When embarking on any paint technique project, it is extremely important to prepare your surfaces correctly in order to achieve a professional finish. If you are unsure as to how to prepare the surface, there will always be someone to assist you at your nearest Shave Paint and Décor store. Get your foundations right and your technique will look great.

On new surfaces be sure to use the correct primers and undercoats. Plaster, wood, and metal all need different primers. A multi-surface primer, such as Dulux Supergrip makes it possible to paint and technique even smooth surfaces such as tile, melamine and plastic.

On previously painted surfaces be sure to remove all loose or flaking paint. Fill any cracks or holes and spot prime or undercoat if necessary. Sound paint work needs to be clean, dry and free of dust and grease.

GLAZES

Scumble Glaze is a frequently used paint technique product. It is used to create most of the broken colour effects where a diluted paint solution is washed, dragged or rubbed over a painted surface. Scumble Glaze serves two purposes—it slows the drying time of the solution and holds any pattern that is created. When using a glaze, be sure to use a good quality base coat, such as the Dekade Gold Label Sheen. This will ensure that you are able to achieve an even, smooth finish.

Most glaze mixtures consist of:

• 1 part paint (water or oil-based)
• 1 part solvent (water or turpentine)
• 1 part Scumble Glaze (water or oil-based)

PROTECTING YOUR TECHNIQUE

For most technique projects it is possible to work entirely with water-based products and then seal with the water-based Decorator’s Varnish or Heavy Duty Acrylic Sealer. This will ensure that your technique will be fully wipeable and will withstand wear.
Stonewashing...

This stone look works beautifully on pots and garden ornamentation but can also be applied on furniture pieces to achieve the washed-out French look. The pre-tinted stoney grey glaze can be applied over a base colour to accentuate moulded detail.

**WHAT YOU WILL NEED**
- See tools for preparation (page 2)
- Base paint in Dekade Gold Label Sheen White (GLS32)
- Pre-mixed Smokey Glaze
- Plastic paint tray or container
- Brush for application of glaze
- Mutton cloth
- Dry, soft 75mm brush

**METHOD**
- Prepare the object with Gold Label Sheen White (or pastel colour of your choice).
- Pour the Smokey Glaze into a paint tray or plastic container.
- Apply the glaze, by brush, to a small section of your prepared object.
- While the glaze is still wet wipe over it with mutton cloth. Be careful to work in one direction and remove paint mainly from the raised areas.
- If the finish is uneven, the tips of the 75mm soft brush can be lightly brushed over the surface to soften the effect.
- You can keep wiping off glaze until you are happy with the colouring. The more glaze you wipe off the softer and lighter the effect will become.
- Allow the object to dry for 4-6 hours and seal with a Decorator’s varnish.
Rust...

The Decorator’s Touch Aged Iron Paint can be applied to almost any surface to give a naturally weathered rust look. It looks great on pots and garden ornamentation but can also be applied to properly prepared metal, plaster and wood. It is a water-based product and needs a few days exposure to the elements to achieve the fully rusted look.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED
- See tools for preparation (page 2)
- Aged Iron Paint Pack (Base, Activator & Gel)
- Plastic container for mixing of Activator and Gel
- Paint brushes
- Rubber gloves

METHOD
- Once properly prepared, the object to be painted needs to be coated with 1-2 coats of the Aged Iron Paint Base Coat. (Be sure to stir thoroughly before and during application).
- Leave to dry for 2-4 hours.
- Mix the Activator and Gel together in equal parts in a plastic container (wear rubber gloves when handling this mixture).
- Apply this mixture liberally over the base coat and allow to dry.
- The Activator and Gel mixture can be re-applied to any areas that have not begun to rust.
- Preferably leave object outdoors to weather naturally - Rusting can take up to two weeks depending on climatic conditions.
Staining & Liming...

The Decorator’s Touch range of wood stains provide a convenient, environmentally friendly solution to the tinting of raw wood. The staining or liming of wood allows for the natural beauty of the timber to show through while allowing you to alter the colour to complement your décor. These stains are water-based and extremely easy to apply. They are available in a range of natural wood colours and in the Liming White, which gives the lovely whitewashed look, typical of coastal or country décor. Liming works best on softer or naturally grained woods such as pine or oak.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

• See tools for preparation (page 2)
• 100 grit and 220 grit sandpaper
• Paint tray or plastic container
• Brush for application of stain
• Mutton cloth
• Wood or liming stain
• Sealer – Either Dulux Woodgard for stained objects or the Decorator’s Touch Water-Based Varnish for limed objects

