



LINOLIE & PIGMENT

Instruction manual - Linseed Paint

INTRODUCTION TO LINSEED PAINT

Linseed paint has been used for centuries and with good reason, since the advantages are multiple. The paint is especially used for wood and metals and works well on treated surfaces as well as surfaces already treated with linseed paint or other types of paint. Our linseed paint protects the surface in the best possible way and allows moisture to easily escape, because the paint is open to diffusion.

In order to achieve the best result, it is important to have a structured approach to your project. In this manual we have tried to describe a general guidance to a project with linseed paint. There are many views on how to paint with Linseed Paint, and of course we would also like to contribute with our version :-)

If you have any questions, feel free to call us on +45 75 75 23 82
or send us an email at info@linolie.dk

YOU MUST PAY ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING

To avoid extra waiting time while the linseed paint hardens it is important to organize your work. If you are working under ideal conditions and the linseed paint has been applied correctly, a new layer of paint can be applied the next day. Always remember that oxygen and daylight are needed for the paint to harden. Therefore, we will never recommend painting or letting freshly painted items harden in dark basements or rooms without windows.

Painting Tools

When painting with linseed paint the correct brush is important to achieve a great result. Always use brushes with a lot of dense and stiff hair - a good, well-used hog hair brush is preferable. The classic linseed paint brush we carry in the range is a round brush and it can be purchased in many different sizes. On planed surfaces, you can choose to refine the result with a synthetic modler. When you have painted the surface in an equal thin layer, take the synthetic modler and with a light hand move the modler in the opposite direction of the wood and afterwards along the direction of the wood. Please watch our instruction video at www.linolie.dk which demonstrates how to use erase the rough brushstrokes with this technique.

You will need the following equipment:

Linseed Paint
Hog hair brush or a tight bound Round Brush
Synthetic modler (brush)
Krystalfernis (if you are going to prime)
Linseed Soap (to clean the brushes)

Priming or not?

If you are going to paint on untreated, absorbent planed wood, you should always prime before starting the painting work. On the other hand, never prime a surface that has been painted before!

"Never prime if the surface has already been painted before"

Priming is only done once, and the oil is applied with a brush. It is very important to wipe off any excess oil with a cloth within an hour. If the excess oil is not wiped off in time, a thick almost "honey-like" layer will appear, which is impossible to work on. When you are done with polishing, the surface must appear dry without puddles of oil. Leave the surface with primer to dry. If you are working with a rough surface like sawn wood, you have to prime the surface with another technique, because it will be impossible to polish the surface with a cloth. Instead, add 10-20% Krystalfernis in the first layer. Thereby you are priming and painting in one go. If you are going to paint on a surface that is partially peeled, you only have to prime the places where there is bare wood. And once again always remember to polish off excess oil!

How to choose the correct linseed oil

Whether you want to prime with a cold-pressed linseed oil or Krystalfernis it is a matter of taste. Historically, according to the National Museum of Denmark, Krystalfernis has been used consistently since the 1850s. If you choose to use Krystalfernis as a primer (remember it is important to polish off excess oil within an hour) leave it to dry for one day, and if you choose to use cold pressed linseed oil (remember to polish off excess oil within an hour) leave it for three days. Afterwards you can start painting. Remember to pay attention to whether the oil should be for exterior or interior.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

There are a multitude of factors that play an act when a good linseed oil painting job has to be done. Being able to use linseed oil paint in any situation takes many years to learn and requires one-on-one training - it is a whole craft that has to be learned.

It can't be expected that I am able to write down a booklet about linseed paint that answers everything in a few pages. But what I can do is to provide you with a few tips and tricks. If you are interested in a more detailed guide to a specific project, you are always welcome to contact us.

In general, you must always pay attention to applying thin layers of linseed paint, and always stretch the paint well in the direction of the wood. Use the brush to dab small deposits of paint and afterwards paint them together in long brushstrokes. Stretch the paint as far as you can, and then stretch it 10% more! This method makes the paint easier to apply in a thin layer and leave a more uniform surface. Likewise you will achieve a much nicer result and the shortest curing-time. Always start in the middle of the subject and work towards a corner. This will prevent too much paint from getting stuck in the corners, which would give a long and difficult curing-time. Always remember to have a good air flow in the room when the paint is curing, because the paint will absorb oxygen when curing.

It is important to always paint on a dry and solid base. This means you must ensure that there is no grease or loose paint. If the surface is overgrown with algae, these must be washed off with an algae cleaner. Rinse the surface thoroughly with clean water after the treatment. Make sure that there are no remains of the product on the surface. If there is mold on the surface, clean it before painting. Mold is removed by stirring a 32% acetic acid with water in the ratio of 1-part acetic acid to 3-parts water. Brush the mixture

on the area and let it work for a week. After a week you are able to scrub off the mold with a scrubbing brush and water. You may need to use some power to get rid of the mold, but if it is very stubborn, the treatment can be repeated. The best time of the year to easily remove mold is in the early spring, because the moisture in the wood will help loosen the mold.

