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OWATROL OIL

Paint Conditioner & Rust Inhibitor

Frequently Asked Questions



What is Owatrol Oil?

Owatrol Oil is a conditioner for oil or alkyd based paints that extends the wet edge time, eases application and improves the flow and levelling of the paint. It is also an excellent rust inhibitor, penetrating deep in to the rust pores expelling any moisture and air, so forming a firm foundation to paint on

What does Owatrol Oil do for my paint?

Unlike an evaporating solvent, which dilutes the paint. Owatrol Oil maintains the paints inherent qualities and characteristics, physically fortifying and enhancing the paint. Benefits include:

- Paint flows to a smooth, uniform thickness, giving better coverage,
- Extends the wet edge, eliminating lap marks,
- Helps paint adhere,
- Provides a moisture barrier,
- Does not alter the original colour of the paint.

Can Owatrol Oil be mixed with emulsion or acrylic paints?

No. Owatrol Oil is for oil and alkyd finishes only, you would use E-B or Floetrol instead.

My paint container says the paint is an alkyd – can Owatrol Oil be mixed with this type of paint?

Yes. An alkyd paint is actually an oil-based paint. The term alkyd refers to the fact that the oil is synthetic instead of a natural oil.

Does Owatrol Oil affect the paints drying time?

No. The drying and recoating times remain unaffected

How much Owatrol Oil do I add to my paint?

There is no fixed amount that you should add to the paint, let the brush or roller be your guide. If the edge of the paint is drying to quickly or it is being heavy and sticky to use then add enough Owatrol Oil until the paint works smoothly and evenly. As a guide: -

- Topcoat – As required. Normally 5-20% by volume
- Undercoat – Up to 30% by volume
- Primer – Up to 50% by volume

The can says that Owatrol Oil eliminates peeling on sills. How would I use the product for this type of application?

Remove all peeling paint down to a sound surface. Prime the bare wood with wet on wet coats of neat Owatrol Oil until no more is absorbed. 20 minutes after the last application wipe off any excess that has not penetrated. Allow to dry overnight; then prime and paint as usual. Add Owatrol Oil to the coating if using an oil or alkyd based primer or paint to ease application and aid adhesion.


How does Owatrol Oil control rust on a metal surface?

Because a rusty surface is irregular or scaly, the paint will not spread across it easily or penetrate into the surface irregularities, instead it will sit on top trapping any moisture and air beneath, which will continue to feed the rust. Owatrol Oil is highly penetrating and when applied to this kind of surface will drive out the moisture and air, replacing it, so stopping the rust and forming a firm foundation to paint on. Adding Owatrol Oil to the paint helps it flow into the irregularities, penetrating air pockets and providing a moisture barrier.

I have an older chain link fence. How would I use Owatrol Oil?

Remove any loose rust by wire brushing. Apply Owatrol Oil to the fence with a roller; allow to dry for 24 – 48 hours, then paint with Owatrol Oil Aluminium or another paint fortified with Owatrol Oil.

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<p>What are the ingredients in Owatrol Oil? How long has it been on the market? This is proprietary information and we do not divulge the ingredients. It is a solvent-based, air-drying paint oil and there is nothing in it restricted by the EPA. It has been on the market for over 60 years.</p> <p>Can Owatrol Oil be tinted? Yes, you can add varying amounts of an oil-based stain to give it a different colour on bare wood. Owatrol Oil can also be tinted with universal colourants. For a durable solid hiding stain, mix 3 or 4 parts Owatrol Oil with one part of oil-based enamel.</p> <p>Can Owatrol Oil be used in varnishes? What good does it do? It can be mixed with any one-part, solvent-based polyurethane or oil-based varnish where white/mineral spirit is specified as clean up. Adding Owatrol will help the varnish to flow and level better, ensuring a high quality finish is achieved. Mixing 1 part Owatrol Oil with 4 parts varnish when applying to bare timber will aid adhesion and ensure a smoother finish, thus reducing the need for de-nibbing between coats.</p> <p>Can Owatrol Oil be added to Polyurethane paints? Owatrol Oil can be added to any, one part polyurethane paint where white/mineral spirit is specified as clean up.</p> <p>The stain on my house has become dull and faded. What would you recommend doing, other than re-staining it? If the stain is uniform colour, apply one coat of Owatrol Oil. This will revive the colour and add protection to the wood by putting some oils back into it (moisture protection).</p> <p>Can Owatrol Oil be mixed with shellac to prolong the drying time? No, they are not compatible – the vehicle in shellac is alcohol – Owatrol Oil is white/mineral spirits.</p> <p>Is Owatrol Oil compatible with (fill in the blank)? Owatrol Oil is compatible with any one-part paint, woodstain, or varnish that has white/mineral spirit specified, as it's clean up. Owatrol Oil is not compatible with coatings that contain a "hot" solvent (xylene, toluene, etc.). Owatrol Oil is NOT compatible with two-part (catalysed) coatings, chlorinated rubber, coal tar coatings, fast drying paint, (like car paint) and (of course) emulsion or acrylic. If in doubt, mix a small bit and apply to a test area to confirm appearance.</p> <p>The paint I have says it's oil, but it cleans up with soap and water, can I add Owatrol Oil? We don't know, in some cases it may be, in others it may not. We do not know the formulas of all the paints available. We suggest testing a small amount – if the Owatrol Oil mixes in and appearance is OK after drying; there should be no problem. Generally, you will only need to add small quantities of the Owatrol Oil to these types of paint.</p> <p>Is Owatrol Oil waterproof, water resistant, or water repellent? Owatrol Oil does provide moisture resistance on wood, but it is not a waterproofer or water repellent since it allows the wood to breath and water vapour can pass.</p> <p>What is the coverage of Owatrol Oil? When used neat Owatrol Oil will cover up to 18m² per Litre depending on the porosity, texture and condition of the surface to be treated</p> <p>I have some paint left over, which I have added Owatrol Oil to. Can I put it back in the paint tin? Yes. The mix of paint and Owatrol Oil will not harm the paint in the tin at all. In some cases it will stop the paint in the tin from skinning over</p>		