

Mediums Guide

Atelier®
Interactive®
PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS' ACRYLIC

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Interactive Mediums



Fast Medium/Fixer

A low-viscosity medium that allows artists to paint rapidly. Layers dry fast and resilient, allowing quick paint progression. It can also be used to seal and reinforce a paint layer in preparation for scratch back, glazing or varnishing.



Slow Medium

Extends wet-in-wet blending time and is designed to be used in conjunction with a water sprayer. It will tack up quite quickly but is very easily made workable again with the water sprayer. It is preferable to use a water sprayer to extend blending time rather than adding more medium, because if too much medium is added the paint will become tacky.



Thick Slow Medium

Works in the same way as the more fluid Slow Medium, but with its more paint-like consistency it can be used for spreading and diluting paint without making it too thin or runny.



Unlocking Formula

Allows artists to reopen Atelier Interactive even after it is touch-dry. Once the paint is reopened, new paint can be blended back in, existing paint edges can be feathered or whole sections can be removed with a rag to reveal underlayers. Spray apply using the Atelier Fine Mist Water Sprayer.

With an assortment of Atelier Mediums, ranging from traditional acrylic mediums and texture gels, to specifically designed Interactive mediums, artists are now free to explore the techniques they want in their paintings. Whether it's translucent glazes, glossy finishes, exaggerated texture, or soft, subtle wet-in-wet blending, there is an Atelier Medium that can help acrylic artists achieve incredible effects.

Atelier Interactive Artists' Acrylic paints are professional and lightfast, with a creamy, buttery consistency that dries to a satin finish. Available in 75 colors, it comes in 80ml tubes, as well as 250ml jars and liters. Atelier Interactive offers artists more:

- More paint in the tube — 80ml Interactive tube vs. 60ml competitors' tube
- More value for the money — purchasing three Interactive tubes is like getting a tube for free
- More painting options — explore standard wet-over-dry acrylic painting techniques, mix with other acrylics or explore wet-in-wet painting techniques, if desired. **It's your choice!**

Atelier Interactive allows artists to break the boundaries of the acrylic painting because only Atelier Interactive allows artists to exploit all the advantages of a conventional acrylic, plus explore new wet-in-wet blending and layering techniques. If artists want to blend, they can rehydrate their Atelier Interactive painting by using a Fine Mist Water Sprayer or wet their brush as they paint even if the painting is touch dry. Hours or days later, they can use the Unlocking Formula to take advantage of this property of getting back into dry layers for blending or other new techniques.



CHROMA AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.
MT KURING-GAI
NSW 2080, AUSTRALIA

CHROMA, INC. USA
205 BUCKY DRIVE
LITITZ, PA 17543
TEL: 00 1717 626 8866

CHROMA EUROPE LTD.
BOLTON, BL1 9RL, U.K.

www.chromaonline.com



Chroma's Guide to Grounds & Mediums



Keith Kimmel - The Curious Mistake of That Girl May God Bless Her and Her Little Boy

Surface Prep

Surface Preps are products used to prepare a surface for painting. Effective grounds should have good adhesion to the painting surface. They should be flexible, have suitable "tooth" for overpainting and create a good sealing barrier between the painting surface and subsequent layers of paint. Compatible with all good quality acrylic paints.



Gesso

A flexible acrylic ground with a high grit content designed to provide a stable white surface on which to paint. Provides a highly satisfying ground. Use directly from the container for all over thick textural effects.



Fluid Gesso

A thinner consistency than Gesso. Spreads very easy for a smoother painting surface.



Binder Medium

A water-based acrylic emulsion, which can be used straight from the bottle or thinned with water 1:1 to seal most surfaces. Mix with paint to dilute color without losing intensity. Use neat between dry paint layers to seal or mix with Atelier Interactive for fast drying acrylic techniques. Can also be used as a glue for collage.

Acrylic Mediums

Atelier Mediums are made from the highest quality acrylic polymers and binders. They are compatible with all good quality acrylics. Atelier Interactive can be used for standard acrylic painting techniques or kept open for longer blending time without the use of any special mediums - all you really need is water. However, mediums can greatly enhance the versatility of the paint, making some techniques much easier, enjoyable and successful. The following traditional mediums can be used for standard acrylic painting techniques.



