

SCENIC PIGMENTS & POWDERS

Any suggestions given as to the preparation and usage of materials in this section are given in good faith and taken from advice given, in-house testing, or from reference works. We should state that every artist consulted had slightly different techniques and ideas for the usage and application of the materials. Our intention is to provide a reference point for general guidance only.

HAUSSMANN DRY SCENIC COLOURS



These vibrant colours really need to be seen!



The Haussmann pigments are pure pigments with some really vibrant bright colours. They contain no lead or cadmium. Together our suppliers can provide you with a full range of scenic colours which, when correctly mixed, will provide a dust-free and smudge-proof coating to enhance your scenery. A hand-painted colour chart is available for a nominal sum.

Methods There are three ways of converting your dry pigment into liquid paint. In all cases firstly add sufficient cold water to your powder to make a thick paste. Never try to mix powders directly into your binding medium. Some powders, especially yellows, reds and fluorescent pigment, can prove difficult to mix. This can be helped by using Flints Dispersant [page 23]. Adding a drop of washing-up liquid or some meths can also help to break the surface tension. Because dry powders darken when wet, some artists will mix the powders while dry to achieve the desired colour rather than mixing wet paint. Once you have mixed up your thick paste try to leave as long as possible before making your paint – overnight is ideal. Then proceed with one of the following methods:

The Traditional Method is to use Granular Size [page 128]. In a galvanised bucket mix 500 g of size with 1 L of cold water, agitate well and leave for at least an hour to swell into a thick gel. Place the bucket into another bucket half full of water and warm on a hot plate. Take care that the size does not exceed 55° C. Once the size has completely dissolved, gradually dilute it further with warm water. The mix should feel sticky between the fingers and should run smoothly from a stick without dripping. Finally mix the liquid size with the pigment paste. Check the mix by dipping a piece of paper and drying it with a hairdryer. The paint should not rub off, if it does, add more size. If the surface sparkles all over then the mix is probably too strong. The paint should be applied to the primed canvas [page 134] whilst still warm. Canvas flats painted with this method can be tightened by applying warm water to the back of the flat. Cloths painted this way remain soft and will roll and tour well. The paint can be removed by scrubbing hard with warm water but this will have a detrimental effect on any flame retarding chemicals in the canvas.

The Modern Method is to fix the pigment with a binder medium such as Flints Emulsion Glaze [page 22] or any PVA glaze. Just add the medium to the pigment paste until a smooth thin cream is obtained. This paint is applied cold.

The Temporary Method is to use the pigment with little or no binder. This will make an un-fixed paint useful as temporary graffiti for film location work. It will wash off with water. The paint will cover between 8 - 10 m² per litre.



Due to the limitations of the printing process used in this catalogue the colour chart should only be used as a rough guide

Haussmann Dry Scenic Colour	code	price	code	price
	500 g		5kg	
Turquoise Blue	DPP19301	£13.35	DPP193015	£79.98
Ultramarine Blue	DPP19308	£15.75	DPP193085	£78.15
May Green	DPP19401	£12.29	DPP194015	£57.50
Emerald Green	DPP19407	£12.12	DPP194075	£55.03
Leaf Green	DPP19410	£11.47	DPP194105	£58.15
Lemon Yellow	DPP19101	£12.55	DPP191015	£46.92
Chrome Yellow Light	DPP19103	£11.23	DPP191035	£49.50
Yellow Oxide	DPP19104	£11.95	DPP191045	£59.95
Indian Yellow	DPP19107	£12.55	DPP191075	£48.94
True Orange Medium	DPP19155	£13.39	DPP191555	£63.39
True Red Light	DPP19201	£12.55	DPP192015	£63.45
Raw Sienna	DPP19803	£15.82	DPP198035	£69.48
Burnt Sienna	DPP19804	£11.55	DPP198045	£67.25
Raw Umber*	DPPRU0500	£11.20	DPPRU5000	£67.50
Burnt Umber*	DPPBU0500	£7.75	DPPBU5000	£49.19
Deep Black	DPP19554	£14.66	DPP195545	£86.40
White	DPP19100	£14.25	DPP191005	£74.25
Hand-painted colour chart			DPPCC	£2.00

*Haussmann has been unable to maintain a supply of Umber pigments so we have sourced another, also very reputable, supplier.

