**PRODUCT DATA SHEETS**

**Chalk: French Chalk, Talc & Whiting**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>These mineral powders all have many different uses but are popular within the antique trade as either lubricants and stain removers or ingredients in the gilding process.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Product Codes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Product</strong></td>
<td><strong>Product code</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Chalk</td>
<td>278997600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talc</td>
<td>278997620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiting</td>
<td>278997625</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Technical Data**

**Whiting**

Whiting, otherwise known as calcium carbonate is used in the antique trade for gilding. It is used to make gesso (Rabbit Skin Glue & Whiting), as it is resistant to slumping so creates a good base, it can also be used a filler. Whiting is a main ingredient in ‘compo’ which is used by restorers and conservers as a quick way to replace missing parts from carved pieces as it can be cut, shaped and carved easily.

**French Chalk & Talc**

They can be used in much the same way, but in terms of the antique trade they are mainly used as a filler, lubricant or easy stain remover. It does not have quite the same properties as Whiting, so is not suitable in the making of gesso.

**Application**

**Whiting**

To make gesso, you first need to prepare the rabbit skin glue (238999212). Decant some rabbit skin pearls into a container, then add some water (1 part rabbit skin pearls to 10 parts water) leave this to soak overnight, the pearls will have expanded but not dissolved. Add a further 5 parts water, heat this over a bain-marie, stirring to create a smooth glue, do not allow to boil as this will destroy the proteins in the glue rendering it useless.

You can then mix the Whiting in to make the gesso, the viscosity is dependent on the ratio of glue to whiting, however as gesso is built up by applying many thin layers it should be low viscosity. Using a fine squirrel hair brush (size dependent on application area) it can be applied and lightly abraded or carved in between layers in preparation for the application of bole/clay or paint.

To make compo, decant 100g Rosin (308998707) which will need to crushed using a pestle and mortar to make a fine powder. Mix this with 80g of Raw Linseed Oil (097799150) and then mix this into 200g warm hide or rabbit skin glue. In a bowl, mix this solution with 600g-700g of whiting, using a wooden spoon to stir until cool enough to handle, lubricate hands using a dusting of talc and work the compo as
you would bread dough until combined. This can then be used or frozen alongside left-over rabbit skin glue for use later. Rabbit skin glue can be reheated using a baby bottle warmer or bain-marie and compo can be reheated by placing it on a stretched piece of mutton cloth over a pan of simmering water.

French Chalk & Talc

Mix French Chalk or Talc with Linseed oil to make a filler, with no colour added it should dry translucent, if coloured filler is needed, pigment can be added.

To make a stain remover (naturally occurring, food etc) for polished or bare wood surfaces, mix French Chalk or Talc with Methylated Spirits (098020741) to make a paste. Spread this paste over the stain, allow to dry and scrape away gently, it should draw out the stain.

*The above mixes are examples, quantities/ratios of ingredients do vary.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Constants</th>
<th>VOC Level: Zero</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Cleaning</td>
<td>Water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Packaging**

Whiting is available in these container sizes:
500g, 5Kg, 10Kg & 25Kg

Talc is available in these container sizes:
500g, 5Kg & 25Kg

French Chalk is available in these container sizes:
500g, 5Kg & 25Kg

**Storage**

Store away from moisture.

**Health and Safety**

Refer to MSDS before use.

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