When the surface is once again dry and you are working on planed wood, then you have to lightly sand the surface with sandpaper #100 and brush the surface off – and afterwards it is ready to be painted. Saw cut wood can be painted immediately after the deep clean is done and the wood is dry.

Linseed paint is a diffusion-open paint which, over time, when the weathering sets in (when the linseed oil is eaten by wind and weather), will become more and more open. If you want to take advantage of all the benefits of linseed paint, you must get rid of all the old paint, because modern paint will close the surface and make the wood unable to “breathe”. If the paint is partially peeled off or the wood has a high moisture content, it will be necessary to scrap off all the remaining paint that closes the surface.

Read more about how to remove old paint in the next chapter.

NOTE: Cloths containing linseed oil can ignite spontaneously. They should be removed immediately, dipped in a bucket of water or burned!

What surface are you going to paint?

You can paint on almost everything, but in this booklet we will describe how you should proceed, when painting on different types of wood. No matter what you are going to paint the process to a great and beautiful result will be different.

How to paint on new wood for exterior use:

The ideal thing to do, when you are going to paint new wood for exterior use is to leave it for a year before you start painting. In this period sun and rain will wash out the nutrients in the wood. This will give you the best base for the paint to bind to. Regarding priming, please read the previous sections of this booklet before you proceed. If the surface is moldy or dirty, clean the surface as described on the opposite page.

How to paint on already painted wood:

If the wood you are going to paint, already has been painted with modern paint, but otherwise stands healthy without any trapped moisture underneath the paint. You do not need to deep clean the surface before you paint. The wood must contain less than 14% moisture, when you are measuring the wood with a moisture meter. Linseed paint adheres excellently to most surfaces and if existing paint is firmly attached, there is no reason to do a huge amount of preparation.

How to deep clean a surface

Start off by cleaning the surface with a scraper. Next up, sand the surface with sandpaper #60 or #80 and finish with #100. Afterwards brush dust and paint rests away with a broom. Start priming the wood once. For more information about priming, we refer to the previous chapter about priming in this booklet, which you must read before proceeding. You can start painting the day after you have primed the wood.

If you are cleaning the wood due to a high moisture percentage in the wood, the paint must be scraped off and leave the wood until a moisture measurement shows a moisture percentage in the wood of less than 14%, and only then can you begin painting.

How to get the same colour all the way around the house

Before painting the last round, always take a look in the bucket - and make sure there is enough paint to complete the painting work. Our paint is handmade, and the colour may therefore slightly differ from order to order. That is why it is of great importance to order some more linseed paint, to mix up with the paint you already have, before finishing up. This will give you a uniform look all the way around the building.

Weather conditions

A freshly painted surface must not be exposed to rain in the first 24 hours, because raindrops can leave marks in the paint.

Linseed paint can tolerate minus degrees, therefore it can be stored at cold places. Likewise you can also paint in frosty weather, just remember that the wood must be dry (below 14% wood moisture).

When the season is changing from summer to autumn and from spring to summer, you will experience that condensation and moisture pearls will appear on the surfaces. This is defined by the dew point, and it can be challenging when you are painting, because small blisters will appear below the paint. Therefore it is of great importance that you do not paint when the dew point is present.

It can be ideal to begin your work just before noon, when the sun has burned off the moisture and then again stop your work in the early afternoon. This will give you the best terms of avoiding small blisters to form below the paint.

If you paint small items, it can be a trick to carefully "burn off" the moisture with a heat gun or hair dryer before painting, but be careful, because moisture pearls are impossible to see with the eye. With this trick you can start painting much earlier. Too much heat can damage the wood and the existing paint layers, therefore be very careful.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AFTERWARDS

Brushes are cleaned in linseed soap or crystal soap. Always rinse out the soap thoroughly with clean water when you are done. Are you going to use the brush again very soon, you do not need to wash the brush out. Simply just place it in a glass of water. Make sure the hairs are covered by the water but not the metal. When you need to paint again, wipe the brush well with a cloth and start painting.

How to store linseed paint

As soon as the work of the day is done, the bucket is filled up to the brim with water. This prevents the paint from forming skin on the surface. When you once again open the bucket, you slowly pour off the water and stir well in the can. The paint can withstand minus degrees, and it can therefore easily be left in a car or a shed - even if the temperature is far below the freezing point. There is no actual expiration date on the paint, but it will become thinner over time and a little bit slower to cure.

How linseed paint cures

Linseed paint cures by absorbing oxygen. This process is promoted by UV radiation which we have in daylight. Therefore, it is important that you do not do the painting work in a dark basement, because the paint will never cure without daylight. If the linseed paint has been applied correctly under favorable conditions, it is fully cured after approx. 5 weeks. During curing, the linseed oil is converted to linoxyn. It may smell bad and sting a little bit in the eyes during this period, but it is quite harmless. Turn on the heat and ventilate, preferably up to a week after the paint work is done.

NOTES:

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