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Weathering Washes Tips and Directions

⚠️ WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Silica Crystalline (quartz), which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

Thank you for your purchase of Weathering Washes by Monroe Models. The following are several basic methods and approaches to using the powders and we are sure you will develop a few of your own methods along the way. For further instructions, there are currently many videos on YouTube by talented people using these powders.

A word of Caution:

These are adult hobby products and are intended for users over the age of 14.

THE LIQUID IN THE WASHES ARE **FLAMMABLE**. THEY CONTAIN ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL. DO NOT PLACE THE LIQUID NEAR HEAT, SPARKS, OR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. DO NOT INHALE THE VAPOR. IT IS HARMFUL.

Please place paper towels under the model you are weathering to catch any excess and use an apron or wear clothes you would wear when painting. The coloring could stain your clothing. Disposable rubber gloves and a respirator mask are strongly recommended. All coloring can be washed from your hands with soap and water.

Getting Started:

These washes are intended to make rolling stock, buildings, vehicles, and detailed models look old, dirty, rusty, faded, and generally worse for wear after being exposed to the elements of weather, travel, pollution, and mechanical wear and tear.

Experiment with the colors: they can be blended together just like paint to get new colors. If you apply the coloring to a model and do not seal it, you can remove the coloring with a damp cloth and start over.

Rust:

Rust occurs when steel or iron is exposed to the weather and a chemical reaction takes place called oxidation. The rust may occur as a general overall discoloration on the surface that starts as a light, more orangish color (#980 New Fresh Rust or #973 Light Rust). As rust itself is exposed to the weather it progressively becomes darker in color (#979 Dark Rust). Therefore, several shades of rust on the same railcar are appropriate. Study photos of real life subjects to get ideas for the effects of rust. Using a fairly stiff artist brush or a cosmetic sponge begin by holding a rail car upside down and applying the wash to the side of the car and letting it run down the side, it will run into the cracks and crevices. After a rust spot occurs rust will wash down either side of a railcar so put some near the top and draw down the side of the car to simulate rust washed down from the effects of rain and gravity. Randomly use a second color of rust to highlight other areas or put a bit right over some of the previously applied rust. Rust is normally not one color. Apply the washes to the roof walks, door guides, wheel, trucks, etc.

Dust and Dirt:

Dust and dirt usually start at the bottom of the railcar and work their way up from the wind currents created from traveling down the track. Therefore, the gray and earthen colors may be applied near the bottom edge of the cars and streaked upwards. Study photos of real life subjects to get ideas for the effects of dust and dirt. Concentrate more color near the ends of the car. The same applies to buildings, a bit of black or rust on smokestacks, vents, etc. will enhance the look of ageing.

A note on Quick Age: This product can be applied to plastic, plaster, metal and wood surfaces to instantly make them look weathered, dirty and old. It works particularly well to make new wood look old and weathered.

Sealing the Powders:

When you get a model weathered the way you want it, you may want to seal it with Testors, Dull-Cote spray or Krylon, Acrylic Crystal Clear, this will permanently attach the powder and reduce the chances of it rubbing off. Wait until the model surface is completely dry before applying a clear spray.