

Instructions for use:

Your Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint is in powdered form. Shake your powder preparation to ensure the ingredients are uniformly dispersed throughout. It is important to mix your paint in advance as it is advisable to let it stand once mixed. Mix only what you think you will need to avoid waste. If you are unsure then mix a small amount because you can always mix more if required.

Using clean, fresh, room temperature or tepid (not hot) water, combine Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint powder and water on an approximate one to one basis. Chilled water will not mix well. Stir thoroughly with a stick or whisk, or use a blender, or shake it up thoroughly. It may foam but that is normal and nothing to worry about. Ensure your paint is well mixed, don't assume that just combining with water is enough.

Let your mix stand for a while at room temperature. This is important to allow the mix to thicken. You will feel the container becoming warm. In the meantime, go and grab your brush, a container and water for the rinse up, cloth, sandpaper or whatever else you think you will need. Stir or whisk the mix again before applying and stir often when using as the heavier particles tend to settle.

You should now have a very thick, batter like mix which can be used as is or, more likely will need to be thinned to the desired consistency with additional water. Don't worry if the mixture is still foamy, this is a characteristic of this unique paint. There may also still be lumps in the mixture and at this point you may wish to strain the paint using muslin or an old stocking.

Straining is optional though and milk paint is so forgiving that any lumps that find their way onto your piece are easily wiped or sanded off. Trial and error is the key to using milk paints. I do not strain, rather I brush out the lumps.

Your prepared paint is a milk product and unused paint needs to be kept refrigerated. It will keep for several days in the fridge and can still be used even if it has developed a sour smell.

Let commonsense be your guide for storing and usage of previously prepared milk paint.

Store your unprepared Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint powder in a dry place. It should keep for at least two years but absorption of moisture will reduce its efficacy so be sure to keep dry.

Preparation of previously unpainted timber:

Wipe down the piece you are painting to ensure it is free from dust, dirt etc. If you think the surfaces have been contaminated with oil or grease use sugar soap to wash your piece.

Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint is readily absorbed by timber and no priming is generally necessary. Just paint it straight on to raw timber. In some instances tannin in the timbers may bleed through and another coat will be necessary to conceal the stain, but this is rare and many choose to ignore it as a feature of natural paint.

Depending on the look you are seeking, the thickness of your original mix and the colour you are using (as some pigments are more opaque than others) you may need to apply a second or even a third coat.

Preparation of previously painted timber:

Depending on the finish you are seeking, previously painted surfaces may be sanded or painted straight over. Sanding will provide a key to maximise adhesion of your Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint.

If you do not sand the surface you risk the flaking of the paint, but this is often the goal. Trial and error is the key and don't worry if you get it wrong, milk paint is very forgiving. You can usually just keep trying until you get the finish you desire.

Previously varnished surfaces need to be sanded to avoid beading of the paint. You may choose to strip the varnish completely but a good sanding may be adequate. Kurrajong Farm Bond Aid is available and this can be mixed with the first coat for greater adhesion. Please contact me to obtain this product and see below for instructions for the use of this solution.

Application:

The quality of the brush you use is less important with milk paints as they are very forgiving, brush strokes tend not to be so visible or can generally be sanded or rubbed out later, but for best results use the best quality brush you can afford.

Depending on the surface and the colour you are using, as some colours cover better than others, apply as many coats as you need to give you the desired finish.

Let the paint dry completely before applying another coat. The thickness of the paint and the temperature will determine how long that is. In hot, dry conditions and, if you are applying a second coat of the same colour, that may be only a few minutes.

I prefer to leave it longer though and will generally allow a couple of hours or more - preferably overnight.

This is particularly important if you are applying a second coat of a different colour which is common when seeking an 'antique' or distressed 'shabby' look. If you paint before the first coat is dry the colours will blend and may not give you the finish you are seeking.

Be sure to have fun and don't stress if it doesn't turn out as you expected first time. Experimentation is the key and if you have any questions, please contact me.

Kurrajong Farm Bond Aid:

When applying milk paint to previously painted or varnished surfaces or to metal or glass the paint is unlikely to adhere well and will bead or run. If this is the look you are seeking this isn't a problem but if you want the paint to stick then consider Kurrajong Farm Bond Aid.

Instructions for use:

The more Kurrajong Farm Bond Aid you use the better the bond. For maximum bond, use Bond Aid instead of water when mixing your milk paint. This isn't generally necessary though and I recommend that you mix your milk paint in the usual way and then add the same volume of Bond Aid as the powder/water mix. For example, if using a quarter cup powder then mix with a quarter cup water and then add a quarter cup Bond Aid.

Apply in the usual way with a brush. You only need to use Bond Aid for the first coat unless, of course you have some left over and wish to use it all. Milk Paint mixed with Bond Aid will take longer to dry so be sure to allow to dry fully before applying a second coat.

Clean up:

Clean up brushes and containers with water and dispose of unused paint and bond aid thoughtfully. Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint and Bond Aid contain no VOCs (volatile organic compounds).

Finish:

If you want to create a distressed 'shabby' appearance you can rub the surface with sandpaper or fine steel wool to expose the edges of your piece and the grain of the timber. Keep experimenting until you get the look you want.

A final coat of wax, oil or varnish can be applied to seal the paint to give it greater wearability and to help with waterproofing.

Furniture Oil:

Using Kurrajong Farm Furniture Oil couldn't be simpler. Just brush on thinly and let dry. Two or three thin coats are better than one thick coat as it may remain sticky if it doesn't penetrate. If all the oil is not absorbed it is recommended that you buff with a lint free cloth. Soak rags in water after use as piles of oil soaked rags have been known to spontaneously combust. Clean brushes with mineral turpentine.



Congratulations on your purchase of Kurrajong Farm Authentic Milk Paint.

At Kurrajong Farm we know what we want in paint because we use it and, as you have taken this step to purchase Kurrajong Farm Authentic Milk Paint, we think you want the same. We want a finish that will be simple to apply, look good from the start and get better as it ages. We don't want to spend heaps on paint nor do we want to waste time and materials. And we want to do our best to protect the environment.

We started asking questions about modern paints; preparations and finishes, the impact on the environment and the health of those who use them, and found the answers in the past with traditional paints that were going to give us the finish we desired, save us a heap of time, minimise our impact on our environment and allow us to have fun with paint without being choked by unpleasant or noxious fumes. Historically, milk paint was made using fresh milk.

Kurrajong Farm Milk Paint is formulated from powdered ingredients to avoid waste and to make it simple for you to get back to using a traditional finish without spending hours fiddling about with milk and tracking down the other ingredients. The following instructions should be used as an initial guide as there are many variables when using any milk paints. Part of the pleasure of using milk paint is your experimentation to create the look that you want. The important thing to remember is that milk paint is not like modern acrylic or oil paints and it will not give the same bland, uniform finish. This is the charm and beauty of using this unique paint.

Warranty:

Kurrajong Farm will replace a defective product but can take no responsibility for its use or application. If you believe you have a defective product, return it unused to place of purchase for a refund of your purchase price. The information in this leaflet is provided in good faith.

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