



## **COLORING SYSTEM PROCEDURE FOR THE FLEX BARK SYSTEM**

The coloring system for the Flex Bark system is somewhat a cross between a wood staining process and a faux finishing wall painting system. The procedure is as follows:

Step 1 – Base Coat process: The process begins by spraying with a simple spray cup gun (or rolling or brushing if equipment is not available) a coat of the color specified over the entire surface. The water base coating may require some minor thinning with water to provide a uniform wet coat (do not dry spray) over the entire surface.

See below for the base coat specified for you project.

Step 2 – Top Coat “Wash / Stain”: The key to this next step is to keep the coating wet so that it can be wiped off easily. There are 3 sub steps within this procedure:

- a) Using a spray bottle of water – mist the surface of an area that you can easily reach (such as an area that is 3ft by 3 ft square). When you are misting the area, you do not want to flood the area or have water heavily in the depressions of the texture – just mist it so that you can see a uniform gloss to the surface.
- b) Before spraying your top coat, you will need to thin the paint dramatically so that it is more like a thin stain or glaze (typically we recommend 1 pt of water per gallon – or when the paint is very fluid). You should use a spray gun or if in a pinch you can load the thinned coating in a hand pump spray bottle or a garden sprayer. You should spray a heavy coat of the thinned topcoat uniformly over the section of tree bark and make sure that it is covering the depressions of the bark.

See below for the topcoat specified for your project.

- c) Wiping the topcoat off – utilizing a soft cotton rag – your should immediately start wiping off the topcoat before it dries. In the process of wiping the paint off the surface there are a number of techniques to consider. First, depending on the texture of the bark you may need to vigorously wipe the surface hard – which will remover most of the paint off the immediate surface but leaves the paint in the depressions. If the texture is shallow, then a light wipe and or blotting action may be more appropriate.

The key end result desired is to leave the darker topcoat color in the depressions of the bark and to leave a portion of the topcoat on the immediate surface of the bark to provide the natural looking multi-toned appearance.

If there are any questions on this coloring procedure, please feel free to call Jerrod Jarboe or Rod Jarboe.

Paint System for BURNT UMBER color:

Behr Exterior Flat latex paint (Home Depot)

Base Coat: Burnt Almond

Top Coat: Dark Cavern