

SOPHISTICATED FINISHES

*Sophisticated finishes is a unique line
of Metallic Surfacing and
Patina Antiquing solutions.*



SOPHISTICATED FINISHES

Product Range



Copper

A liquid of pure ground copper. Create the look of genuine copper or treat with an Antiquing Solution to oxidize into a beautiful green or blue verdigris finish.



Rose Gold

A rich, gold-coloured liquid metal. Produce a high quality metallic coating or treat with an Antiquing Solution to oxidize into a beautiful verdigris finish.



Blonde Bronze

A liquid of ground bronze that creates a light bronze metallic finish. Use a Patina Antiquing Solution to oxidize into a green or blue verdigris finish.



Rich Gold

A dark gold-coloured liquid metal. Create a high quality metallic coating or treat with a Patina Antiquing Solution to produce a beautiful verdigris finish.



Blackened Bronze

A liquid of ground bronze that creates a dark brown metallic finish. Treat with Patina Blue Antiquing Solution to oxidize into a dark blue verdigris finish.



Iron

Finely ground iron particles that create a textured gray surface. Oxidizes to a true rust finish with an application of Rust Antiquing Solution.



Statuary Green Bronze

Finely ground particles of bronze create a dark metallic finish with green overtones. Oxidize to a blue verdigris with Patina Blue Antiquing Solution.



Platinum

A vibrant liquid of finely ground metal particles that creates the warm look of platinum. Apply an Antiquing Solution to create a green or blue verdigris finish.



Gold

A lightly gold-coloured liquid metal. Use alone as a high quality metallic coating or treat with an Antiquing Solution to oxidize into a beautiful green or blue verdigris finish.



Steel

Genuine stainless steel particles produce a distinctive gray metallic finish. Ideal as a quality metallic coating.

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Pewter

A blend of metal particles that produces the warm gray look of pewter on any paintable surface.



Silver

A vibrant, silver-coloured liquid of ground aluminium particles produces an attractive metallic coating.



Silver Blue

A solution of finely ground aluminium particles, which creates a shimmering silver-blue colour and produces a soft but clearly metallic luster.



Cobalt Blue

A bold blue metallic coating using finely ground aluminium particles. Use alone as a distinctive finish or combine with other colours for unique effects.



Rust



Patina Blue



Patina Green



Black Tint



Burgundy Tint

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Reactivity Chart

The following Metallic Surfacers are reactive. That is, the metal flakes in the paint will oxidize when treated with one of our Antiquing Solutions. There is not much difference in the formula between the Patina Green Antiquing Solution and the Rust Antiquing Solution and as it is the metal that determines if you get a rust or patina finish you can safely use the Rust Antiquing Solution as a substitute for Patina Green should you be working with both Iron and the other reactive Metallic Surfacers. The Patina Blue Antiquing Solution produces a strong blue patina and is the patina of choice for the very dark Blackened Bronze and Statuary Green Bronze Metallic Surfacers.

The lighter patina green color on these dark metals frequently ends up looking somewhat gray or white (a look many like). Customers frequently ask if they can mix the Patina Antiquing Solutions together. The answer is that the color of the patina is directly related to the ph strength of the solution. Mixing patina green and patina blue together will result in a ph that is totally different from either of these two solutions making the resulting patina color and/or reaction difficult to predict. Customers have called to report great results and others have called with disappointing results.

Metallic Surfacers

Copper
Blonde Bronze
Blackened Bronze
Statuary Green Bronze
Gold
Rose Gold
Rich Gold
Iron
Platinum

Patina Solutions

Patina Green / Patina Blue
Patina Green
Patina Blue
Patina Blue
Patina Green / Patina Blue
Patina Green
Patina Green
Rust
Patina Green

Tint well?

No
Yes
No
No
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Tint Solutions

Burgundy Tint

Burgundy Tint
Burgundy Tint
Burgundy Tint

The following Metallic Surfacers are made with non-reactive metal flakes and will not oxidize.

Metallic Surfacers

Steel
Pewter
Silver
Silver Blue
Cobalt Blue

Patina Solutions

Non-Reactive
Non-Reactive
Non-Reactive
Non-Reactive
Non-Reactive

Tint well?

Yes
No
Yes
Yes

Tint Solutions

BlackTint/Burgundy Tint

Black Tint/Burgundy tint
Black Tint/BurgundyTint

Real Metal

Iron
Steel
Copper
Brass
Bronze

Patina Solutions

Rust
Rust
Patina Green or Patina Blue
Patina Green or Patina Blue
Patina Green or Patina Blue

Tint well?

