



# FolkArt® Ultra Dye™

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye is a non-toxic, polymer based brush-on dye that easily brushes onto most porous, unfinished surfaces creating bright, bold, vibrant color statements with beautiful long-lasting results while allowing natural wood grain to show through. When dry, FolkArt Ultra Dye will not dry rub off like traditional dyes that have been applied to unfinished wood surfaces. Furthermore, FolkArt Ultra Dye will not chip or peel with wear.

### **How are FolkArt Ultra Dye Brushes different from other brushes?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye brushes are manufactured with soft, black Taklon bristles which are perfect for smooth applications of FolkArt Ultra Dye. FolkArt Ultra Dye brushes are available in a package containing one 1" and one 1 ½" Flat Brush along with two pair of plastic gloves.

### **On what types of surfaces can I use FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye is best used as a brush-on dye on any porous surface such as unfinished wood, non-sealed baskets, burlap and most unfinished natural fibers.

### **How should I prepare my surfaces before dyeing with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

- **Wood** – FolkArt Ultra Dye is best applied directly to the unfinished, raw wood. The only preparation to the unfinished wood, would be to sand any rough areas using a medium-to-fine grit sandpaper. Wipe with a tack cloth to remove sanding dust.
- **Wicker, Hemp, Reed Baskets** – These surfaces **MUST** be uncoated and non-sealed to properly accept FolkArt Ultra Dye. (NOTE: Be sure to test a small area to make sure the surface is free of any finishes.) Prepare these non-finished surfaces by wiping with a damp cloth to remove all dust particles.
- **Fabric** – FolkArt Ultra Dye can be used on natural fabrics for decorative purposes **ONLY**. Fabric items such as: pillows, curtains, hand woven cotton rugs or framed fabric artwork that will not be laundered can be used. Because FolkArt Ultra Dye is a water soluble dye, it may reactivate when fabrics become wet. It is not recommended for use on rugs or materials that come into regular contact with water.

### **Can I mix two FolkArt Ultra Dye colors to achieve a new color or different value of the same color?**

Yes, FolkArt Ultra Dye is available in 14 high-chroma, intense colors that are intermixable to create custom colors which can match any home decor project or fit any decorating occasion. To mix

small amounts of color at a time, simply pour a small amount of the lighter color into a mixing bowl and add small quantities of the darker color until the desired color is achieved.

**What supplies should I have on hand when working with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

You should have your prepared project surface, desired shade of FolkArt Ultra Dye, FolkArt Ultra Dye Brushes, plastic gloves, paper towels, craft knife and foam bowls. Protecting your work surface with a sheet of plastic or an old vinyl tablecloth is also recommended. It is also a good idea to wear a protective apron or old clothing.

**Do I need to mix the FolkArt Ultra Dye before use?**

Yes, before use you should shake the FolkArt Ultra Dye bottle to ensure the dye is fully incorporated.

**How do I properly load my dye brush with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

Load your FolkArt Ultra Dye brush by dipping into the prepared bowl of dye, wipe the bristles along the inside of the bowl to remove excess dye drips.

**What is the best method used to apply FolkArt Ultra Dye to my unfinished surface?**

When brushing on the dye, use a long, sweeping motion to evenly distribute the color rather than many short choppy strokes which can create dye splatters. Allow the dye to penetrate the surface, then wipe off excess dye with a soft paper towel. If desired, repeat the dye application to achieve a more intense value.

**How much coverage can I expect from an 8 fl. oz. bottle of FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

One bottle of FolkArt Ultra Dye will cover approximately 16 square feet of surface.

**What is the dry/cure time when creating with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

Depending on exactly how porous your project surface is, how much dye is applied and how humid your work area is, FolkArt Ultra Dye can dry to the touch within 15 minutes to an hour. It will take approximately 24 hours before it is totally cured to the surface.

**Can I create any special effects with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

Yes, FolkArt Ultra Dye can be used to create a one-color Ombre effect or when using two colors, you can easily create a blended dye look. FolkArt Ultra Dye can also be used beautifully with stencils on unfinished wood.

**What is the best stenciling technique to use when stenciling with FolkArt Ultra Dye?**

When stenciling with FolkArt Ultra Dye, it is best to use a dry brush technique. Make sure your stencil brush is properly loaded and excess dye has been removed. Stencils can be taped or held in place. Hold the stencil brush vertically, keeping the flat portion of the bristles flat to the unfinished surface, touch the stencil and begin stenciling using a circular motion clockwise then counter clockwise. NOTE: It is best to begin at the outer edges of the stencil design working toward the center. When stenciling two colors side by side you will notice how easily the two colors can be blended to achieve the desired hand painted look.

**How do I clean FolkArt Ultra Dye from of my brushes and stencils?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye can be easily cleaned from used dye and stencil brushes while the bristles are still wet using soap and warm water. Wipe used stencils with paper towels or baby wipes immediately after each use.

**Will FolkArt Ultra Dye stain my clothing?**

Yes, FolkArt Ultra Dye may permanently dye clothing. It is suggested that while creating with FolkArt Ultra Dye, wear old or protective clothing as well as plastic gloves.

**Should I seal my FolkArt Ultra Dye project after it is dry?**

For added protection, it is recommended to seal a FolkArt Ultra Dye project. A project created using only one color should be sealed with one brush-on application of FolkArt Ultra Dye Satin Varnish. A multi-color or stenciled project created using FolkArt Ultra Dye should be sealed with a couple light applications of a clear acrylic spray sealer.

**How should I apply FolkArt Ultra Dye Satin Varnish?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye Varnish is a water-based, non-toxic varnish that is easily cleaned up with soap and water. Lightly brush the varnish over the cured, dyed surface and do not overwork which can cause bleeding. NOTE: To maintain crisp color edges when stenciling, it is advisable to lightly spray seal the project first before brushing on the varnish.

**How do I clean FolkArt Ultra Dye Satin Varnish from my brush applicator?**

FolkArt Ultra Dye Varnish can be easily cleaned from the brush applicator while the bristles are still wet using soap and warm water.

**Can I use a project created with FolkArt Ultra Dye outdoors?**

No, FolkArt Ultra Dye should only be used on indoor surfaces.

**How should I clean my FolkArt Ultra Dye project?**

Projects created using FolkArt Ultra Dye can be wiped clean to remove dust using a slightly damp paper towel once they have been sealed.