

ANTIQUÉ MIRROR PATINA SOLUTION INSTRUCTIONS

AMPS Industries Inc. does NOT guarantee any patterns of distress / tarnish or levels of distress / tarnish will or will not occur using its chemical products.

The chemical processes used allow for partial control of the antiquing process but also result random & sometimes chaotic patterns and levels of distress.

Many external variables can and will influence the process. You are using this product and process at your own risk.

- *AMPS Industries Inc is in no way responsible for the look of mirror treated with this process.*
- *AMPS Industries Inc guarantees that AMPS Mirror stripper will remove the paint from the back of recommended mirrors.*
- *AMPS Industries Inc guarantees that A.M.P.S. will create distress and tarnish on the exposed reflective surface of recommended mirrors.*

STEP 1. STRIP PAINTED COATING FROM BACK OF MIRROR WITH A.M.P.S. MIRROR STRIPPER

Mirror temperature must be above 70° f to effectively / completely strip painted coating.

If temps are cold, mirrors may be warmed with a thermal blanket, or heat lamp.

1-A: A.M.P.S. MIRROR STRIPPER APPLICATION

WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES, CLOTHING & EYEWARE WHILE USING AMPS MIRROR STRIPPER.
USE IN A WELL VENTILATED AREA.

- Place mirror on a non-abrasive surface, reflective side down / painted side up (grey painted side).
- ***Shake AMPS Mirror Stripper before use.***
- Roll oneven coat of ***AMPS Mirror Stripper*** directly onto mirrors painted surface.

- After 10 minutes, check on progress of paint stripper. Re-apply small amount to un-stripped areas.
- Allow AMPS Mirror Stripper to remain on painted surface for until paint curdle and releases.

1-B: PAINT REMOVAL

When painted coating has curdled completely, we recommend the following removal options.

1.) *Paper Removal Technique:* The paint may be removed with newsprint or butcher paper.

Spray light coat of AMPS Mirror stripper onto curdled paint surface. Press paper onto the curdled paint evenly over entire surface. The paint and residual paint remover will stick to the paper. Pulling the paper away will allow even removal of paint and residual stripper.

After paint is removed, reapply to any areas that might have been missed or have not stripped.

1-C: LEVELING OFF:

Spray a light coat of AMPS Mirror Stripper onto a heavy nap paint roller. Roll AMPS Mirror Stripper / paint roller over the exposed mirrors surface side to side and up and down, 2 passes each way.

Let the stripper sit for max of 1 - 2 minutes. (testing is recommended)

1-D RINSE OFF MIRROR:

Wash off the AMPS Mirror Stripper exposing the mirrored surface with water:

STEP 2. ANTIQUING PROCESS

2-A: WHAT IS ANTIQUE MIRROR PATINA SOLUTION

Antique Mirror Patina Solution or A.M.P.S. is a gel that when mixed with water makes a concentrated solution. This solution will tarnish and distress the exposed reflective coating on the back of mirror.

Because A.M.P.S is not acid, tarnish and distress patterns appear more gradually than with acid.

2-B: ANTIQUE MIRROR PATINA SOLUTION STRENGTH

• Stir or shake A.M.P.S. Gel well before each use. • Stronger (more concentrated) solution will produce darker levels of tarnish and distress • Weaker (less concentrated) solution will produce lighter levels of tarnish and distress.

AMPS is formulated to work in this strength for ALL Techniques.

- Mix 2 tablespoons of A.M.P.S. Gel per 48 fl oz of water to make **full strength** A.M.P.S.
- 48 fl oz of full strength A.M.P.S. will tarnish approx. 40 square feet of mirror surface.

NOTE: Diluting AMPS may or may not produce desirable results. Experimentation is encouraged but desirable results are not guaranteed.

STORAGE: Seal solution in a tightly sealed container and store in dark cool place.

2-C: APPLICATION METHODS of A.M.P.S.

Various patterns of distress and tarnish are possible using different methods of application. Creating patterns in mirror is also possible using stencils.

IMPORTANT: TEMP OF MIRROR & A.M.P.S. MUST BE KEPT AT A 70°F + FOR EFFECTIVE RESULTS. IF TEMPS ARE BELOW 70°F A.M.P.S. WILL BE INEFFECTIVE. The longer AMPS remains on the reflective coating, the darker the antique effect will become.

- Within 10 minutes after the application of A.M.P.S. onto the mirrors reflective coating, the treated surface will begin to darken. Tarnish patterns will begin to appear on front or reflective side (glass side) of mirror.
- Once desired level of tarnish and distress is achieved, wash A.M.P.S. off the reflective coating with water and stop the reaction.

2-C-1: WIPING TECHNIQUE:

- Dampen exposed silver reflective coating on back of mirror with water.
- Pour enough Full Strength A.M.P.S solution onto back of mirror to cover the entire surface. With a microfiber, distribute solution in one direction over entire surface.
- Continue wiping solution over reflective coating in same direction every 2 to 3 minutes.
- When distress and tarnish have progressed to the desired level, arrest reaction by washing solution off with water.
- Allow mirror to air-dry and seal with paint.

