



Faux Finishing: Color Streaking

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Color streaking (also called stria) is a subtle decorative effect created by dragging any of a variety of tools through the wet glaze to create a soft striped look. This technique adds a marvelous touch to any room in your home.



Tip: Helpful Hints and Decorating Ideas

- Remove excess glaze from the brush as you work.
- Avoid overstroking the glaze.
- Because the glaze must be removed before it starts to dry, negative applications, like color streaking are easier to do with two people – one to add and one to remove.
- Leave a thick, wet edge of untouched glaze at the end of each section to avoid lap marks.
- Try color streaking the molding using the same technique and a dry 2-in. paint brush.
- For a different look, experiment by removing glaze with different tools. Create an interesting pattern using crumpled rags or plastic. A notched squeegee or rubber graining comb can also be dragged through the glaze.

Materials Checklist

- Plumb line (string and weight)
- Roller
- Paint tray
- Paint brush
- Smoothing brush
- Paper towels
- Painter's tape
- Rubber gloves

Zinsser Products:

- Blend & Glaze

Step 1. Hang Plumb Line Before Glazing

Hang plumb line with painter's tape at the top of the wall about three feet from a corner of the room. Beginning in the corner, roll the glaze mixture on the wall approximately the width of a strip of wallpaper. Spread glaze into corners and ceiling with a paint brush.



Step 1

Step 2. Drag a Dry Wallpaper Smoothing Brush Down the Wall

Drag a dry wallpaper smoothing brush firmly down the wall from ceiling to molding. Use the plumb line as a guide to keep your strokes straight.



Step 2

Step 3. Leave a 2-In. Strip of Wet Glaze

Leave a 2-in. strip of wet glaze untouched to join up the next section. Roll the next section of glaze adjacent to the previous section. Do not roll over the previous section.



Step 3

Step 4. Repeat Steps 2 & 3

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until wall is completed. Work in the direction of the plumb line and reposition it as you go.

Step 5. Work on the Opposite Wall Next

Work on opposite wall next. Complete adjacent walls in the same manner.