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EASY TO ADVANCED PROJECTS

Craft

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**Woman's
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May 2014
\$4.95

**107
CREATIVE
IDEAS**

**UPCYCLE YOUR HOME
IN A WEEKEND!**



**4 Fab Flower
Cushions
To Sew**

**PLUS
Flowers
To Crochet**



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**Mirror Makeover
Painted Drawers
Stencilled Box
Patterned Walls**



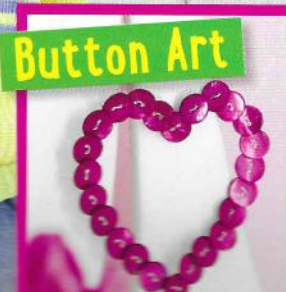
Knitting



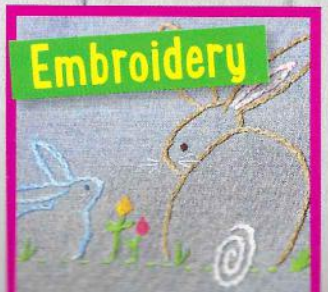
Cross-stitch



Mosaic



Button Art



Embroidery

Papercraft



Distressed
Mirror
Makeover

Roller Pattern
Paint Effect

Stencilled
Trinket
Box

Smooth
Painted
Drawers

Wow Factor In A Weekend

BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO WALLS AND FURNITURE WITH THESE CLEVER PAINT TECHNIQUES AND YOU CAN TRANSFORM YOUR HOME IN A COUPLE OF DAYS!

A lick of paint can be one of the simplest and cheapest ways to transform walls, furniture and ornaments around your home. Here, we show you four fun projects to try out using Annie Sloan's specialist paint, Chalk Paint: so-called due to its matt, chalky texture.

This innovative paint adhere to almost any surface without the need for sanding or priming and can be manipulated in a number of ways to produce stunning decorative finishes.



Roller Pattern Paint Effect

This fun technique gives a modern twist to traditional decorative paint-rolling and is a great way to add pattern to your walls if you prefer to paint rather than wallpaper. For a subtle effect, keep both your base and pattern colours close in tone, or choose contrasting shades for a stronger look.

You will need

- A clean, sound wall to roller – we painted ours in Rose Trellis 4, £24.29 for 2.5ltr, Dulux (0844 481 7817; dulux.co.uk).
- 2in decorator's masking tape
- No. 12 patterned paint roller wall applicator, £15, The Painted House (the-painted-house.co.uk)
- Flat matt chalk or emulsion paint for use with the patterned roller – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Old piece of wood, at least 30cm wide and at least 50cm long
- Newspaper
- A clean damp cloth or cotton buds
- Small artist's paintbrush

Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan is ideal for these projects as it allows you to achieve different finishes on almost any surface without the need for primer, making them hugely versatile as well as easy to use. For more information, see *Quick and Easy Paint Transformations* and *Colour Recipes for Painted Furniture and More*, both published by Cico Books and available at anniesloan.com or through her stockists.

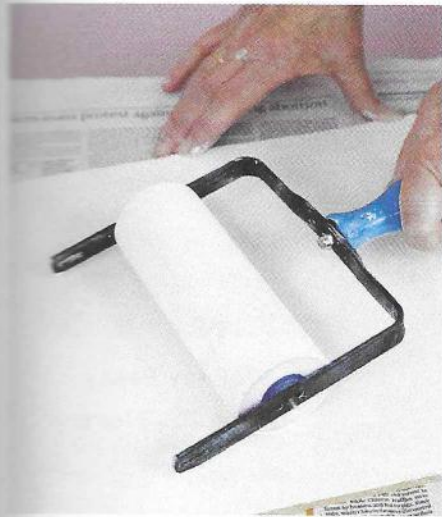


- Easy Peasy
- A Bit More Tricky**
- Hard-ish
- Quite A Challenge



1 Prepare your walls

Clear the wall or walls you wish to add the pattern to and ensure they are clean and dry. Run some 2in decorator's masking tape around the edges of the walls, as shown. Remove any plug sockets or light switches ensuring you turn off the power for that circuit at the fuse box first. A dead flat matt emulsion will work best as your base surface, so repaint this now if required, then leave to dry.



