

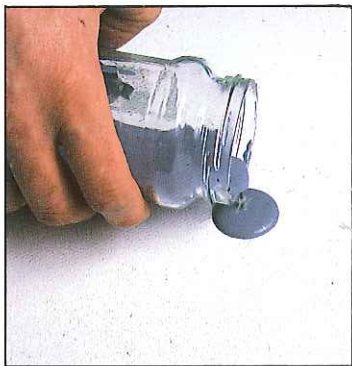
STAINING

In oil and acrylic painting, the canvas can, if desired, be "stained" with thinned pigment, as an alternative to using thicker, opaque color.

This approach is used when the artist wishes the weave or "tooth" of the canvas to remain an intrinsic element of the finished picture. Some artists, notably Morris Louis (1912-62), prefer to stain unprimed canvas, so that the color is actually absorbed by the canvas weave although unprimed canvas should not be used by oil painters.

Like GLAZING, staining can produce wonderfully transparent effects, the only difference being that a stain is applied directly onto the canvas, whereas a glaze is applied over an UNDERPAINTING.

Rowney's Flow Formula acrylic paints are especially good for staining large areas, and the addition of water tension breaker to the water helps to retain the intensity of the color.



Staining Raw Canvas • Oil, Acrylics

1 Mix the tube color to a thin, fluid consistency, using the appropriate medium. Pour the paint directly onto the canvas.



2 Work the color into the weave of the canvas, using a sponge.



3 You can aim for a completely smooth, even finish, or (as here) you can work the paint in different directions for a more rugged finish.