



Faux Finishing: Verdigris

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The term "verdigris" is from the French, "vert de Grece," which means "The green of Greece." True verdigris is a coating on copper, brass and bronze formed by weathering. The beautiful blue-green color lends an ancient, soft and chalky aspect to decorative metal work. This process can be imitated by using acids and very high temperatures to reproduce this patina (finish). Since the common homeowner does not have access to those extreme conditions, you can simulate it by using paint (see picture). So pieces that are not made of or coated in metal can obtain this elegant effect too! For example, **outside**, this finish looks best on large clay pots, garden statues, patio furniture and other outdoor accessories. **Inside**, it is best used on small statues, lamp bases or decorative metal works.



Please Note: Making the Glaze

- Each color is going to require you to make a glaze.
- The more neutral base you add, the more translucent the color will be.
- You can double or triple the amounts mentioned.
- The more water you add, the longer it will take for the paint to dry.

Step 1: Mix Glaze

Measure approximately 1/4-cup of paint & pour it into your paint mixing pot. Add about 1 cup of neutral base and stir well. Next add a little bit of water at a time and stir well each time. Add to the point where the glaze is a little on the runny side, but not too thin where it won't stick to your brush.

Step 2: Paint Surface

Paint the surface with Kenya but don't allow it to dry.

Step 3: Sponging

Apply the Sherwood Green paint liberally to the surface with your sea sponge.

Step 4: Sponging with Other Colors

Haphazardly, sponge on the Deco Delight but don't allow it to dry. Then, finish with sponging on Misty Eyed.

Step 5: Apply Plaster of Paris

While the surface is still wet, **lightly** sprinkle the powdered Plaster of Paris on the surface and allow it to dry. The plaster is what gives the piece a soft, chalky look.

Step 6: After the Surface is Dry

Use a clean, soft AccuFlo brush to **lightly** dust the surface to remove any loose particles of plaster.

Materials Checklist

Note: Amounts given will cover
100-sq.ft. of surface.

- 1 quart of EZ-Kare Eggshell or Satin enamel, color #2047 Kenya (light brown/yellow)
- 1 quart of EZ-Kare Eggshell or Satin enamel, color #2077 Sherwood Green (darker green)
- 1 quart of EZ-Kare Eggshell or Satin enamel, color #1274 Deco Delight (medium green)
- 1 quart of EZ-Kare Eggshell or Satin enamel, color #1267 Misty Eyed (light green)
- 1 or 2 quarts of a neutral satin base (depends on the size of your project)
- Measuring cup
- 4 mixing paint pots
- Water
- Stir sticks or paint paddles
- AccuFlo paint brushes
- 3 natural sea sponges
- Small amount of powdered Plaster of Paris
- Rags for clean-up
- Newspaper or paper towels



Tip: Sponging

The correct technique for sponging is to wet the sponge and then ring it out well. Then, dip the sponge into the glaze and then blot off all extra paint with newspaper or paper towels. Lightly touch the surface with the sponge. Try to avoid twisting or swiping motions. Instead, try to touch, lift and touch. As you apply each color, make sure the previous colors are not completely covered over. Otherwise, you will not have the patina effect you are trying to create.