

# **SCENES-N-NATURE®**

## **ROCK COLOR SYSTEM PIGMENTS NT6181**



**Black**

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

**For the best results, read all instructions before beginning.**

Rock Color System Pigments are designed to color plaster surfaces and rock castings. The basic painting technique provides a great starting point for creating realistic rocks. This technique involves diluting the Pigments with water to create various Color Washes. The various Color Washes are dabbed on plaster randomly then tied together with an overcoat of a Dominant Color Wash.

### **Plaster**

Plaster accepts coloring best when it is dry and porous. Plaster sets in minutes but can remain wet for hours or days. Allow shallow plaster applications to dry a minimum of 24 hours before coloring. For large, deep plaster applications, wait a minimum of 48 hours (or longer) before coloring. Wet plaster will feel cool to the touch. Dry plaster will be room temperature.

Avoid rubbing, smoothing or marring the plaster as this will close the plaster's pores and prevent Pigment absorption. Sealing plaster with adhesive will also prevent absorption and will require full-strength Pigments to color.

Pigment colors will lighten as they are absorbed by the plaster and dry. It may take a full day for the plaster to reach the final color.

Because porosity differs in plasters, there may be areas that do not accept washes and remain very light or white. Touch up these areas with a more concentrated form of Pigment.



## Basic Painting Technique

Follow the dilution suggestions to mix your Pigments. These suggestions are a starting point and create a light coloring. Adjust the ratio of Pigment to water for the desired color intensity. Add Pigment to make the color darker or add water to make it lighter. If the Color Wash is already on the plaster (and is still wet) mist with water to lighten.

### Color Wash Dilutions

**Primary Color Wash:** 1-part Pigment to 16-parts water (16:1 dilution ratio)

**Color Suggestions:** *Burnt Umber, Concrete, Stone Gray, White, Yellow Ocher, Slate Gray, Raw Umber*

**Dominant Color Wash:** 1-part Liquid Pigment to 32-parts water (32:1 dilution ratio)

**Color Suggestions:** *Burnt Umber, Stone Gray, Raw Umber, Slate Gray, Black*

### Application

1. Following the above dilution ratios, mix two Primary Color Washes (suggestion: Yellow Ocher and Burnt Umber) and a Dominant Color Wash (suggestion: Black or Slate Gray). We recommend starting with two different Primary colors, but when you feel comfortable with this basic technique, experiment with additional colors to find the perfect coloring for your project.
2. Using the Foam Brush, dab spots of the lightest Primary Color Wash randomly over 1/3 of the rock casting. Rinse Foam Brush and blot dry.
3. Dab spots of the next Primary Wash randomly over a different 1/3 of the rock casting. Allow washes to run together naturally. Or, layer colors over each other so they blend together. Burnt Umber or Stone Gray layered over Yellow Ocher are particularly good combinations. Rinse Foam Brush and blot dry.

**NOTE:** When using three Primary colors, apply each color over a different 1/4 of the rock face, leaving 1/4 of the casting white. Continue with this pattern, depending on the number of Color Washes.

4. Dab the Dominant Color Wash over the entire plaster surface to tie colors together. Let the Dominant Color Wash flow naturally into all cracks and crevices, so it blends with the two Primary Color Washes. Let dry completely.
5. When the Pigment is dry, seal the plaster with Habitat Adhesive™ (NF6099). Let the adhesive dry. If desired, apply another layer of the Dominant Color Wash over the entire rock to emphasize cracks and crevices. When dry, spray again with Habitat Adhesive to seal colors on the plaster.





## Strata Lines and Spotted Rocks

Use a combination of full-strength Pigment and diluted Pigment to create distinct strata lines (sandstone) or spotted rocks (granite).

Start by brushing on the lightest Primary color (full-strength) in a distinct line, or dab it on for spots. Working quickly, brush or dab on the next, darker color in different areas of the rock. For strata, space the lines unevenly leaving bare plaster between some lines. Repeat with additional Primary colors, as desired. Then, immediately dab on the Dominant Color Wash so it covers the entire plaster surface. The effect is best when some of the Primary color is still wet on the surface so the Dominant Color Wash blends with it.

Example: For a sandstone rock effect, try painting on streaks of full-strength White, Concrete, Yellow Ocher, and Burnt Umber. Then dab on a Dominant Color Wash of Raw Umber (diluted 5:1) over the whole rock.

## Lightening the Color

Flood-spray the colored plaster with hot salt water (1 tsp salt in 6 fl oz hot water). Wait one minute and blot with a paper towel. Repeat if necessary.

## Change Color

Brush on a coat of White Pigment diluted with water (1:1). Let dry thoroughly. Recolor as desired.

## Color Lite Rock Debris (NT6193-NT6195)

Dilute preferred color of Pigment in a disposable cup. Add Lite Rock Debris (we recommend Natural) and soak until desired color is achieved. Place Lite Rock Debris on paper towels or newspaper to dry. If color is too dark, spray with water to lighten.



**CARE INFORMATION:** Clean up spills immediately with warm, soapy water. Product may stain certain fabrics and surfaces. Take care to cover project area and clothing appropriately.

Not suitable for children under 14 years! / Pas adapté aux enfants de moins de 14 ans! / No adecuado para niños menores de 14 años! / Nicht geeignet für Kinder unter 14!

Conforms to  
ASTM D4236

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