2 Load your roller

Place the patterned roller into the elongated slots in the handle bracket – if it doesn't spin freely, gently pull the arms of the bracket apart to loosen it. Once this is correctly spaced, remove it, place your foam roller into the middle of the three holes in the handle bracket. Prepare the paint you wish to use with the roller – we watered ours down in a plastic jug until it achieved a batter-like consistency for easier application. Pour a large blob of paint onto your board, then roll the foam roller over this repeatedly, ensuring every part of it is covered. Repeat several times until the colour has visibly sunk deeply into the foam (as it's made from high-density foam, it can absorb quite a lot). Roll it over a sheet of newspaper to ensure the paint is evenly distributed.



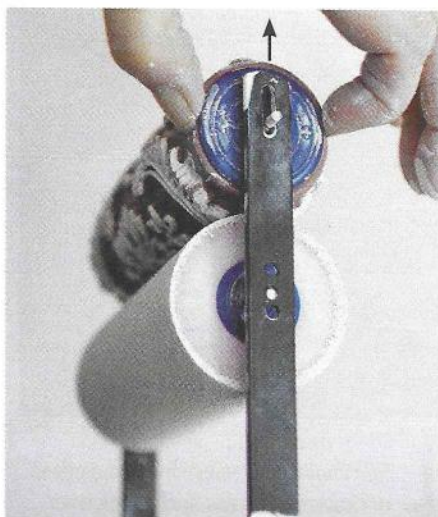
3 Add on the patterned roller

Replace the patterned roller into the elongated slots, as before.



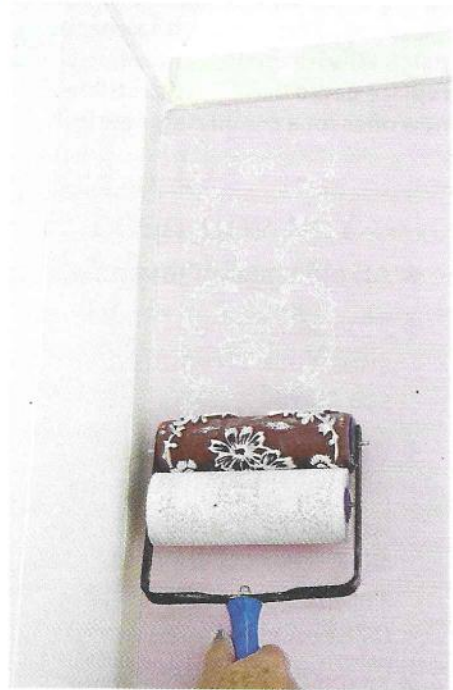
4 Coating the roller

Using your finger, rotate the patterned roller for several full turns until it's coated with an even layer of paint. Once it's well covered, give it a final roll on some newspaper to ensure the spread of paint is even, and to check you have the pattern the right way up. The roller is now ready to go. If you've not used one before, try practising on a scrap piece of wood or paper before using on your wall.



5 Check your marks

If you intend on painting the walls in a repeat pattern, as shown in this project, you will need to ensure that the arrow (shown on the side of the roller) is facing vertically upright towards the ceiling. When you come to roll the second length, the plus symbol must face the top to ensure the patterns match up. Alternate as you go.



6 Paint!

Starting at the upper left corner of your first wall, run the roller down the full length of the wall, holding the applicator handle at a 45-degree angle and keeping an even pressure as you go. Return to the top of the wall for your second length, ensuring your roller is in the right position (as mentioned in the previous step). Allow for a slight overlap between each length rolled, to avoid gaps in the pattern. There should be sufficient paint for 2–3 passes (more if using a simpler design) before needing to recharge the foam roller.

When you reach the end of the wall, fill in any slim gaps at the end by covering your last full painted pass with newspaper once it's dry. Keep the newspaper in place with decorator's masking tape, leaving a couple of centimetres of the right-hand edge on show, then run the roller over this to fill in the gap. If you make any mistakes, simply wipe them off as you go using a damp cloth or cotton bud. If you notice any once the walls are dry, or want to neaten up any sections of pattern, use a small artist's brush for touch-ups.



