Product guide Step by Step



How to use

Old weathered wood

Different types of wood age differently and vary in color but eventually they all rot away. Most woods like Cedar or Pine will weather and turn a grayish silver color, and you can see this by looking at wooden picket fences. The same is true for things like pallets, planks, boxes and crates.

By Scratchmod



The first step is to apply wood colored primer, in this case we use the Surface Primer 70.606. This is applied with an airbrush using low pressure of 12-15 psi and in light even coats. Several coats may be needed depending on the material of the piece to be painted.



2 After allowing the primer to dry and cure we then apply a base wood color, here we start with 71.131 Concrete. This was applied in the same fashion as the surface primer and allowed to dry.



3 Using an index card to mask the individual boards we can vary the colors using 71.131 Concrete and 71.122 US Desert Armour 686 (Desert Tank) on the fence so as to add variation and avoiding a monotone appearance. We can spray the entire board or just the edges for character and to highlight them.



The next step is to highlight the edges of the boards as well as the wood grain. Here I start with Panzer Aces 315 Light Mud. The trick is to apply very small amounts of paint to the fine tipped brush, remove excess on a rag or paper towel. Paint the edges and grain by tilting the brush at a 45 degree angle, this way you will pick out the raised grain for a more natural look.



To bring out the colors we just applied a dark wash to the wood, here we use 73.201 Black Wash. I started by adding a drop or two of water to thin the wash and applied this in small amounts at a time, adding more here and there so as not to be too uniform.



In this step I went back and repeated step 4 but this time using Panzer Aces 345 Splinter Cam. Base. This is a lighter color than 345 and by applying this randomly to edges and raised grain we create more highlights.

Tip: Ad 1 drop of paint to 1 drop of water to thin the paint, and use this as a filter and apply randomly to create wood grain effects. Repeat this step and step 4 to vary the wood color.

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For wood that has been exposed to wet weather and particularly facing the North we can often find moss/algae growing on wood. To replicate the effects of nature I first thinned one drop of Model Color 70.967 Olive Green with tap water and applied this sparingly as a type of wash. Once dry I went back with un-thinned green, removed the excess on a paper towel, and applied the color randomly.



To replicate older moss/algae and dark weathering we can add the Model Color Olive Green 70.967 and Game Color 73.201 Black Wash and apply this similar to the previous step and focusing more toward the bottom of the fence.



This step can be done at any point after the base colors are applied, or used with the base colors. Here I decided to replicate areas of newer wood that has not yet aged as the rest of the wood. This was done as in previous steps and thinning with water, applying small amounts of 71.027 Light Brown in random areas.

The finished fence with one side in the aged wood color, and on the front side I added chipped white paint using Vallejo Chipping Medium and the 'hairspray technique'. More weathering effects can be created by repeating steps, darkening areas of wood grain with black wash un-thinned etc.

Colors used:

71.122 US Desert Armour 686 (Desert Tank) 71.027 Light Brown 71.131 Concrete 315 Light Mud 345 Splinter Camouflage Base 70.967 Olive Green 70.606 Gelbraun RAL8000 73.201 Black Wash