METHOD

• The wood stains can only be used on raw wood. If an object was previously coated then all traces of paint or varnish needs to be removed.
• Sand the object with 100 grit sandpaper to open up the grain and then smooth over with the finer 220 grit paper always sand in the direction of the grain.
• Shake the stain well before pouring it into a paint tray or other clean plastic container.
• Dip the tips of a brush into the stain and then apply to your prepared wooden article.
• Again work in the direction of the grain and do not overlap brush strokes.
• While the stain is still wet on the wood begin to rub it into the surface with the mutton cloth. Stop when the stain has penetrated evenly.
• Apply the next section of stain being careful not to overlap the previous application.
• Once the entire object is coated, allow it to dry overnight.
• If fibres have risen on the wood’s surface they can be smoothed very lightly with the 220 grit sandpaper.
• Apply at least two coats of a suitable sealer.
The pre-tinted Antique Glaze is perfect for creating aged effects on furniture, pots and decorative objects. The glaze is designed to wash over a base colour and pool in any moulded or recessed areas, thereby highlighting the detail.

The antique finish is extremely popular as a way of ‘aging’ newly painted surfaces and giving them a soft umber patina. It looks best on pieces that have a little bit of surface detail like carving or moulding. The antique look is very often applied over a white base coat but any colour can be aged with a wash of the antique glaze.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED
• See tools for preparation (page 2)
• Base paint in Dekade Gold Label Sheen White (GLS32)
• Pre-mixed Antique Glaze
• Plastic paint tray or container
• Brush for application of glaze
• Mutton cloth
• Dry, soft 75mm brush

METHOD
• Prepare the object with Gold Label Sheen White (or colour of your choice)
• Pour the Antique Glaze into a paint tray or plastic container.
• Apply the glaze, by brush, to a small section of your prepared object.
• While the glaze is still wet wipe over it with mutton cloth. Be careful to work in one direction and remove paint mainly from the raised areas.
• If the finish is uneven the tips of the 75mm soft brush can be lightly brushed over the surface to soften the effect.
• You can keep wiping off glaze until you are happy with the colouring. The more glaze you wipe off the softer and lighter the effect will become.
• Allow the object to dry for 4-6 hours and seal with the Decorator’s Varnish.
The Decorator’s Touch range of Metallic paints (water-based) or Gilder’s Paste (oil-based) can be used to create authentic, aged metallic finishes on almost any surface. These metallic paints add a lustre to painted finishes on furniture, lamps and frames. For most of the metallic finishes a dark base coat is used, then the metallic paint is lightly dry brushed over the surface to highlight any detail. The effect therefore works best if the object has some surface interest such as carving or mouldings.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED
- See tools for preparation (Page 2)
- Base coat in Dekade Gold Label Sheen - Spanish Moss (8770-5)
- Metallic paint - Gold and Silver
- Dulux Clear Woodgard Varnish
- Paintbrushes and paint tray or plastic container

METHOD
- Paint the article with Gold Label Sheen - Spanish Moss and allow to dry (2-4 hours). Black or dark grey can also be used for different looks.
- Pour some of the gold Metallic Paint into the paint tray or plastic container.
- Dip the tips of a small (25mm) brush into the gold paint and immediately dab it on the flat of the paint tray or on a piece of clean board.
- Very lightly begin to brush the gold paint onto the object. Try to apply very little paint at first and slowly build up the colour, allowing the darker base colour to show through. Concentrate the paint on the raised areas of the object.
- When the gold is evenly covering the object repeat the process with the silver paint.
- If the object will be receiving a lot of wear it can be overcoated with Clear Woodgard Varnish.
Distressing... Distressing is a technique which is used to age painted surfaces, giving the appearance of being worn and chipped over time. The key to this technique is to concentrate on the areas that would naturally receive wear such as corners, edges and raised detail. It is preferable to use water-based paints and then seal these with a suitable varnish for durability.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED
• See tools for preparation (page 2)
• 100 grit sandpaper
• White candle
• Gold Label Sheen in chosen base colour. Badlands (8987-5) is a popular dark brown choice.
• Gold Label Sheen Maison Blanche (8764-1)
• Decorator’s Varnish

METHOD
• Paint the piece with the base colour. This is the colour that is going to show through when the technique is complete. If your piece is wood then you can paint directly onto this and sand back to expose the wood. If you do not have a wood base to paint over but want a dark wood colour to show through then you need to paint the object brown first (try Badlands).
• When this base coat is dry (2-4 hours) rub the object with the candle on all the areas that you want the base colour to show through. The wax acts as a resist and does not allow subsequent paint layers to adhere well. It is therefore very easy to sand those layers off.
• Paint over the base coated and waxed article with your second colour (Maison Blanche is a gentle off white) and allow to dry (2-3hrs).
• Lightly sand back with the 100 grit sandpaper, concentrating on the areas where the wax was applied.
• If the piece receives a lot of wear, overcoat with two coats of Decorator’s Varnish.