

# Paint Effects

## Colourwashing

Colourwashing is a decorative way of applying paint to break up the colour. A lighter colour base usually works best as it glows through the topcoat. Generally the best colour combinations are those that are close to each other in the colour spectrum. For example, creams through to yellow oxides, oxide based pinks through to oxide reds or greyed blues through to purple blues. Colourwashing may be done over a smooth wall or over a textured finish, such as Resene Sandtex, depending on the finish you are trying to achieve.



### You will need:

- 100-125mm brush
- Paint roller with a 9mm pile and a paint tray
- Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Kingfisher Blue
- Resene Paint Effects Medium
- Resene Sandtex textured finish tinted to Resene Kingfisher Blue
- Resene SpaceCote tinted to Resene Cove Grey

### Method:

1. Prepare walls as per the instructions on the paint container. Apply a basecoat of Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Kingfisher Blue and allow to dry. Apply Resene Sandtex tinted to Resene Kingfisher Blue by brush in a criss-foot (criss-cross) fashion or apply with a roller, covering an area about 1 metre square at a time and brushing out in a criss-cross pattern to add more movement to the finish.



2. Use the paint tray to mix your effects finish. It's easy to pick up a small amount of the effects finish on your brush from the tray.

Make sure you mix enough effects finish to finish the whole project. It's very difficult to mix the same colour twice! The recommended mix ratio is: 3 parts Resene Paint Effects Medium 1 part Resene Cove Grey 1 part water

Vary these if you wish but make sure you try out the result on a piece of card first.



Dip the brush in the effects finish about 5-10mm and tap on the tray to remove excess paint. Hold the brush on the ferrule with your fingers on top and thumb underneath. It is easier on your wrist and arms to use your whole upper body to apply the paint to the wall. Try to keep loose and relaxed. Start at the top of the wall and using very light strokes apply the wash in a criss-foot (criss-cross) fashion over the basecoat. Keep the edges soft so it will be easy to blend the next section in. Work in an s-shape down the wall so that you don't have a hard, straight edge building up.

### Tips:

For greater colour variation, do two successive coats of different colour, the first coat loose and uneven and the second coat the same way but soften with a dry brush or cloth. This technique also works well on a smooth or plastered wall.

Before you start your project, try different combinations and practice your application method on card until you are happy with the result. The translucent Paint Effects Medium glaze allows the background colour to show through the topcoats. You can vary the ratio of Paint Effects Medium to paint to change the effect – the more medium added the softer the colour will be.

Resene Sandtex may be tinted to a variety of colours. If the Resene Sandtex can't be tinted to the colour you have chosen, apply to the wall as instructed in Step 1 then roll two coats of your selected colour on top using Resene Lumbersider or Resene SpaceCote.

See the Resene website for more Paint Effects ideas – [www.resene.com/painteffects](http://www.resene.com/painteffects).

#### In New Zealand:

32-50 Vogel Street, Lower Hutt 5011,  
PO Box 38242, Lower Hutt 5045  
Call 0800 RESENE, visit [www.resene.co.nz](http://www.resene.co.nz)  
or email us at [advice@resene.co.nz](mailto:advice@resene.co.nz)

#### In Australia:

PO Box 924, Beenleigh, Qld 4207  
Call 1800 738 383, visit [www.resene.com.au](http://www.resene.com.au)  
or email us at [advice@resene.com.au](mailto:advice@resene.com.au)

Project by Janet Scard

Photography by Joseph Zou

# Resene

the paint the professionals use