Retarder

A paint additive designed to slow down the drying time of acrylic paint. It may be added to other Atelier mediums to increase open time. Note: Retarder does not contain a binding agent, so to avoid creating an unstable mixture, it is recommended to mix no more than 10% with acrylic paints.



Acrylic Glazing Liquid

A low-viscosity medium perfect for creating translucent glazes. Slightly extends open time and is waterproof when dry. Mix with paint for added translucency with a rich oil-like gloss sheen. Promotes flow and levelling.



Gloss, Matte & Satin Medium

General purpose mid-viscosity mediums that add translucency and adjust gloss levels. Ideal for glazing and extending colors. Promotes flow and leveling. Can be mixed with the paint as a medium or used to seal a paint layer before overpainting.



Clear Painting Medium

A mid-viscosity medium that allows paint to be diluted smoothly for glazing and blending techniques without altering sheen level. It has a high water content and will allow Atelier Interactive to remain workable for longer without the need to use a water sprayer.



Regular Gel (Gloss & Matte)

An acrylic gel with a smooth buttery consistency. Use as a paint extender to adjust gloss and transparency without altering consistency. Mix with paint to increase body or apply directly on top of paint layer for a transparent textural effect. Holds moderate peaks and texture for impasto effects. Ideal for glazing. Milky color becomes transparent when dry.



Heavy Gel (Gloss & Matte)

A thick, fast drying, water-based acrylic gel, designed to exaggerate structure and sharpen textural edges of the paint. It can be used as a very strong adhesive for bonding heavy objects. Can be mixed with the paint, overpainted once dry or applied on top of a paint layer for a transparent textural effect.



Molding Paste

A very thick and textural paste made from calcite grit. It has the same flexibility as the paint and is used to create strong textural interest at any stage in a painting's process. Dries neutral and can be mixed with the paint to produce a colored ground, or overpainted once dry.



Acrylic Brush Cleaner

Use to clean and restore all brushes to their prime condition.

Varnishes

Final Varnishes are used for protection of the completed painting and to adjust the surface quality of the paint. If your painting is too shiny or matte, you can correct the surface by choosing the appropriate varnish. Compatible with all good quality acrylic paints.



Gloss, Matte & Satin Varnish

Creamy mid-viscosity products made from hard acrylic emulsion. Can be used as a varnish for Atelier Interactive and other traditional acrylic paints. To use as a varnish over an Interactive painting, seal painting with 2 coats of Fast Medium/Fixer or Binder Medium before varnishing. Varnishes are non-removable, however, they can be overpainted. The acrylic varnish may be mixed with acrylics as a low-viscosity medium to change the sheen levels or to dilute for glazing. Atelier Interactive will dry fast and waterproof if used in this way.

Fine Mist Water Sprayer



Though technically not a medium, the water sprayer can be a very powerful tool, allowing artists to control the drying speed of their paint. When you need more time for wet blending, a light misting of water can keep Atelier Interactive wet for as long as you like. To use a water sprayer successfully, follow these simple instructions.

What kind of sprayer? The sprayer must deliver a FINE mist of water. We recommend the Atelier Fine Mist Water Sprayer. Note: For larger works, you may need a larger sprayer. Be sure to get one that delivers a fine mist of water and not a jet of heavy droplets.

When to spray? As the paint starts to dry you will feel your brush begin to drag. This means it is time to spray if you want to keep the paint wet and workable.

How to spray? Hold the bottle back about 10 to 12 inches from the painting and lightly mist the area you want to keep wet. The water droplets should not physically disturb the painting surface; if you are getting large droplets or big dribbles then you are spraying too much.

What if the paint won't rewet? After the paint has just dried it can still be reactivated with water but after about an hour, depending on climate and paint thickness, you will need to use Unlocking Formula in your water sprayer to rewet the paint.

NOTE: All listed products are offered in 8 oz., 16 oz. and 32 oz. containers except for Acrylic Brush Cleaner (16 oz., 32 oz.), Retarder (8 oz., 16 oz.) and the Fine Mist Water Sprayer (8 oz.).