

# MURALO

PAINTING TIPS

## Decorating with Dark Colors

Dark Colors Require a Little



# DARK COLORS

don't hide as well as light colors

Dark and intense colors are very popular these days for accent as well as for large wall areas. These very deep colors need to be handled differently than lighter colors. Contrary to what many people believe, deep colors generally don't hide nearly as well as lighter colors.

The principal pigment that contributes most to hiding is titanium dioxide, which is white.

Light colors have considerable amounts of titanium dioxide in them so they hide well. Black also hides well. Deep colors contain little or no titanium dioxide so they don't hide very well. Consequently, it is necessary to use several coats of deep colors to achieve good hide. With some colors, it is not unusual to apply five finish coats to achieve a good appearance.

In order to obtain the deep colors, a considerable quantity of colorant must be added to the paint bases. As much as 12 oz. of colorant per gallon is required to make certain colors. Colorant contains colored pigments, surfactants and a vehicle of some kind to hold the pigment in suspension, usually a glycol of some type. This large amount of colorant affects the performance of the paint.

These materials slow down dry time, so some color may rub off the surface even after several days.

The added surfactants make the finish coat more prone to marring. Some of the color may wash off when the surface is washed. Due to the large amount of colorant used in deep colors, the deep colors will not wash as well as lighter colors.





# QUESTIONS

& Answers

## Why does the paint color look different in my house then it did in the store?

Generally, the lighting in a store is from fluorescent tubes. Most home lighting is incandescent. The color of these two lighting sources is quite different.

When a colored object is seen under these lights, the color of the light source influences the color of the object making the color of the object different depending on the light source.

Light is measured in many ways, one of them being in degrees Kelvin. The blue North sky is about 10,000 degrees Kelvin. Incandescent lights are about 3200 degrees Kelvin and fluorescent lights are in the 5500-degree range.

When choosing a color in a store it is a good idea to view the color under different lighting conditions. Take the color over by the door or window to view the color in the light coming in from the outside. View the color under any incandescent light available. It is best to take the color home and view it under the surroundings where it will be used.

# Q&A



# CLEANING

## Dark Colors

**When cleaning is necessary, use a mild cleaner such as Windex and a natural sponge and gently wipe the surface.**

Because of the above considerations, special effort is required when using very deep colors.

We recommend the following procedure:  
Primer- Consult your Muralo dealer for the best primer option, which should be tinted to the approximate color of the finish coat.

Muralo offers two great primers to be used under deep colors: Cover- All Deep Red 2279 or Cover-All Basecoat Primer 2298. Usually one coat is enough. If covering a hard-to-cover-color, use two coats of colored primer.





# FINISH

Coat

**Use any top-quality finish coat such as Muralo's Ultra Waterborne Ceramic Matte or Satin finishes.**

Usually, only two coats will be required. The best procedure with dark colors is to allow overnight dry between coats. However, some colors might require a third coat and some colors may only require one coat. The finish coats might require several days before the colorant won't rub off.





The Muralo Company  
148 East 5th Street  
Bayonne, NJ 07002

Phone: 1-800-631-3440  
Fax: 201-437-0664

[muralo.com](http://muralo.com)