Safety

When handling dry colours always wear gloves and a mask such as the 3M 8825 [page 342]. The powders listed are of low toxicity. Flints does not stock the toxic lead-based pigments. Health and safety sheets can be downloaded from flints.co.uk/downloads.

FLINTS LIQUID PIGMENTS



F Flints Concentrated Liquid Pigments These powerful liquid pigments are non-toxic and lead-free. They are fully intermixable water-based products containing no solvent. Use them as tints in paints and glazes. They are a preferable choice for colouring textures as only a small quantity of liquid is needed so the consistency of the texture is preserved. Pigments can be mixed with PVA binder or a glaze such as Flints Glaze to make a paint. 30 g per litre will make a strong paint or 10 g per litre will make a medium paint [as shown in the chart above].

Liquid Pigments	code	250 g	colour	code	250 g
White	CLP0012	£12.88	Violet	CLP0152	£17.47
Black	CLP0032	£12.88	Royal Blue	CLP0172	£17.47
Lemon	CLP0052	£17.47	Turquoise	CLP0192	£17.47
Buttercup	CLP0072	£17.47	Emerald	CLP0212	£17.47
Orange	CLP0092	£17.47	Chestnut	CLP0232	£17.47
Scarlet	CLP0112	£17.47	Red	CLP0132	£17.47

DUSTING TOOLS



Dustin-Mizer A hand-cranked dust blower ideal for applying Fuller's Earth or walnut dust to set dressings. The deflector is now included at no extra cost and allows the user to blow upwards.

Dustin-Mizer	code	price
Mizer [now includes deflector]	PATDM1085	£59.80
Spare Deflector	PATDM1094	£7.90

SOME USEFUL POWDERS



Fuller's Earth Beige coloured powder more widely used by the printing trade. It absorbs grease and is commonly used in the entertainments' industry by set dressers and wardrobe departments for ageing and dusting down scenery and costumes. We pick up quite a few sales on the internet from people using it to de-grease fly fishing leaders. One fisherman bought a 25 kg bag – keen or what!

Fuller's Earth	code	1 kg	code	25 kg
	PAT870	£2.98	PAT870B	£29.00



Walnut Dust An ecological alternative to Fuller's Earth for ageing and dusting down scenery and costumes. Contains nuts.

Walnut Dust	code	1 kg	code	22.5 kg
	PATWD	£4.87	PATWDB	£66.39



Marble Dust Commonly used in mortar made with slaked lime putty to replace some of the sand but in theatre its main use is to help create a frost-like appearance on winter scenery. The crystalline sparkle has the illusion of snow. It can be sprinkled onto wet resin, glue, or varnish to create the effect. For a more pronounced result mix in some M11 crystals or for more iridescence add White Iris Glitter [page 40] or Opalina Random Cut Snow [page 41].

SPECIFICATION: Grain size: 300 - 710 micron.

Marble Dust	code	1 kg	code	25 kg
	PAT867	£3.80	PAT867B	£20.50



Black Sand An economical material with various uses. It can be applied onto, or mixed into, adhesives, paints, or consolidating binders etc. to provide a black non-slip surface or interesting low reflectance texture. It can be used loose just scattered over areas for events or to disguise road marking etc. The product is a natural volcanic sand varying in size from 0.1 - 0.3 mm. It is kiln-dried and colourfast so it will not cause stains. It is also suitable for use underwater.

Black Sand	code	20 kg	Tradeline 10+
	PROSANDB	£16.50	£13.20



French Chalk [TALC] This fine powder is often used in theatres to stop cut cloths treated with Copydex, Flintdex or Weave Filler from sticking together. French Chalk will also stop floor boards and treads from creaking. It has nothing to do with chalk and is actually magnesium silicate used widely for its slippery effect. I don't think it even comes from France! It is not suitable for making gesso.

French Chalk	code	500 g
	PAT873	£6.00

See also Flints Graphite Powder [page 36], Fillite [page 48] and Iron Powder [page 32].