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Directions for using Instacoll

First, lay the Instacoll. Because Instacoll is an acrylic base, it has a high surface tension which means it is somewhat “slimy” and flows much better from a brush than a pen.

After you have laid the Instacoll, let it dry approx ½ hour. Please note that how long the “base” should dry before you gild on it, varies depending on two factors: how thick you laid the base and how humid the room is. The loose rule of thumb is that you can lay the gold as soon as the base is tacky. It does not have to “set up” hard or dry completely. If you wait too long, the gold does not adhere.

Now you are ready to lay your patent gold leaf. Use your finger as a burnisher and put two layers of gold on the base.

Use a cotton ball or silk cloth to burnish the gold and then remove the excess.

Instacoll is also commonly used in architectural applications of leafing. When used for a large area the “base” must be reactivated in order for the leaf to adhere (because the “base” will dry completely before the leaf is adhered). Because our customers use it for small applications there is no need to reactivate the “base”.