

# FARROW & BALL®

HANDCRAFTED PAINT AND WALLPAPER

## PRODUCT ADVICE SHEET

### Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat

All Farrow & Ball paints are water based, making them low-odour, low-VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds), and quick to dry. They also score the highest possible A+ rating for indoor air quality in accordance with the independently conducted French Indoor Air Quality Decree N° 2011-321 – Arrêté April 2011.

#### Product Overview:

Our Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat is designed for use under Estate® Emulsion, Dead Flat® and Modern Emulsion. Made with the same ingredients and pigments as our topcoats, this undercoat is the crucial foundation for creating a rich, even and longer lasting finish.

#### Not Suitable For:

This product isn't suitable for basements or buildings without a functioning, damp-proof course and membrane because this can cause failure between the paint and surface being painted, which can include flaking, peeling and blistering.

#### Available Tin Sizes: 750 ml 2.5 Litre 5 Litre

In four colours (White & Light Tones, Mid Tones, Red & Warm Tones and Dark Tones) designed to match the chosen top coat colour. Available to order direct from [farrow-ball.com](http://farrow-ball.com), through our Customer Services team at [sales@farrow-ball.com](mailto:sales@farrow-ball.com) or on +44 (0) 1202 876141, and in showrooms and selected stockists internationally.

#### Priming and Undercoating Advice:

Using a Primer & Undercoat seals the surface you're painting on. You should have a full, solid coat of Primer & Undercoat before applying your topcoat, to ensure that your chosen Farrow & Ball finish sticks to it fully, is evenly absorbed, and has a smooth and even finish with rich depth of colour. Don't over dilute the Primer & Undercoat or mist coat. This will reduce their opacity, causing an uneven finish and incomplete colour development. Before applying the top coat, consider if a second, undiluted coat of Primer & Undercoat is needed to achieve full opacity.

#### Before You Begin Painting:

To get the best out of Farrow & Ball finishes, it's important to make sure your surface is correctly prepared. Poor preparation is the main cause of most paint problems. Surfaces must be in a sound condition, clean, dry and free from any surface contamination, such as dirt, dust, grease, mould and loose/ friable material. The surface should also be lightly sanded to create a slight texture for better adhesion, and then any resulting dust wiped away.

Some walls and ceilings have a high pH, particularly those that have been lime rendered or had a silicate-based or mineral-based paint applied. These require a specialist paint finish as Farrow & Ball finishes are only suitable for surfaces with a pH of less than 10. If in doubt, test the pH of your surface by dampening it with water and using litmus paper. You should also give particular attention to kitchens, bathrooms and other areas of high humidity, as differences in temperature can cause condensation, which can lead to surface defects if the paint is not fully cured.

### Surface Imperfections:

If you have any surface imperfections, no matter how small, they need to be removed before paint application, as the colour and sheen level will only highlight, imperfections, the higher the sheen level the more they are highlighted. Imperfections will look less apparent if a matt finish is applied, but they will still be there and noticeable in different light conditions. Where a Level 5 finish (the best possible finish) is needed, you should fill, flat and repaint several times. This means after the mist coat or first coat has been applied, you use an appropriate filler on imperfections or seams, lightly sand this down to smooth and then paint on a layer of topcoat. You should repeat this process again until no imperfections are visible. This is typically needed for plasterboard or high gloss finishes where lighting conditions can highlight any imperfections. Remember the final finishing coat due to its flow and levelling characteristics will only reflect the standard of the underlying prepared surface, if primers and undercoats are applied with imperfections they too will need to be flatted before finished topcoats are applied as once again, they will be highlighted.

### Lead Advice:

Special precautions should be taken during the preparation of old paint surfaces (especially those from pre-1990), as they may contain harmful lead. For further advice and guidance see [coatings.org.uk/paintsafe](https://coatings.org.uk/paintsafe).

### Health & Safety Advice:

Warning! Hazardous respirable droplets may be formed when sprayed. Do not breathe spray or mist. Keep out of reach of children. Ensure good ventilation during application and drying. Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Do not use solvent thinners or White Spirit. IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. IF SWALLOWED: Call a doctor if you feel unwell. Safety data sheet available on request. When sanding any surface prior to painting, the creation of dust should be kept to a minimum and adequate & suitable Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) should be worn as a sensible precaution.

### Colour Accuracy:

Check for colour accuracy prior to use as Farrow & Ball will not be liable for decorating costs caused as a result of an incorrect colour being applied. When more than one tin of the same colour is to be used ensure that batch numbers are identical or intermix before use. Stir thoroughly before use. Please note that different application tools (e.g. brush, roller, spray) may give a slight visual difference in the final colour. For some darker shades, finishes with different sheen levels painted alongside each other may appear to vary slightly in colour when viewed at certain angles.

