

PAINT ADDITIVES for FLAT PAINT RANGE

REDUCER ... PAINT THINNER (MEDIUM) ... RETARDANT

Genesis Creations™ Paint Additives are designed for use with our range of Flat Paints, and can be mixed into the Flats for Light Fabrics, Electrics, Metallics, and Flats for Dark Fabrics for a variety of effects. All additives are formulated on the cold cure base for compatibility with this paint range. They are not compatible with other fabric paints on the market.

Packaging: All three additives are packed in 36 ml bottles. Reducer is a thick product so has a nozzle and clear cap as for the other Flat paints. Paint Thinner and Retardant are liquid products, and must be stored upright. They are packaged with a flat cap, for economy. We recommend that you replace this flat cap with a dispenser cap when ready for use to enable you to use it by drops or pouring. Simply close the cap after use – grip the cap and turn the top section to open and close. Dispenser cap can be removed from this bottle and used on the next one when you replace that product. Additives are packaged with a purple box on the label, a white “A” in the box, and the product name in the box below it. Any of our products with a purple box on the label can be mixed with any of our other products with that purple box.

GUIDELINES for COLOUR MIXING and USE OF ADDITIVES

“Paint Base” Additive to Adjust Colour | Additives to Adjust Paint Performance

Reducer

Thinner and Retardant

STEPS: 1. Mix your desired colour, using any of the Flat paints and Reducer as required.

2. Decide the way you want the paint to perform:

“Do I want the paint to be more runny?”	If yes, add Thinner
“Do I want the paint to take longer to dry?”	If yes, add Retardant

The following information will clarify the use of each of the Additives

REDUCER

Definition - Reducer is our Genesis Creations™ 'clear paint base'. You will notice that it is whitish in the bottle, but it will dry clear. All Genesis Creations™ Flat paints are formulated on this “clear white” base.

Working with Reducer allows us to create sheer, translucent colours from the Flat paint colours, particularly with the Flats for Light Fabrics, and Electrics. The colours created using Reducer are suitable for use on **white or light-coloured fabrics**, but will not show up on medium to dark fabrics. Always start with the Reducer in your palette first, then add the desired colour to it a little at a time until you reach the pale colour and translucence required.

Once you have created your pale colour, you can then add Thinners and / or Retardant as required for your painting project.

Mixing Reducer into the paints maintains the original viscosity of the paint – that is, Reducer changes the colour of the paint, not the thickness.

PAINT THINNER (formerly called “Painting Medium”)

Definition - a liquid additive to reduce the viscosity of the paint, without necessarily lessening the colour. (Thinner will make the paint more 'runny'.) The use of this also helps the paint bond better to some fabrics, important especially when painting on knit / stretch fabrics.

Start with the desired colour in your palette, and add Thinner to the paint to reach the desired working consistency. You can add up to equal quantities of Thinner to paint, and still maintain the original colour. This product is also formulated on the 'clear white' base. When adding Thinner, it is normal for your paint to take on a whitish or bluish tinge. That's quite OK. The paint will dry true to colour.

Genesis Creations™ Flat Paints are formulated to a 'creamy' consistency for great economy. By using the Thinner, you can **adjust the consistency** to that with which you, the fabric artist, prefer to work. As a guide, we recommend the following

- **Working on Knit Fabrics** - add a little (a few drops) to the paint for ease of application. In both roller and brushwork, the Thinner will assist the even flow of paint onto fabric.
- **On woven fabrics** - use of Thinner is a personal preference, depending on the consistency of paint with which you like to work when brushing. When using rollers, too much Thinner in the paint can make it very 'sloppy' and cause it to bleed in the fabric and under the edges of the stencil.
- **Specific Techniques benefiting from addition of Thinner** are the 'light coverage' or 'difficult to bond' techniques.

EXAMPLES of LIGHT COVERAGE TECHNIQUES:

LEAF PRINTING - add Thinner to paint in equal quantities.

IMAGE at R: leaf prints (Rose of Sharon) and finger prints for the grapes

SPATTER PAINTING - usually mixed in equal quantities of paint and Thinner, but the amount you add can vary a little with the specific paint being spattered, and the type of equipment being used for the task. A soft bristled nail brush will need less Thinner in the paint than a stiffer brush; also white paint to be spattered onto dark fabric will need less Thinner, for example. Add Thinner a little at a time until you establish an appropriate amount for your task.

SPONGING - up to equal quantities paint and Thinner, as above. If sponging onto dark fabrics it is important to increase the opacity of the colour first, using Flats for Dark Fabrics, or a mixture based on white, or the Metallic Flats.

SPECIALIST BRUSH TECHNIQUES – a high proportion of Thinner is required to achieve the flow of paint from brush. I suggest 7 to 10 parts Thinner to 1 part Paint.





RETARDANT

Definition - a liquid additive which **slows the drying time** of the paint. It can be added in proportions UP TO 1 part Retardant to 5 parts paint, to suit the drying time required for the painting technique. If too much Retardant is used, the paint may take on a 'lumpy' or gel like texture, making the paint difficult to apply so try NOT to add TOO MUCH Retardant to the paint! More is definitely not better !!!

Start with the desired colour paint or colour mix in your palette and add the appropriate amount of Retardant. Stir it in well. If the mix goes to gel, you may be able to correct it by adding more paint.

Use Retardant in techniques where you do not want the paint to dry too quickly! – that is where base paint must remain wet for blending, or you have a lengthy painting project ahead of you.

EXAMPLES: Advanced / detailed blending techniques, larger artworks, and painting tasks where you need to keep your rollers and brushes moist for longer

HANDY HINTS: (1) **BLENDING COLOURS:** In blended brush painting techniques, using Retardant keeps the colour 'open' longer, allowing for easier working and better accuracy of detail.

(2) **CLEANING EQUIPMENT:** The use of Retardant makes equipment easier to clean at the end of a lengthy painting task! For a long stencilling task, for example, it is not necessary to use Retardant for the painting process, but rollers and/or brushes, palette, and stencils will have had paint sitting on them for a long time and therefore benefit from the extra care the Retardant offers.

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IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER ...

Reducer lessens the **colour** of the paint.

Thinner lessens the **viscosity** (thickness) of the paint.

Retardant keeps the paint **wetter** for longer.

An *Imagene* Publication

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COVER DESIGN: Eucalypt Leaves
stencilled over 'mop-up' fabric

Genesis Creations™

Amazing Additives

for use with Flat Paints in Fabric Design

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