir thoroughly before use. Application can be made by using a sponge, roller, spatula, or rag. Colour



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washes should be applied quickly and systematically. Always let one colour wash dry completely before applying the next layer. Decorative effects are easy to obtain by allowing brushmarks to remain or using a roller, rag or sponge to apply a textured wash.

Artist's Water Colours: These are made following the same principle as colour washes, but using only a minimal amount of water. Wallpaper paste or Casein paint is added to give body or opacity to the paint.

Artist's Oil Paints: Add to your pigment between 30 and 100% its weight of boiled linseed oil, according to the following list:

- Ochres: 50-60%
- Siennas 100%
- Iron Oxides: 40-50%
- Green Earth: 80%
- Slate Grey: 50%
- Umbers: 50-70%
- Ultramarines: 30-40%
- Orange, Turquoise, Green: 13-16%.

Allow to soak for several hours and then grind with pestle and mortar to a very fine paste.

Varnishes/Stains: To mix: stir the pigment powder with a little varnish to form a smooth lump-free paste, cover and leave to soak overnight. Grind into a fine paste before adding to the required quantity of varnish and stir thoroughly before use.

Application N/A

Drying Time N/A

Thinning & Cleaning N/A

Storage & Handling The pigments in powder form keep well if stored in a cool, dry place in a well closed container. Avoid inhaling the dust particles while mixing this product.

NUTSHELL Earth & Mineral Pigments are not suitable for colouring food or drinks.

Always keep container closed and out of reach of children.



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Safety

- Store well away from children and pets.
- Avoid skin and eye contact. Wash eyes immediately with plenty of water if contact should occur.
- Ensure good ventilation.
- Close lid firmly after use.
- Store and use away from heat and flame.
- Do not eat in the vicinity of work.
- Wash hands after use.

The information given in this Technical Information Sheet and any technical advice - whether verbal, in writing or by way of trials - is for guidance and is given in good faith but without warranty, since skill of application and site conditions are beyond our control. For further information please contact Nutshell Paints at the address shown above. We can accept no liability for the performance of the products arising out of such use, beyond the value of the goods delivered by us. This does not affect your statutory rights.