Smooth Painted Chest Of Drawers

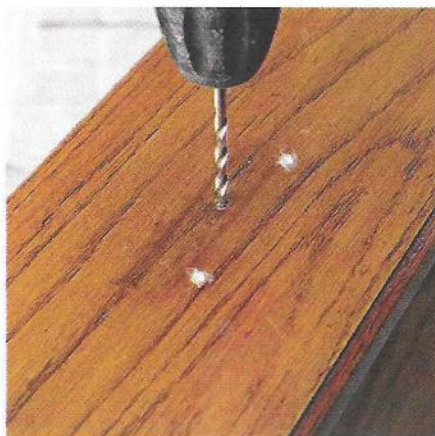
Update tired furniture or tie in mismatched pieces into your existing décor with a coat of paint. Why not go the whole hog and replace dated handles with striking new ones for a completely new look?

You will need

- An old chest of drawers
- Fine sandpaper (plus superfine, if required - see step 4)
- Replacement drawer handles, if required - we used acrylic handles, £3.50 each, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Drill with appropriately sized drill bit, plus wood filler, if replacing handles (see step one)
- Paint - we used Annie Sloan Greek Blue, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Flat paint brush - we used Annie Sloan large flat brush, £8.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any flat brush will do
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before).
- A clean, lint-free cloth - cut-up old bedsheets are ideal



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1 **Prep and drill**
Remove the drawers from the chest of drawers' carcass and check over

their surfaces. Take off the drawer handles. If you plan to replace them with new ones afterwards and they require holes in different places, fill the holes with wood filler, then sand off the excess when dry. Create the new holes in the positions you need them, using an electric drill fitted with an appropriately sized drill bit for your new handle.

2 **A light sanding**
The aim with this piece is to achieve a really smooth flat finish so gently give a light sanding to each drawer front and the carcass (unlike most other paints, Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan will adhere just as well to unsanded wood, but for this



project it will help provide a lovely flat finish). Give everything a good clean and wipe down once you've finished sanding.