No
No
No
No
No

Note: On real copper / brass / bronze we often find that the Rust Antiquing Solution which is slightly milder than the Patina Green Antiquing Solution produces a more predicable green patina than the patina solution. Frequently the green patina solution when applied to real copper/ brass / bronze can "burn" the surface and produce a brown or black patina rather than the desired green look.

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General Information

What you need to get started:

For most projects, we recommend a foam or otherwise inexpensive brush. The paints are naturally high levelling so they normally flatten out quite well for a smooth finish. If using a roller we suggest a very tight nap roller as thick rollers tend to grab and hold the metal flakes.

Patina Antiquing Solutions are highly corrosive. We do not recommend using expensive brushes or equipment to apply them as they will quickly eat away most metal.

For larger projects, you may use a sprayer. The products are non-toxic, but we recommend you spray in a well-ventilated area wearing a respirator, protective eyewear and gloves.

Metallic Surfacer require the widest tip available. You may find the Iron Metallic Surfer too chunky to successfully spray. For best results use an airless sprayer.

Patina Antiquing Solutions can also be machine sprayed but because of their natural corrosive properties they can quickly ruin expensive equipment and we do not recommend you use them in your sprayer. Plastic pump spray bottles are an effective way to apply the solution or small trigger spray bottles.

A disposable container to hold the Metallic Surfer or the Patina Antiquing Solution during application.

Helpful Hints

We strongly recommend testing before applying our finishes to any valuable object or when applying over a large surface for the first time.

Always pour a small amount of the Metallic Surfer or Antiquing Solutions into a separate container and dip your brush into this container to prevent contamination. Never dip your brush directly into the product bottle. Never pour unused material back into the bottle. If the Metallic Surfer becomes contaminated it can quickly oxidize in the bottle or can.

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- Try a variety of applicators such as brushes, rags, sponges, and sprayers to achieve desired look.
- Apply multiple Metallic Surfacer on one object for a beautiful tonal variation.
- Experiment with a variety of materials—plaster, cloth, paper, concrete, wood, wicker, glass—any paintable surface!

How to Prepare your Surface for Painting

1. Determine the type of primer required to prepare the surface you're working with for the Metallic Surfacer. Our Primer and Clear Sealer is a 100% acrylic sealer and works well on most surfaces from porous to slick. It is not, however, a rust inhibitive primer and will not prevent the appearance of rust on iron or steel surfaces. If you choose to use a solvent based primer be sure to let the primer fully cure for 24 to 48 hours as the vapours a curing solvent based primer give off will eat through the acrylic binder in our Metallic Surfacer.

If the surface is:	Such as	
Porous Cement	Plaster, Unpainted Wood	Priming suggested: Priming will reduce the consumption of the Metallic Surfacer but the paint will adhere quite well to these materials without priming.
Glossy / Slick	Plastic, Baked Enamel, Glass, PVC	Priming necessary: For some high gloss surfaces special primers or roughing of the surface with sandpaper may be required.
Non-Rustable Metal Copper	Brass, Bronze, Aluminium	Priming highly suggested: And for aluminium and galvanized metal special primers may be necessary. Typically aluminium and galvanized metal require a self-etching primer to cut through the slick surface for satisfactory adhesion.
Rustable Metal	Iron, Steel	If you intend to treat the Metallic Surfacer you apply to Iron or Steel with one of the Antiquing Solutions you must prime the Iron and Steel surfaces with a high quality rust inhibiting primer to prevent rust from erupting up through the paint. Pay close attention to weld joints. When using a solvent or spray can rust primer allow the primer to cure for a full 24 to 48 hours before applying the Metallic Surfacer.

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2. Thoroughly clean surface. Surfaces must be free of loose material, dirt, oil and grease.
3. Apply appropriate primer. Allow primer coat to allow to fully dry overnight. Do not use outdoors if freezing or wet weather is expected within 48 hours.

Applying Metallic Surfacer:

1. Prepare surfaces following the directions above.
2. Shake or stir product before applying to ensure metal particles are well distributed.
3. Apply first coat. Allow to air dry. 30 to 60 minutes under typical situations.
4. Apply additional coats as necessary to achieve desired results. (Most surfaces will require two coats for optimal results.)
5. If you are planning to use with the Patina Antiquing Solution, read application directions below. It is important to apply the antiquing solution to the Metallic Surfer before the final coat fully dries. (Except for the Iron Metallic Surfer)
6. If applying outdoors, do not use if freezing or wet weather is expected within 48 hours.
7. Clean up with water.

Note: Certain Metallic Surfacers work best with particular Patina Antiquing Solutions. Check our Reactivity Chart for suggestions.

