

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METHOD OF IMITATING LEATHER BY PAINT PROCESS.

No Drawing.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERVIN GAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Taft, in the county of Kern and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Methods of Imitating Leather by Paint Processes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the art of decorating and has for its object to provide an improved method of imitating leather by paint process.

In my invention, I prepare a pigment for an undercoat or background which may be of any desired base color or tint or shade, and this base or undercoat color I prepare of equal portions of lead and turpentine, using colors in oil for coloring the same. This will form a flat paint for the undercoat color. If a light yellow undercoat or background is desired, for example, chrome yellow will form the coloring medium. If black is desired for a background, any suitable black base or prepared flat black may be employed.

Another or "printing" coat is made substantially the same, excepting that less turpentine is employed and enough cottonseed oil, coal oil or kerosene is used to retard drying, since it is desirable that the outer or "printing" coat not dry too rapidly since this would prevent the successful finishing of a large panel.

The first or undercoat paint is applied on the surface to be dried and is permitted to thoroughly dry, after which it is sandpapered. If desired or necessary, according to the character of the material to which the coat is applied, two undercoats may be applied, each being sanded smooth when dry.

Following the sanding of the undercoat or coats the outer or printing coat is then applied with a brush and this is "printed" while still wet. The "printing" may be done with either silk or burlap cloth, or a good fiber paper affords a very good print material. This "printing" consists of employing a handful of the cloth or paper which is pressed against the printing coat while this is wet and then the printing medium is pulled away and applied to another zone with the edges of the zones overlap-

ping so as to insure a complete "printing" effect throughout the panel or area. After the thus treated surface has dried it is smoothed by sanding.

Following this step the surface is varnished either by a standard flat varnish or if desired by a varnish which may be prepared by heating the varnish and mixing with it enough wax to secure a flat finish, this mixture being strained.

A desirable finish may be obtained by using a first-class body varnish and then applying a mixture of pumice of water or pumice of oil on pads to take off any high gloss. A very satisfactory surface is obtained in eggshell or flat paint finishes, these being well known trade materials. It is understood that the finish can be made in any color of leather desired.

The finish produced by the above method and materials is found to be extremely durable and practical and is so realistic as to require a very close examination to tell from genuine leather.

It is understood, of course, that in preparing the ground or undercoat the lead and turpentine may be varied somewhat in their proportions, according to the nature of the surface to be coated.

It is understood that where it is desired to give an imitation leather coat to bodies having a dark or black surface finish, my initial undercoat would be omitted and the process would be carried out by applying the printing coat onto the original dark or black finish.

The important feature of the invention is in the production of a finish coat which will appear to stand in ridges simulating natural leather surface, and this is accomplished by the character of the printing coat and the so-called "printing" step by the application of a material held in the hand and which is pliant and therefore will, at every application, change its zone of impression or effective imprinting outlines and avoid symmetrical line patterns which result when any rubber or other stamp means is used. The printing material, as above stated, may consist of a hank of cloth or other suitable pliant material which can be frequently changed in its position in the hand to produce constantly varying imprint lines.

Further embodiments, modifications and variations may be resorted to within the principle of the invention.

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. The method of producing imitation leather finish on surfaces comprising, applying a coat of paint to the surfaces to be finished, permitting the same to dry, applying a "printing" coat of slow drying paint, 10 and applying to the "printing" coat while still wet, a folded flexible fibrous sheet to produce ridges simulating natural leather surface.

2. The method of producing imitation leather finish on surfaces comprising, ap- 15 plying a coating of paint to the surfaces to be finished, permitting the same to dry, treating the coat to produce a dull surface, applying a "printing" coat of slow drying paint and printing on the "printing" coat, 20 while still wet, ridges simulating natural leather surface by means of a folded flexible fibrous sheet.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

E. GAGE.