

CHROMA'S JO SONJA®

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND PAINTING AND BASECOATING

Thoroughly prepare your surface before painting. Proper surface preparation is **vital** important for proper adhesion of any paint and for long term durability.

REMEMBER:

How you prepare your surface today will directly affect how your piece stands up over time. Wood pieces should be sanded and sealed, metal surfaces should be free of oils and rust, then sealed and so on.

DO NOT USE A TACK CLOTH TO REMOVE SAWDUST OR DIRT!

PROBLEM:

Tack cloths usually contain oils which prevent acrylic paints from adhering properly.

SOLUTION:

Wipe the surface with a slightly dampened, lint-free cloth or rag. You can also simply dust off with a large, dry brush.

Apply paints to the surface using a soft fibred brush.

A small amount of Retarder may be added to your paints if more open time is required, such as when working two or more colours onto the surface or if the paint begins to dry too quickly.

ONE STEP BACKGROUNDING:

This is the simplest way to seal your piece and apply your basecoat colour(s) in one quick step. Simply mix desired colour with either All Purpose Sealer or Clear Glaze Medium (1:1) and apply in your normal manner. Apply the colour with criss-cross strokes to more evenly distribute the colour over a small area. Then smooth the area with a few strokes flowing in the same direction as the wood grain. Continue working around the surface in this manner until it is completely covered. Let dry thoroughly.

NOTES:

1. When using colours which are more transparent, use less All Purpose Sealer or Clear Glaze Medium in your mixture.

2. The addition of All Purpose Sealer to the paint tends to increase the gloss level of the paint.
3. All Purpose Sealer may raise the grain of certain woods. You may want to try the sealer on a sample piece of similar wood first. This can also **add** to the beauty of your piece.
4. Sealer may be brush mixed with the paints. You may notice slight surface irregularity but this will disappear when you varnish.
5. If you plan on placing your decorated piece outdoors without a final varnishing, use All Purpose Sealer with **all** your palette colours as well (mix 1:1 with each colour). The colours will remain the same for many years and the Sealer provides additional durability. Of course, if you prefer, you may varnish your finished piece. Our varnish has been used outside for over 11 years under many different conditions and is still in perfect condition. It is very tough.
6. As soon as the paint is dry to the touch, sand lightly and then proceed to decorate.
7. Maximum adhesion develops over time (the "cure time").

HEALTH NOTE:

Sanding produces a dust which, over a period of time, can exacerbate respiratory problems. Take appropriate precautions; use a dust mask and wear protective clothing when sanding. Using All Purpose Sealer first and then adding Sealer to your paints, sanding reduces the dustiness of the entire process. Sanding soon after the sealer is used produces eraser-like particles instead of dust. It's a little harder to sand this way, but the health benefits make this method more desirable. Scuff marks made by sanding will disappear when you apply your paints and final varnish.

PAINTING ON PAPER, CARDBOARD OR CANVAS:

It is best to prepare these surfaces with JO SONJA'S Acrylic Gesso or JO SONJA'S Texture Paste for a neutral coloured ground.

CARVERS:

Many wild fowl carvers and painters like to use a Gesso base coat. You can use one of JO SONJA'S new Gesso colours (white, black) and tint with JO SONJA paint to approximate the final colours of the bird.