Paint effects allow you the freedom to create a mood, create an ambiance or transform the mundane into something special. Some techniques also have the extremely practical benefit of disguising less than perfect surfaces. In fact, imperfections in the surface can be hidden behind the impact of the effect. Paint effects are used for durability giving peace of mind that the look you painstakingly create will not come unstuck or go out of style.

This brochure contains a small taste of the paint effects techniques commonly used. There are a wide variety of other paint effects techniques that you can use to achieve professional results.
**Sponging**

Creating a gently rounded or click-like effect with hammering colours.

*Sponging* is the technique of applying the paint to the surface using an applicator such as a foam or sponge.

Instructions:
- Apply a basecoat of your chosen colour to the surface you wish to sponged.
- Dip the sponge into the paint and dab it gently onto the surface.
- For a more textured effect, use a darker or lighter shade of the same colour and blend them together.
- For a more subtle effect, use a light sponge to apply the paint in a circular motion.

**Rag rolling/using fabric or fabric textured effects to conform to the surface of the wall**

Using fabric or other textured materials to create a unique effect on the surface of the wall.

Instructions:
- Choose a fabric or other material that complements the colour of the wall.
- Lay the fabric on the surface and press it into the wall using a roller or other tool.
- Adjust the texture by pulling the fabric in different directions to create a desired effect.
- For a more natural look, use a sponge to blend the texture into the wall.

**Colourwash with stipple effects and contrasting contours of dried colour**

Creating a textured effect by applying a mixture of colours and stippling them onto the surface.

Instructions:
- Mix a basecoat of your chosen colour with a contrasting colour.
- Use a stippling brush or a sponge to apply the mixture onto the surface.
- For a more textured effect, use a heavier stippling technique.
- For a smoother effect, use a lighter stippling technique.

**Linemask**

Using stencil colours to create contours and patterns on the wall.

Instructions:
- Choose a stencil design and trace it onto the wall.
- Apply a basecoat of your chosen colour to the wall.
- Use the stencil to mask off the areas where you want the linemask effect.
- Apply a contrasting colour to the masked off areas.
- Remove the stencil to reveal the linemask effect.

**Two-colour and two-style effects**

Adding another colour to your paint effect. This will add more depth and richness to your finish.

Instructions:
- Choose a basecolour and a contrasting colour.
- Apply the basecolour to the wall.
- Apply the contrasting colour to the same wall or to a different wall.
- Mix the two colours together to create a new effect.
- For a more textured effect, use a stippling brush or sponge.
- For a smoother effect, use a roller or squeegee.

**Touches of gold**

Adding gold or metallic effects to your paint finish.

Instructions:
- Choose a metallic or gold paint.
- Use a sponge or brush to apply the metallic effect to the wall.
- Mix the metallic paint with a basecoat to create a new effect.
- For a more textured effect, use a stippling brush or sponge.
- For a smoother effect, use a roller or squeegee.

**Examples of base colours and effects that you can achieve**

- Use a basecoat of your chosen colour and apply a contrasting colour to create a new effect.
- Mix the two colours together to create a new effect.
- Use a sponge or brush to apply the new effect to the wall.
- For a more textured effect, use a stippling brush or sponge.
- For a smoother effect, use a roller or squeegee.

**Notes**

- Always test the paint on a small area before applying it to the entire surface.
- Use a primer before applying the paint to ensure a smooth finish.
- Use a sealer to protect the paint from fading and wear.