2-C-1: SATURATION TECHNIQUE

- Cover exposed reflective with a muslin cloth and saturate with water.
 - Smooth out wrinkles with a paint roller.
 - Pour **Saturation strength A.M.P.S.** onto cloth and distribute evenly with paint roller.
- Reflective coating will begin to darken, this change of color can be observed through the cloth. Observe transformation of tarnish and distress from front of mirror and when desired effect is achieved, remove cloth and wash A.M.P.S. away with water. This will stop the antiquing process. Saturation Technique will tarnish the reflective coating deeply and can remove areas of coating. This may be a desirable effect keeping in mind that paint color will show through these areas.

2-C-2: POUR TECHNIQUE:

- Pour full strength AMPS onto exposed mirrors surface. A.M.P.S. works faster if solution is hot (120°F). Re-apply AMPS if mirror surface appears to be getting dry. Observe the transformation of pour patterns from front side of mirror. When distress has progressed to the desired level, arrest chemical reaction by washing with water or wipe tarnish patterns away with a damp rag exposing clear glass patterns against remaining mirror surface. Allow surface to dry.

2-C-4: SPRAY TECHNIQUE:

Dry reflective surface with soft cloth or allow to air dry. With a spray bottle, spray A.M.P.S. onto back of mirror surface creating small dots or “foxing” patterns. Allow to air dry while observing transformation of tarnish and distress from front side of mirror. When the desired level of tarnish and distress is achieved, arrest chemical reaction by washing solution off with water or allow A.M.P.S. to remain on surface for 4/5 hours then wipe with damp cloth or paper towel exposing clear glass dots against the mirror surface then seal with paint.

2-D: FREEHAND DESIGNS WITH A.M.P.S. GEL

A.M.P.S. Gel may be used to create controlled freehand design & patterns in mirror. Shake or stir AMPS Gel well before each use. Using an artist’s paintbrush, apply a thin coating of AMPS Gel onto reflective coating in desired patterns.

STEP 3. COLOR & SEAL ANTIQUED MIRROR

3-A: COLORED EFFECTS

After the reflective coating has been treated with A.M.P.S., it may have areas where clear glass is exposed in the tarnish / distress patterns. The color of the tarnish and distress will be shades of rust / sepia and charcoal / gray. Note that the reflective coating is sheer, somewhat translucent and when degraded with A.M.P.S. the tarnish and distressed areas created have more translucencies. Some areas of heavier distress may be rubbed away with a damp cloth exposing clear glass against the lighter areas of distress in the mirror surface.

- The chosen color applied to seal the mirror will show through the sheer or clear areas and will affect the color tone of the tarnish.
- Various colors of powder mixed with shellac making a glaze may be applied as first coat.
- Two more coats of gray / black oil base paint applied over this first coat of shellac will seal the treated reflective coating well enough to block out mastic if the mirror is going to be applied to a wall or piece of furniture. *NOTE: SEE PAINT RECOMMENDATIONS*

3-B: GILDING

Clear Glass Patterns In Mirror: Apply oil or water based gold leaf size with a foam brush or velour roller and allow to “tack” / become aggressively sticky (at least 20 min). Leaf can then be applied in a solid (filled in) or distressed (broken spaces) manner. • Allow gilding to dry overnight before applying paint layers. • Mica powders can be used to “flash gild” the sized mirror surface for very interesting effects. After allowing the size to “tack”, use small stencil brushes to pick up the micas and stipple onto the sized areas. Always wear a protective mask when working with mica powders to avoid breathing in small airborne particles.

3-D: SEALING / PAINT RECOMMENDATIONS:

WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING COATINGS

- **Rustoleum** Oil Base Flat Enamel (spray, roll or brush)
- **Rustoleum** Hammered Spray Paint
- **Sherwin Williams** commercial grade flat oil base enamel. Kem Lustral F65 B50
- **Shellac** by Zinsser in Clear or Orange (spray, roll or brush).

MIRROR BASICS

- 1/8 inch or 1/4 mirror from local glass / mirror store recommended.

MIRRORS THAT WONT WORK

- Mirrors from crafts stores and home HOME DEPOT might not work with AMPS.
- Mirrors designed to be used in wet environments do not work with AMPS.

MIRRORS THAT WILL WORK

Before committing to a large mirror project we HIGHLY recommend that you first create a test sample using AMPS with your mirror of choice. • Brand names to ask for are Binswanger / ACI, Carolina and Virginia Mirror or Guardian. Mirror tiles from Lowes work (Stanley Brand) .

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND RECOMENDATIONS:

Read & follow all manufactures recommendations for use of A.M.P.S. Mirror Backing Paint Remover and Antique Mirror Patina Solution Gel / A.M.P.S. Gel is an alkaline and has a DOT rating of 2, a mild corrosive. Heating A.M.P.S. Gel in solution will accelerate patina process but will also produces odor and fumes. Avoid mixing with other chemicals, acids or alcohols. A.M.P.S. is not a carcinogen but may cause irritation to airway passages or skin. A.M.P.S. contains sulfates and individuals with other respiratory conditions such as asthma should avoid inhalation exposure to A.M.P.S. IF EXPOSED TO SKIN • Wash thoroughly with soap & water. IF SPLASHED IN EYES • Flush eyes with cold water for 15 minutes. IF SWALLOWED • A.M.P.S. - Induce vomiting and call physician immediately.

- Mirror Stripper - DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING! Drink 2 glasses of water and call physician immediately.