

# OldWood

## Varnishing and Colouring

### Oil Natural Colour

#### 3.2.- Varnishing

Throughout time, violin makers have made their own colour pastes by milling natural pigments by hand with vegetable oils. But this is a long and labourious process.

Inspired by the Classical Masters' colours, Old Wood have developed some fine pastes which are both homogeneous and stable. They are made with natural and traditional pigments and also with high quality and natural oils.

These pastes are made to be mixed with the Oil Varnishes and can create an infinite range of finishes and colours. The craftsmen are then able to create a personal colour for each instrument.

Old Wood Oil Natural Colours are pastes ready to mix with the oil varnishes.

#### **APPLICATION:**

The application method for Oil Natural Colours is both simple and easy.

It is possible to work with one colour or by mixing two or more colours. When the luthier has decided the colour or mix of colours, is then necessary to add the oil varnish (1/1 approx. depending on the colour).

It is always necessary to apply one or two layers of varnish before using the colour pastes.

As a general rule, the mix of colour-varnish is applied by hand (use nitrile gloves) as a thin *glaze*. Using a brush is recommended for the scroll and special areas; you can also use a brush to remove excess product in hard-to-reach areas.

Each layer must be dried under UV light for at least 8-10 hours. It is recommendable applying alternative thin layers of varnish (without colours).

This process must be repeated 3 or 4 times to reach the desired colour.

The instrument must be finished with 2 or 3 layers of varnish without pigments.

Old Wood Colours & Varnishes s.l.

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Example work steps:

- Varnish (1 or 2 layers)
- Colour glaze → Varnish glaze
- Colour glaze → Varnish glaze
- Colour glaze → Varnish glaze
- Varnish (2 or 3 layers)

The colours can also be applied by brush, but in this case more varnish should be used to make a more fluid solution.

Also a few drops of solvent is recommended. It is possible to apply several thin layers but you must always finish the instrument only with varnish (without pigments).

Sanding between layers is recommendable during the varnishing process, especially the layers that are without pigments. We recommend using micromesh paper.

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