

Kolner Miniatum Application Instructions

Kölner Miniatum is perfect for those who wish to gild flexible surfaces. Whether it's gilding onto paper, parchment, leather, or any other flexible substrate. The elastic and flexible nature of the size ensures that it will not delaminate or separate from a page's surface if the page is turned. This product is perfect for those looking to illuminate manuscripts or pages, or are looking to add a decorative accent to calligraphy.

Preparation

For the finest, most reflective gilding we recommend the use of smooth, acid-free heavy-weight papers. If using more heavily textured papers this texture can show up in the gilding. Sometimes this is desired, but for the brightest finish smooth papers are preferred.

Ensure that the surface you wish to gild is clean and dry - for best possible results we recommend gilding onto a minimally absorbent surface. All porous surfaces should be tested for compatibility before gilding.

Application

Kölner is available in both Clear and Yellow, we recommend using Yellow when working with gold leaf as it gives the best base colour for rich gilding, and can help mask small faults in gilding.

The application of Kölner Miniatum can be done by brush or drawing pen. The best results are achieved when the size forms a slightly raised bead on the surface you intend to gild. Apply to the areas you wish to gild, then allow to dry.

Drying times vary based on temperature, humidity, and the thickness of the applied layer of Kölner Miniatum. The size should be left for a minimum of 3-5 hours, but longer drying times, such as leaving the size to dry overnight, will result in a more lustrous finish. This is possible thanks to the generous extended open time of the Miniatum.

Application of Leaf

We recommend the use of transfer leaf with Kölner Miniatum. Application of transfer leaf is as simple as pressing the gold down onto the sized surface and then rubbing the paper backing with a Kölner Instacoll Tissue. The process for fixing faults and holidays in the gilding is identical.

After laying all the leaf the gilded surfaces press down lightly over the gilding using an Instacoll Tissue. This will ensure all the leaf has properly adhered. It can then be "burnished" by gently polishing it in a single direction. This will bring out the true lustre of the finish.

Loose leaf can be used in place of transfer leaf, if doing so we recommend using old transfer paper from leaves of gold or glassine paper to protect the leaf while pressing it down onto the size.

Clean-up

Clean brushes thoroughly using soap and water.

