

The brush application of waterborne and solvent borne materials requires different techniques, mainly due to the shorter drying times of waterborne coatings and their reduced flow.

Most of the application principles which apply to waterborne materials also apply to solvent borne coatings, but the application tolerance of waterborne coatings is lower and they are less forgiving of abuse. However, the benefits of very low solvent levels, rapid drying and good durability, due to the flexibility of the dry coating, far outweigh the application differences which are easily overcome by experience and following a few simple steps.

Use a good quality long haired synthetic brush; a short haired or worn brush may leave lines in the dry coating film. Prior to application thoroughly wet the brush with water, ensuring that the base of the bristles (the heel of the brush) is fully wetted.

A variety of brushes are now readily available which are specifically made for the application of waterborne coatings. The bristles are generally manufactured from synthetic materials.

For the best results a three stage application technique should be developed:

1. Load the coating generously onto the substrate and disperse over the surface.
2. Even out the coating with light diagonal cross strokes ... DO NOT OVERBRUSH ... the coating will flow and level naturally.
3. Finish the application with light brush strokes in the direction of the grain.

With practice an even coat to be applied quickly. An even coating film is important for durability and also for appearance, particularly in the case of translucent wood stain.

Do not apply in extremes of temperature. The most suitable temperature range is between 5°C and 15°C. Humid conditions will prolong the "wet edge" time of the coating and warm windy conditions will reduce it. When possible avoid application in direct sunlight.

For brush cleaning, wash out brush with a mild detergent solution and rinse with clean water.