Create a Beautiful Patina:

Create a Beautiful Patina on Copper, Gold or Bronze Metallic Surfacer

1. Check our Reactivity Chart to ensure the Metallic Surfer will react with Patina Antiquing Solution.
2. Apply over Metallic Surfacer when the second (or final) coat of Surfer is still tacky, generally within 3-15 minutes of application.

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3. For a deep, colourful patina, apply a heavy first coat.
4. For a lighter finish or if you are uncertain how much patina you want, apply a light first coat, allow to oxidize for a few hours, then apply a second coat.
5. If overnight little or no patina has developed, then the Metallic Surfacer was too dry when the Patina Antiquing Solution was applied. To reapply, clean the surface by lightly buffing or sanding the surface clean and begin the process again by applying a new coat of metallic surfacer applying the patina solution earlier.

Note:

☛ Generally apply the patina solution within 3-15 minutes of the last application of Metallic Surfacer.

☛ Consider environmental factors such as surface temperature, air temperature, humidity and air circulation when deciding how much time to allow between the Metallic Surfacer and the Patina Antiquing Solution.

☛ For a more dramatic and brighter patina, apply the Patina Antiquing Solution while the Metallic Surfacer is still very tacky (3-5 minutes).

☛ The Patina Antiquing solutions are very forgiving. If you have more patina than desired, simply reapply 1-2 thin coats of the Metallic Surfacer to absorb and mute the patina colours. Do not put your paint brush into your main source of paint while doing this as you risk triggering the oxidation of all your paint.

☛ We recommend using a clear sealer when the piece is exposed to water or comes in contact with people or clothing as the patina can flake or run off staining surrounding surfaces.

☛ Blackened Bronze reacts best with Patina Blue. Create beautiful aqua blue colours by applying the Patina Blue immediately after your final wet coat of Blackened Bronze. If you try to use Patina Green on Blackened Bronze you will not get a green patina colour, but instead will have a grey washed colour effect.

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Create a Beautiful Patina on Genuine Copper, Gold or Bronze Metal

1. Clean metal surface of loose debris, dirt, grease, oil, paint, lacquer or varnish. Many copper objects in particular are coated with lacquer to prevent any patina development, this can usually be removed with paint remover and/or steel wool. Some objects have a baked on clear finish that is virtually impossible to remove. If your "old" copper, brass or bronze metal is nice and shiny that is usually an indication that some sort of protective coating is on the surface.
2. Lightly buff the metal to scuff the surface. 0000 Steel Wool dipped in a mild TSP Solution and then rinsing the surface with clean water works well for removing most dirt and grease.
3. Test a small, discreet area before applying to entire piece.
4. If using Patina Blue directly on copper, brass or bronze, water down the solution by 40%.
5. Patina Green should not need to be watered down for direct use on copper, brass or bronze but if you get a brown or black patina or if the green patina that develops flakes off in large chunks try adding water to reduce the strength. You may dilute to 50% of full strength.
6. Apply several light coats or one heavier coat.
7. Allow the oxidation to work its magic. It can take up to 3 days for the full patina colour to develop.

Create Rust on Genuine Iron or Steel

1. Clean surface of loose debris, dirt, grease, oil, paint, lacquer or varnish. Mill scale on iron is always a concern and must be removed.
2. To produce deeper rust, lightly sand the metal to scuff the surface.
3. Apply a light coat of Rust Antiquing Solution.
4. Apply additional coats until you achieve the desired look.

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Frequently asked questions

What makes Sophisticated Finishes Metallic Surfacers different from paint?

Even though our Metallic Surfacers look and apply just like any water-based acrylic paint, they are very different in that they contain real metal not pigment or the mica flakes commonly used in other “metallic paints”. Rather, they are an ingenious blend of finely ground metal flakes (copper, bronze, iron, steel, aluminium) in an acrylic binder that creates the look and durability of a true metal surface. Once coated with our Iron Metallic Surfer for example a magnet will stick to the “painted” surface. They are all suitable for both interior and exterior use. The Iron, Copper, Bronze and Gold Metallic Surfacers are reactive. That is they can be oxidized with one of Antiquing Solutions to develop a rust or patina finish.

What kind of surfaces can I use Sophisticated Finishes Metallic Surfacers on?

Metallic Surfacers can be applied to virtually any paintable surface, including wood, masonry, plaster, metal, cloth, canvas, paper, plastic, glass, etc. If you can paint it, you can successfully apply a Metallic Surfer to it. As with any “painting” project proper surface preparation is 80% of having a successful outcome so make sure the surface is clean, dry and free of grease, oil or loose material from previous paint applications. Some surfaces such as aluminium or galvanized metal may require special surface preparation or primers specifically formulated for these materials.

