

Mudding or Antiquing Joyce Howard Style

Spray your painted surface with DecoArt All-Purpose and allow it to dry well. Before you apply the Linseed oil I mention in the second paragraph. Joyce did not do this. This will be “insurance” that if you do not like the way the “mudding” looks you can remove it without leaving any of the Burnt Umber pigment staining your painted surface.

Mudding Joyce’s Way

When Joyce had completed her painting she would cover it with Linseed Oil and wipe away the excess. Then she would brush on Burnt Umber paint with a little linseed oil and paint thinner added to it. With soft cloths she would then wipe away and lighten the areas on her project. Leaving the dark Burnt Umber paint in the areas that we would consider shadow areas. She did not use a brush to refine or soften the areas. It was all done with a cloth. So her method of “mudding” was not refined and usually did not soften the look of her painting. It was aged.

I always felt it was too dark and looked almost incomplete. So I have use a simpler way of achieving what I think is an aged and mellowed look.

I would suggest that you definitely spray your surface first with the All-Purpose sealer. Allow that to dry well before using her method. When you have completed the “mudding” allow the mudding to dry completely. Spray mist it with the All-Purpose sealer once again and allow it to dry and then varnish it to protect your surface.

Written by Della Wetterman 2015