Allbäck Linseed Oil Products Distributed in the UK by

SWEDISH LINSEED PAINT

The rediscovery of ancient wisdom

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LINSEED OIL PAINT

(Please also see The Little Handbook and Videos on our website)

Background & Suitability

Linseed Oil Paint has been used in the harsh Scandinavian environment since the 18th century. The paint's binding agent is purified and boiled (oxidised) linseed oil from Skäne, the southernmost province of Sweden.

Linseed oil is perfect for penetrating, nourishing and protecting wood and other surfaces, while simultaneously providing a breathable protective surface. It emits very few VOCs (<18 g/L) and is completely free from harmful additives and solvents. The natural pigments used are titanium dioxide and chalk in the white paint, and natural iron oxides and earth-pigments in the other colours.

Allbäck Linseed Oil Paint is a high quality 'Single - Pot' paint system; you use the same paint for all coats. It is simple to use, but as it requires a different treatment from common synthetic paint types, it is important to read this instruction sheet in detail. For further advice, feel free to contact us.

Details at a Glance

Finish	Drying Time	Internal / External	Number of Coats
Semi-gloss	20-24 hours	Suitable for both	3 thin coats (approx. 100 microns per coat)
Working Temp	**Coverage**	**Application**	**VOC**
5-25 °C	15–20 m^2 per litre (varies with surface texture and porosity)	Brush or spray (for metal)	<18 g/L
Suitable Surface		**Colour Range**	**Tin Sizes**
Wood All Metal, Sheeting and Ironmongery Plastics Putty & Glass Masonry (if emulsified – see Paint Application)		32 standard colours (Others can be made by special order)	200 ml, 1 litre and 3 litre

Stripping Existing Paints

It is best to apply our paint to a bare surface. Where existing coats of paint[1] do exist, we recommend stripping these back using a heat gun or our infrared Putty Lamp and scraper. To aid this process you may apply a coat of warmed (60°C/finger hot) raw Linseed Oil. This will penetrate fine cracks in the paint and help ease it from the surface. We do not recommend the use of paint strippers[2].

[1] It is advisable to strip existing coats of paint to ensure the maximum longevity of the new paint surface. This allows the linseed oil to properly penetrate, nourish and protect the surface, particularly for wood. If you choose to paint over the existing paint, then priming/ impregnation is not necessary. The paint will take longer to dry as absorption is reduced. Partially stripped surfaces may result in a patchy final finish.

[2] Paint strippers (chemical or eco-friendly) and high-pH cleaners may react with our paint if incorrectly or insufficiently neutralised. Seek technical advice from the manufacturer.

Preparation, Cleaning and Impregnation

All surfaces to be painted must be clean, dry and stable (free from dust, grease stains, mould and any accumulation of resin). Use Linseed Soap to clean the surface, rinse and leave to dry. Avoid using a pressure washer to clean wood as this can force water into the fibres. If applying to wood[3], lightly sand the surface following the direction of the grain and dust off. Apply a coat of warmed (60°C/ finger hot) raw Linseed Oil to the bare wood. Warmed oil will penetrate more easily. If any oil is sitting on the surface after 30 mins, tissue off and dispose of cloths carefully (see footnote[4]). Alternatively apply the oil cold and use a heat gun to warm it. This will help stop attacks of mould. Allow to dry for at least 24 hours. A second coat maybe applied to very dry wood. Metal and some tropical hardwoods only require a very light coat of oil.

Knotting and Glazing

Apply Shellac Knotting Solution to any knots in the timber to limit resin seepage. For glazing, apply Shellac to the rebates and backs of glazing beads. This prevents the window putty drying out too quickly. This also gives silicone seals/tapes a surface to adhere to and prevents the linseed oil from coming into contact with double glazing (footnote[5]).

Paint Application

- Mix paint thoroughly before use. Do not thin with petroleum spirits or turpentine. If necessary, thin with a little boiled Linseed Oil (max 5%).
- Apply the paint with a brush and work onto the surface thinly and thoroughly in all directions. A roller can be used depending on the finish required. Please contact us for advice. For ornate metalwork, paint can be applied by spray. Use a high pressure, small nozzle. Paint can be applied in direct sunlight without issue. Three coats are recommended with 20 - 24 hours drying time normally required between coats. Linseed Oil Putty is recommended for filling any holes and imperfections after the first coat is dry. Coat holes with Shellac Knotting Solution before applying the putty to stop it drying too fast.
- When painting windows there is no need to cut in around the glass (unless frosted or rippled). Paint out onto the glass and once all coats of paint are complete and dry, remove with a razor glass scrapper and a metal spackling blade as a guide.

For External Use

It is recommended to add zinc oxide. This offers greater resistance to dirt, pollen, algae and mould as well as speeding up the drying process. (Please see separate zinc instructions sheet).

For a Higher 'Gloss' Finish

Linseed Oil Extra (extra-boiled) can be added to harden the paint surface. This gives a higher shine. Add 5 – 10% directly into the paint and stir well. Linseed Oil Extra can make the paint thicker. As noted, boiled linseed oil can also be added to regulate the thickness.

Colour Mixing

All our linseed oil paints can be mixed so that you can create your own shades. (See The Little Handbook on our website for details).

Additional Information

- Always paint a test area first.
- Brushes can be stored with their bristles suspended in raw Linseed Oil (never in water). Use Linseed Oil Soap to clean brushes and hands.
- To aid drying, ventilate well when using internally.
- High humidity and colder temperatures will slow the drying time.
- The paint can be stored at a cool temperature for several years.
- Technical specifications, safety data sheets and emissions tests are all available on our website.
- For use on masonry see the Allbäck Emulsion Technique in The Little Handbook on our website. It is best to consult a decorating professional or seek advice from us directly.

Paint Maintenance

Linseed Oil Paint is elastic and thus absorbs more dirt in the initial phase. After a few years, the pigment grains start to fall out and the paint becomes "self-cleaning". Assuming that the surface has been given three full coats of paint, dirt and mould can be cleaned off using Allbäck Linseed Soap. Avoid cleaning products with too high a pH. Mix the Linseed Soap with water until it foams. Clean the surface using a sponge or a brush. Rinse thoroughly and allow to dry. When the surface turns matte and starts to become chalky, treat with Boiled Linseed Oil or Linseed Oil Wax or a coat of Linseed Oil Paint. The need for maintenance varies considerably depending on the original treatment, exposure to the elements and other stresses. Interior surfaces have much longer maintenance intervals and retain their shine for many years. Touch-up work will have a different shine initially.

[3] The moisture content of the wood should be no more than 14%.

[4] Cloths and rags soaked in linseed oil can spontaneously combust. Please soak in water before disposal in outside waste.

[5] It is not recommended using Linseed Oil Putty with laminated glass or double glazing as the oil in the putty can seep between the panes. Please read our Linseed Oil Putty instruction sheet and seek further advice from your glass supplier before proceeding.