Do I have to prime the surface?

Metallic Surfaces have excellent adhesion and priming is not necessary in many cases if the surface is in good condition and presents no unusual adhesion challenges. Highly absorbent surfaces such as concrete or plaster, if primed will absorb less of the Metallic Surfer, but technically do not need to be primed. Surfaces such as glass or plastic that are very slippery should always be primed. Some surfaces such as aluminium or galvanized metal may require special surface preparation or primers specifically formulated for these materials. If you are planning to use one of our Antiquing Solutions on a Metallic Surfer that is being applied to Iron or Steel the surface must be primed with a high quality rust inhibiting primer first. The Antiquing Solutions can work their way down through the Metallic Surfer and reach the iron or steel and produce rust that will erupt through the surface. If using a solvent base primer allow 24 to 48 hours of cure time before coating with the Metallic Surfer.

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I applied the Patina Antiquing Solution to real copper, brass or bronze and the surface turned black or brown not green. Or it turns green but flakes off in large pieces. What is wrong?

The Antiquing Solutions work by oxidizing the zinc that is found in these metals and is formulated for the percentage of zinc content in our Metallic Surfacers. In solid copper, brass or bronze surfaces the zinc content varies greatly and in some cases the Antiquing Solution "burns" the surface brown rather than slowly oxidizing into the desired green or blue patina. The solution to this problem is to re-clean the surface and apply a diluted version of the Antiquing Solution. You may have to dilute the solution by as much as 50% to 75% to find the correct strength. In some cases substituting our Rust Antiquing Solution proves to be a more reliable approach.

I applied the Patina Antiquing Solution to real copper, brass or bronze and no colour change at all took place.

The Patina Antiquing Solution is a mild acid that triggers and speeds up the natural oxidation of the metal. This process requires the metal to be clean and free of all protective coatings, grease, grime, fingerprints or any other substance that will prevent the acid from entering the pores of the metal and triggering the oxidation. When no colour change after the Antiquing Solution has been applied takes place the surface needs to be cleaned or a protective coating removed. For general grease and grime you may use any commercial metal cleaner or a mild solution of TSP gently applied with 0000 steel wool or a Scotch Brite Pad. If some type of lacquer finish has been applied you may have to use a paint remover or solvent to remove the finish. Some copper and brass objects have a baked on permanent type finish that cannot be removed. If the Patina Antiquing Solution is coming in contact with the metal it is virtually impossible for no chemical reaction to occur so when no change at all takes place cleaning or removing what ever is preventing the interaction between the solution and the metal surface should solve the problem.

I applied the Patina Antiquing Solution to one of the copper, gold or bronze Metallic Surfacers and no change in colour took place.

In order for the Patina Antiquing Solutions to oxidize the metal in Metallic Surfacers the final coat of Metallic Surfer must still be slightly wet to the touch. Once fully dry the acrylic binder seals off the metal flakes and the Patina Antiquing Solution will have little to no effect. Typically you have from 10 to 20 minutes of open time to apply the Patina Antiquing Solution but this will vary with temperature and how absorbent the surface is. On large project you should work in small segments or apply the Patina Antiquing Solution

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as you paint. A simple way to paint and antique large surfaces is to apply the Metallic Surfer with one hand and the Patina Antiquing Solution with the other as you move along the project.

I applied the Rust Antiquing Solution to the Iron Metallic Surfacers and no change in colour took place.

Unlike the Patina Solutions the Rust Antiquing Solution is applied to the Iron Metallic Surfer after the surface has dried, typically 8 to 10 hours. Apply the Rust Antiquing Solution to the still wet Iron Metallic Surfacers usually results in no colour change and letting the Iron Metallic Surfer "cure" beyond the recommended 8 to 10 hours also usually results in no colour change. The other most frequent reason for no colour change is that not enough of the Iron Metallic Surfer was applied. We suggest at least two thick coats and that the liquid be fully stirred to ensure that the chunks of iron are fully integrated into the paint.

I applied the Rust Antiquing Solution to a real iron or steel surface and no change in colour took place.

The metal surface must be clean and free of all dirt, grime, protective coatings and in the case of iron any mill scale. Wrought iron in particular usually has been painted and the Rust Antiquing Solution will not work on a surface with any sort of paint or sealer on it. The Rust Antiquing Solution is a mild acid that triggers the oxidation of the iron into rust and provided that it properly comes in contact with iron or steel will always trigger some type of colour change.

How do I get the patina just the right shade of green?

