

# Instacoll Gilding System

## Super Shine



February 2010

**Instacoll** is a revolutionary system for exterior gold leaf gilding and interior leafing with gold and silver leaf. A **Super Shine** or mirror gloss finish is achieved without agate burnishing. It is a water based two part system with an unlimited open gilding time. After **Instacoll** has dried completely, apply the **Activator** to the area ready for gilding. Let dry and apply the leaf. The ultimate mirror gloss is obtained when gilding on a completely smooth surface with patent leaf.

**Instacoll** may be applied to most dry, stable, solid interior surfaces including wood, plaster and metal. Suitable exterior surfaces include weather resistant wood, painted steel, copper, zinc and aluminum.

### Direction

#### Brush Application of Instacoll

1. The surface must be clean, dry, free of dust, wax, oil and grease. A nonporous, sealed, smooth surface will produce the highest degree of gloss.
2. Like most water based size, Instacoll is best applied at moderate temperatures. Extreme temperatures, warm or cold, will effect flow out and leveling of the material.
3. Apply Instacoll with a soft natural hair brush. Use painting techniques similar to those required for the application of a high gloss alkyd paint.
4. The object is to create a self leveling **single coat** of the material. Do not over brush. This will cause bubbles and brush strokes.
5. Thin with water, if required.
6. The surface is ready for gilding in about 15 minutes, after it has completely dried.

#### Spray Application of Instacoll

1. The surface must be clean, dry, free of dust, wax, oil and grease. A nonporous, sealed, smooth surface will produce the highest degree of gloss.
2. Like most water based size, Instacoll is best applied at moderate temperatures. Extreme temperatures, warm or cold, will effect flow out and leveling of the material.
3. Apply Instacoll using a high volume, low pressure spray unit.
4. Thin with 5-10% water to achieve a proper spray solution.
5. One spray application is sufficient on most non-porous surfaces.
6. The surface is ready for gilding in about 15-30 minutes, after it has completely dried. Sprayed surfaces take longer to dry due to increased film thickness and higher water content.

## Application of Leaf

1. Apply **Activator** to a surface area that may be gilded in about 15 minutes working time, after the Instacoll has dried completely.
2. **Activator** is best applied with a brush or cotton cloth. Wipe on thinly and uniformly.
3. **Activator** must be dry prior to applying the leaf or the leaf will be stained and dull.
4. **Activator** will dry to a transparent film in a few minutes and when dry it is ready for the application of leaf.
5. When moving to the next area ready for leaf application, wet the edge of the gilded area (about 1mm) when applying the **Activator**.
6. Patent leaf is easily applied by laying the leaf on the surface and rubbing the paper backing with a small piece of cotton. The leaf is pressed a second time with cotton without the paper to ensure uniform adhesion.
7. Ribbon leaf may be applied using a similar technique to patent leaf described above.
8. After the entire surface has been gilded, rub the surface with cotton to create a uniform gloss. Keep the cotton away from areas treated with the **Activator** but not yet covered with leaf.
9. Areas where the leaf has not adhered may be gilded by applying the **Activator** with a small brush, letting it dry and pressing leaf on the area.

---

**Instacoll** may also be used without **Activator** if the leaf is applied just as the size dries but is not yet cured.

**Activator** may be applied days after **Instacoll** has dried and may be used to repair surfaces weeks or months later.

**Instacoll** should not be applied over thermoplastic waterproofing coatings. These coatings soften in the sun and will cause the gilded surface to crack.

---

Store in closed container in a cool but frost free environment. Do not return unused solutions to the original containers.

Shelf life is one year from the time of purchase.

Protect from freezing.

Clean-up with soap and warm water.

Use in areas with adequate ventilation.