### Cleaning Prior to Painting:

For best results, make sure your surface, tools and product are clean before you begin. For most surfaces we would recommend using a dilute Sugar Soap solution following the manufacturer's instructions. We do not recommend using solvent-based cleaning products or strong alkaline solutions as these can impact adhesion. After cleaning, wipe the surface with a damp cloth and allow to dry. When opening a new tin of paint, don't allow any dust or debris to fall from the lid into the contents. If you're reusing a tin of paint, we recommend straining it. Make sure your tools are clean, including your stirrer, and we recommend dampening your brush or roller then removing excess water before loading with paint.

### Previously Painted Walls Preparation:

Ensure all surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Apply one coat of Farrow & Ball Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat, in the correct colour tone for your top coat (and allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats). Then follow with two coats of your chosen colour to promote adhesion and full colour depth.

### New or Unpainted Plaster/Dry-Lined Surfaces (Modern Construction) Preparation:

Make sure the plaster is clean, dry and free of dust, then suitably primed and undercoated prior to painting. For best results and maximum depth of colour, dilute your Farrow & Ball topcoat with 25% water and use this as a mist coat, followed by two coats of your chosen topcoat. Please note: British Standard 6150 recommends a typical drying time for new plaster of 7 days for every 5mm thickness.

### Painting Lining Wallpaper:

For unpainted Lining Paper apply one coat of diluted Farrow & Ball Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat (maximum 10% water by volume), in the correct colour tone for your top coat before applying two full coats of your chosen colour. NB: The dilution rate will depend on the porosity of the surface. We recommend you test the level of dilution on a patch to determine the level of dilution required. If you do not want to apply a primer and undercoat, as an alternative, you can dilute the top coat with approximately 10% water and apply as a "mist" coat. Please note: When porous papers are not sufficiently prepared, difficulties in application, variation in sheen or uneven colour may occur.

### Painting Over Interior Wall Fillers:

For best results always use a filler which has the same porosity and density as the surface which is being repaired. Fillers which have a different porosity or density may lead to visible differences in colour or tone. Follow the filler manufacturer's application instructions and drying times then apply a diluted coat (25%) of Farrow & Ball Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat in the correct colour tone for your top coat (and allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats). Then follow with two coats of your chosen colour to promote adhesion and full colour depth. This product may not be compatible with highly alkaline/cement-based fillers. Please note that this product may not be compatible with sand-based filler. Wherever possible, we recommend using an alternative type of filler. However, if no alternative is available, ensure the filler is adequately sanded and free of all dust and contaminants before proceeding with the steps outlined above.

### Using Interior Caulks & Sealants:

Where small gaps and cracks require filling or sealing, best results are achieved with an acrylic based decorators' caulk which is a water-based, flexible filler. Use the minimum of caulk necessary as a smaller bead will dry quicker and will be less prone to cracking. Follow the manufacturer's application instructions and drying times (typically 2 – 3 hours) before applying your chosen Farrow & Ball finish. Estate Eggshell, Full Gloss and Dead Flat – 2 coats may be applied directly (allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats). Estate Emulsion and Modern Emulsion – Apply an undiluted coat of Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat in the correct colour tone for your top coat (allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats) followed by 2 coats of your chosen top coat (once again allowing a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats).

### How to Apply Paint to Walls by Brush:

Stir thoroughly before use. Ensure all surfaces are sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and other contamination. Please note that flaking or peeling may occur if you paint over weak paint layers - to avoid this sand back any previous weak paint layers before you start painting. Where required apply Farrow & Ball Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat to improve paint adhesion and promote depth of colour. Using a fine-tipped synthetic bristled brush, apply the paint in a vertical direction then spread the paint out evenly in a horizontal direction. On application of the final coat lay off the paint in a single direction to ensure that any brush marks and brush patterning effects (sometimes visible in certain lighting conditions) are minimised.

### How to Apply Paint to Walls by Roller:

Stir thoroughly before use. Using a medium pile woven polyester roller, apply the paint in diagonal strokes to create either an 'M', 'W' or 'V' shape. Fill in and over the shape you have just painted to spread the paint evenly. Repeat this process, working in small sections. Always work from wet to dry areas, maintaining a wet edge to minimise roller marks. On application of the final coat lay off the paint in a single direction to ensure that any roller patterning effects (sometimes visible in certain lighting conditions) are minimised.

### Preparation for Spraying:

When spraying Farrow & Ball paints onto any given surface, it is important to remember that the resulting finish will only be as good as the surface you are applying it to. Most surfaces will need to be clean and degreased, prepared by surface filling, sanding and then suitably primed/undercoated. Flattening with finishing papers in between coats as required, to achieve a smooth flat surface before spraying your chosen Farrow & Ball finish. This process may need to be repeated several times to obtain a satisfactory surface, which is suitable for the type of finish that is desired. Make sure your spraying apparatus (including the gun and compressor unit) is appropriate for the size of the area being painted and your chosen finish. If dilution is required, keep this to the minimum possible according to the instructions of your apparatus and our suggested dilution ratios.