The patina that develops is the result of a very organic process. The colour is influenced by a wide range of environmental conditions including; temperature, humidity and air quality. The colour is also influenced by the amount of solution being applied and the method of application. Spraying or misting the solution on for example seems to slightly alter the pH of the acid and can impact the colour. The source and age of the metal also influences the patina colour. In short, it is virtually impossible to predictably obtain or consistently obtain any specific shade of patina. When consistent colour is wanted we recommend you treat all parts of the project in the same manner and time frame as possible.

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How do I get the rust finish just the right shade of brown when applying it to the Iron Metallic Surfacer?

The typical rust finish that develops following our standard instructions is usually a light to dark brown. Sometimes a yellow or orange type look will result. The rust finish that develops is the result of a very organic process. The colour is influenced by a wide range of environmental conditions including; temperature, humidity and air quality. The colour is also influenced by the amount of Iron Metallic Surfacer and the amount of Rust Antiquing Solution applied and the method of application. Spraying or misting the solution on for example seems to slightly alter the ph of the acid and can impact the colour. In short, it is virtually impossible to predictably obtain or consistently obtain any specific shade of rust. When consistent colour is wanted we recommend you treat all parts of the project in the same manner and time frame as possible. What in general we find is that if you apply the Rust Antiquing Solution to the Iron Metallic Surfacer sooner then the suggest 8 to 10 hours after applying the Iron Metallic Surfacer the more likely you be to get the yellow or orange colour. We suggest you make a test board with multiple small test areas of the Iron Metallic Surfacers and apply the Rust Antiquing Solution at timed intervals to see if you can find a dry time that produces the colour you desire.

Do I have to seal the Metallic Surfacer and/or Patina and Rust finish?

The Metallic Surfacers are totally weatherproof and exterior grade and do not have to be sealed. We suggest sealing if the finished surface is going to be subjected to frequent handling or contact or if extreme weather conditions are going to present. The Patina and Rust Finishes are also weather proof but you will experience rain run-off from them that can stain surrounding surfaces. You can seal the Patina finishes with our Clear Sealer or any high quality acrylic or solvent-based sealer (do not seal with a urethane or polyurethane sealer). You will see some modest change in appearance and testing the final look is always recommended. Sealing a rust finish will more dramatically alter the natural look of the finish and can change the appearance in what most feel is a very negative way. All sealers will impact the look of a rust finish to some extent but a very fine automotive grade solvent-based sealer seems to work the best. With both the Patina and Rust finishes you are trying to seal what is by definition an unstable and difficult surface. The most effective sealer solution we have found for those the most durable and stain-preventing sealer is to apply a two-part epoxy sealer. These are quite expensive and will change the appearance even more dramatically but are most effective at overcoming the problem of trying to adhere a sealer to the loose and powdery surface.

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Can I mix the Metallic Surfacer together?

Yes all of the Metallic Surfacers are compatible and can be mixed together. In fact, any high quality acrylic paint can be mixed with the Metallic Surfacers. Mixing the paints can alter the reactive nature of the coatings and change the colour and patina finish that develops when an Antiquing Solution is applied. A favourite look is to apply a thick coat of Iron Metallic Surfer and the “scrunch” other Metallic Surfacers such as Copper or Bronze into the iron surface. When you then apply one of the Antiquing Solutions the Iron will rust and the Copper or Bronze will turn green or blue creating a multi-colour look.

Are the Antiquing Solutions and Patina finishes hazardous?

The Antiquing Solutions are a mild acid and can cause irritation to the skin and eyes. In general they are considered consumer friendly and carry no special restrictions and require no special safety precautions other than the normal effort to keep the liquid out of the eyes and to avoid prolonged skin exposure. We do suggest that if you are spraying the Antiquing Solutions that you wear a mask to avoid breathing the vapours. The Patina that forms from the result of this process also contains salts and materials that you do not want to breath or come in contact with food. Rain run off in particular can lead to contamination of fish- ponds if a treated statute or object is placed near a pond or fountain. Any patina finish used on a kitchen surface should be sealed.

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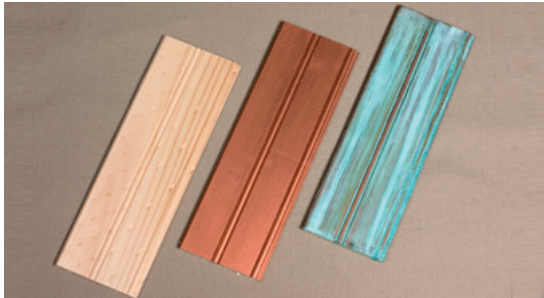
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Paper



Glass



Wood



Plaster



Plastic



Terracotta



Metal



Canvas