

HOW TO ACHIEVE STUNNING FAUX FINISH RESULTS WITH MRS. RAGGIE®

Color Selection

Selecting complimentary shades of paint to use with Mrs. Raggie is simple. Just select colors from the same color family – right off the same sample card at your paint store. Choose a dark hue, a middle hue and a light hue. Before investing in paint by the gallon, purchase quarts or sample packets and experiment with your colors on poster board to ensure the colors achieve the effect you are after. We'll show you how in a second.

Selecting Your Paint

After you have selected your colors, you will need to select your paint. For best results, choose only latex eggshell or satin finish paint for your base coat and glaze mix. Avoid flat paint. Using flat paint will make your project needlessly difficult.

Preparing Your Walls

Before you begin painting any of the effects shown on this video, make sure your walls are clean by washing them with a trisodium phosphate or wall cleaner designed for painting preparation. Fill existing holes and cracks in your wall with spackle and sanding smooth. If your sheet rock is new, be sure to seal it with a coat of primer. If you have recently removed wallpaper, apply a coat of stain killing primer after you have cleaned the wall of all paste residue to avoid crackling and bubbling.

Protecting Woodwork, Ceilings, and Floors

After you have prepared your walls for painting, be sure to protect your woodwork, ceilings, floors and even furniture you don't want to paint. Cover the floor and large pieces of furniture with canvas or plastic. Tape baseboards and ceilings using quality masking tape at least two inches wide.

Cleaning Mrs. Raggie®

Unlike cleaning other painting tools, cleaning Mrs. Raggie is simple. Simply rinse Mrs. Raggie in warm water until you've rinsed all the paint out. Dark paint may stain, but will not affect the outcome of future projects. When your done with your project, or even just done for the day, place Mrs. Raggie in a freezer bag, and place in the freezer. This will keep the chamois leather soft, absorbent, and ready for your next project. Just thaw Mrs. Raggie in hot water and you're ready to start again!

Getting Started

The first step to transforming your walls is applying the base coat. Paint the wall as you would paint any wall and allow to dry. Regardless of the technique you will use, experiment with the order in which you apply the different colors on sample boards. The effect you achieve will be greatly determined by the sequence in which you apply color. Again, use your sample boards to test different sequences.

When the base coat has dried, it's time to apply a glaze coat with Mrs. Raggie. First, you'll need to prepare your glaze coat. Mix one-part of your dark hue paint with three parts

glaze. Glaze is simply a liquid you add to paint to thin it. This will greatly simplify achieving professional results.

Next, run your Mrs. Raggie under warm water until completely saturated. Gently wring out excess water, and you're ready to go.

Test your glaze coat on a sample board already painted with your base coat. If the results are too dark for your tastes, add more glaze. If the result is too light, add a little paint to the mixture. When you are satisfied with your sample board, it's time to start in on your walls.

Remember, if you're planning on applying multiple glaze coats for a multi-layer effect, make sure to add glaze to each color before applying to your wall with Mrs. Raggie.

Ragging Glaze Coats using Mrs. Raggie®

After wringing excess water, hold Mrs. Raggie flat against the palm of your hand and dip the top half into the glaze/paint mixture. Initially apply the glaze mixture with a swirling motion, and then tap randomly and quickly using varied wrist action as shown, working in a section approximately 14 inches square. For this effect, tap paint onto the wall, do not smear!

Continue working in the section until you've created the desired effect across the entire section. We recommend beginning toward the top of the area to prevent the glaze mixture from dripping on finished sections. If the area abuts the ceiling, begin about 5 inches from the ceiling line and move the glaze mixture up to prevent it from bleeding underneath the tape.

Move to the next section and begin the process again, about eight inches from the edge of the last ragged section.

Unlike other faux painting tools, you won't have to rinse or change Mrs. Raggie during your project. However, if you notice your glaze mixture is becoming difficult to manipulate and it feels a little pasty, simply rinse Mrs. Raggie, gently wring out, and begin again.

Marbleizing

Achieve a stunning marble effect to add contemporary elegance to any room. First apply a light base color by applying paint with a roller. When the base coat is dry, create a glaze mixture of 1 part dark hue paint, and three parts glaze. Then, beginning in a top corner, tap Mrs. Raggie diagonally downward to create a random diagonal pattern to the bottom of the wall area to be painted. Move to the left or right and repeat this step to create similar patterns. These patterns should be random and may even overlap slightly. When you've finished and the paint is dry, it's time to apply the top glaze coat.

Select a lighter hue and create a glaze mixture of 3 parts glaze to 1 part paint. Tap Mrs. Raggie over and adjacent to the darker areas. This will soften the first glaze color while complimenting it. Be sure to work in random diagonal patterns to capture the natural contrast of marble. Work this glaze coat across the entire area.

The final step involves using a feather to paint veins onto your faux marble surface.

Here's how:

On a flat tray, pour a small amount of glaze and an equal amount of paint side by side. Gently pull the feather through both of the liquids, lightly coating one edge of the feather.

Next, beginning in the same top corner as when you applied the first dark glaze coat, create the vein by pulling the feather down the wall, turning your wrist as you go. This will

create narrow and wide lines. Repeat this process across the entire area. Veins should run roughly parallel to each other, in wavy diagonal lines.

As always, you may want to practice on sample boards before moving on to your wall.

Color-washing a Panel Using Mrs. Raggie®

Use Mrs. Raggie to color-wash a panel on any wall in your home. This technique is very simple and rewarding! First paint the entire wall with a light base coat. Next mask the outside boundaries of the panel being careful that you leave the inside of the panel open. In other words, tape the panel so the width of the tape is to the outside of the panel.

To do so, first determine the vertical boundaries of your panel. Apply low-tack painter's tape to the wall using a bubble level as you go. Now you are ready to mask the top boundary. Again use the bubble level to ensure clean straight lines. When you've masked the area, apply a base coat with a roller and allow to dry.

Now it's time to apply the color-wash. Mix your color wash by thinning a dark hue paint with glaze. Select a ratio of glaze to paint to suit your taste. Dip Mrs. Raggie into the wash and apply to wall. Simply swirl the paint onto the wall, do not tap! Using a circular swirling motion, apply the wash in sections, blending as you go. To soften the effect, apply a lighter hue over this layer using the same technique. Allow to dry, and remove the tape to reveal your new panel!

Striping with Mrs. Raggie®

Add height and elegance to any room by creating subtle stripes. The technique is simple and fun. Just follow these easy steps.

First, select your colors. You'll need to paint a base coat with a roller, and then rag glaze coats as demonstrated previously on this tape. When the final glaze coat is dry, it's time to mask the stripes. Here's how:

Measure stripes of the same width with a ruler. Mark the wall at equal intervals and begin to apply tape, using a bubble level to ensure straight stripes. You will be adding a final glaze coat to every other stripe, so be careful to apply tape so that the full stripe is exposed. When you have finished masking, your stripes will appear unequal. This is an optical illusion created by the width of the tape. Here's another helpful tip: To ensure you paint only the correct stripes, place a piece of painter's tape inside those stripes not to be painted.

With the stripes properly masked, use Mrs. Raggie to rag a lighter glaze coat over the top of every other stripe. Work in sections as previously demonstrated, beginning near the top of the stripe. Move to the next stripe to be painted and repeat until your stripes are complete. When the glaze coat is dry, carefully remove the tape to reveal subtle, yet elegant, stripes.

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