

Della and Company
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FINISHING TOUCHES

Mudding

I “mud” or antique everything I paint. It works best on strong or bold colors. Spray mist your finished project before you “mud”. Use a lint-free cloth to apply a coat of artist’s linseed oil. Wipe off as much of the oil as possible. If your finger leaves a print wipe it down again. Apply the “mud” application lightly with a size 8 or 10 angle brush.

With a small square of a soft lint free cloth or Viva paper towel wrapped around your finger blend the edge of the oil paint to soften the edge of the antiquing. Then use a mop brush appropriate to the size of your design. I use ¼”, ½” and ¾”. Use a 1” mop if your project is a very large one.

A number of years ago I had mop brushes made to my specification and I really loved mine. Unfortunately the company I was working with went out of business. I decided to not go thru the timely process of working with another company. I now use Maxine’s Mop as it is very similar to the one I had manufactured. It is made by Loew Cornell #270.

Your goal is to create a soft shadow where two or more elements touch. This technique is used to create a lovely aged look. Lamp Black and Burnt Umber oil paint are used to mud my projects. When I use Lamp Black as the main color I add a little Burnt Umber to it. When Burnt Umber is the main color I add a little Lamp Black to that mix. Blend the edges and then soften with a mop.

When the project is dry (usually 24 hours), spray with a couple of light coats of DecoArt Matte Sealer Finisher. This protects the mudding from lifting when you brush on varnish. I always use a couple of coats of brush on varnish to enhance the aged and “mellow” for the final finish. Allow ample drying time between layers of spraying.

NOTE - Safety precautions. Place linseed oil cloths in a zip-top plastic bag filled with water and place it in an outside trash container with a lid. Do not leave it indoors, as linseed oil is highly flammable and a fire could occur.

More “in depth” instructions can be found on my web site. www.DellaAndCompany.com

Della Wetterman ♥ Revised 2014 ©

MUDDING (antiquing) SUPPLIES

- DECO-ART Acrylic Sealer/Finisher, Matte (spray)
- DECO-ART Magic Brush Cleaner to clean your brushes
- DECO-ART Traditions Satin Varnish
- WINDSOR NEWTON Oil Paint
Lamp Black and Burnt Umber
(Choose the top of the line in the brand that you choose. If it is a quality oil paint there will be several levels to choose from. The least expensive will not contain as much pigment.)
- BRUSHES You may use a flat or an angle brush... your choice. It should be appropriate for the size of your project.
 - Loew-Cornell* (Series 7000) Flat size 10 or 12
 - Loew Cornell* (Series 7500) Angle size 10 or 12
 - Loew Cornell* 270 Maxine's Mops $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch brush
- Viva Paper Towels or Soft Lint Free Cloths. Viva paper towels are lint free