### Spray Settings:

**Airless Spraying** – Best results can be achieved with a typical set up of a 515 nozzle tip and 80 bar air injection pressure. Note that these are typical settings for most airless spray systems and some adjustment of the air pressure in relation to the nozzle tip will be required depending on the make and model of airless spray apparatus used. Depending on the apparatus used, the paint may need to be diluted with water by up to 10%. We do not recommend HVLP spray application for large areas such as walls & ceilings.

### Suggested Maximum Dilution Rates:

Bare dry skim plaster/dry lined walls, bare dry plaster board, patch filled plaster = 25% water (1 part water : 3 parts paint). NB: The dilution rate will depend on the porosity of the surface, so we recommend testing a patch. You can do this by splashing some clean water onto the surface and see how much has sunk in after a minute. Dilute the topcoat (of your chosen colour) with around 25% water and apply as a mist coat. Please note: When porous plasters are not sufficiently prepared, difficulties in application, cracking, drying, variation in sheen or uneven colour may occur.

### Masking:

Masking tapes are available in a range of tack levels. Always use a quality masking tape which is appropriate to the decorating project. Some masking tapes incorporate proprietary paint locking technology which can give a superior result. Remove the masking tape while the paint is still slightly wet by pulling gently and slowly at an angle of 45°. If the masking tape is left on too long then trimming along the edge with a sharp blade may be required.

### Other Product Applications:

If you wish to use Farrow & Ball products for any applications which are not featured here, please contact Customer Services for advice on +44 (0) 1202 876141 or email [customer.services@farrow-ball.com](mailto:customer.services@farrow-ball.com). Please note that calls may be recorded for training purposes.

### Storage Advice:

This product is water based and should be protected from frost and extreme temperatures. We recommend using within 6 months of purchase and are unable to accept responsibility for the deterioration of contents or packaging after this date. This product contains preservatives to protect from spoilage under normal conditions. To minimise contamination and provide maximum shelf life we recommend that the product is decanted into a clean paint kettle before use and all tools are thoroughly cleaned before and after each use. Repeated opening and use can increase the risk of microbial contamination; therefore we recommend keeping this to a minimum to maximise the shelf life of the product.

### Environmental & Disposal Advice:

Do not flush paint down the drain, including when cleaning painting tools. Dispose of contents/container to comply with local regulations.

### Clean Up:

Remove as much product as possible from brushes or rollers before cleaning.

### Technical Information:

**Formulation:** A water based primer & undercoat made using an acrylic binder.

Do not paint in temperatures below 10°C or in excessive heat above 30°C.

**Coverage Rate (m<sup>2</sup>/l per coat):** Up to 12

Drying Time: Dry in 2 hours.

Typical Recoat Time: Recoat after 4 hours

Recommended Number of Coats: 1

\*Darker/stronger colours may require additional coats. Please note: The drying and Recoat times provided are based on applying paint in normal conditions - drying times may be longer in cooler and/or higher humidity environments. Darker colours may take longer to dry. Allow a minimum of 14 days before applying over solvent based coatings.

Density: 1.2 - 1.4 g/cc

Wet Film Thickness: 80 - 120 µm

Application Humidity: < 80 % RH

Substrate Moisture Content: Plaster Walls & Ceilings = < 0.5 %

Substrate pH: Up to 10

#### VOC Content Information:

EU limit value for this product (cat. A/[h]): 30g/l (2010). This product contains max 1 g/l VOC.



#### Liquid water permeability according to DIN EN 1062-3 (w24 [kg/m2√24h]):

0.42 (Class II, limit >0.1 <0.5). This is the volume of water absorbed into a 1m2 area through the paint surface within a 24 hour period. The lower the w24 value, the more waterproof the paint film. Paint water absorption is class rated, from Class I to Class III. Class II in this instance denotes a medium waterproof rating.

#### Water-vapour transmission rate (Permeability) according to DIN EN ISO 7783-2 (sd [m]):

0.011 (Class I, limit <0.14). This is the resistance of the paint film to water vapour expressed as the equivalent thickness of air in metres. The lower the sd value the more breathable the paint film. Paint breathability is class rated, from Class I to Class III. Class I in this instance denotes the highest level of breathability. We are pleased to confirm that Farrow & Ball Wall & Ceiling Primer & Undercoat has the highest rating - Class I (High).

#### Contact Us:

For advice on colours, paint finishes or wallpaper our customer services team is on hand to help you, just call +44 (0) 1202 876141, email [sales@farrow-ball.com](mailto:sales@farrow-ball.com), or write to us at Farrow & Ball, Uddens Estate, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 7NL, UK. Please note that calls may be recorded for training purposes. Imported in EU by Farrow & Ball, Kaiserstraße 25, Frankfurt am Main, Deutschland, +49 (0) 69 2424 6269.

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The information given in these specification sheets and 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 our Customer Services Department. 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.

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