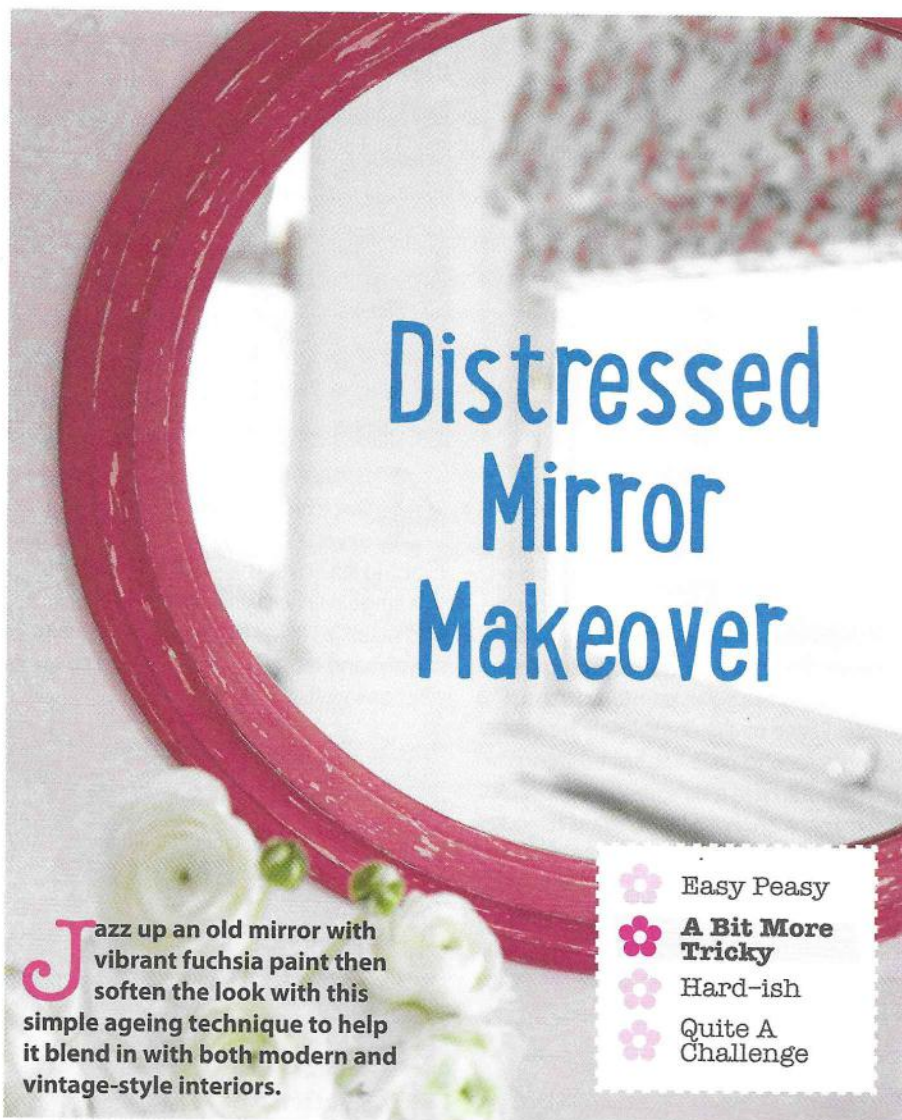
3 Coat of paint

Gather your paint – we diluted ours slightly with water, to help it flow more easily and achieve the smooth finish we were after. Take a flat-ended brush and hold it as horizontally as possible, painting each piece in long, continuous strokes. Allow to dry, then apply a second coat in the same way.



4 Wax to finish

Once thoroughly dry, apply the wax using a clean, lint-free cloth (the cloth will help achieve a slightly smoother finish). Gently rub it into the piece, using light pressure, until every painted section is covered. For an extra-smooth finish, you could give everything a very light sanding with some superfine paper, then clean all the dust off and reapply the wax using the same method. Fix your handles back into position then leave the piece to cure overnight – it will be touch dry after this time but will take around two weeks to fully cure, so treat with care during this time. To add a slight sheen, you can lightly buff any waxed pieces from time to time.



Distressed Mirror Makeover

Jazz up an old mirror with vibrant fuchsia paint then soften the look with this simple ageing technique to help it blend in with both modern and vintage-style interiors.

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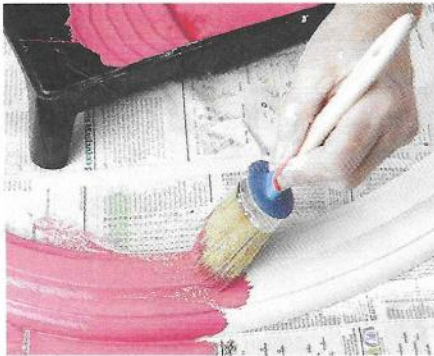
You Will Need

- An old mirror with a wooden surround
- Masking tape and old newspaper, if required (see step 1)
- Paint for the first layer – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Contrasting paint for the top layer – we created our own shade by mixing Annie Sloan Emperor's Silk with Old White, both £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques, (as before)
- Chunky or rounded brush for painting – we used Annie Sloan medium paint brush, £18.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any textural brush will do
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Soft brush for waxing – we used Annie Sloan short wax brush, £23.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any soft-bristled brush will do
- Superfine sandpaper or a 3M SandBlaster flexible finishing pad – try Amazon or your local DIY shop
- A clean, lint-free cloth – cut-up old bed sheets are ideal



1 Paint the first layer

Thoroughly clean the wooden surround, removing the mirror glass if you can (if that's not possible, use masking tape to attach newspaper over its surface to protect it, ensuring the tape goes right up to the edges of the glass). Once dry, paint the frame, including the rebate, using irregular, painterly brush strokes. Leave to dry completely before adding a second coat – to speed things up, you could use a hairdryer on a low heat if you wish. Both layers want to create a fairly thick, dense coat to ensure that, when you sand back the top layer later on, it reveals this coat rather than going straight back to the wood beneath.



2 Paint the top layer

Paint on a single coat of your top colour, watering it down a little first so it's slightly thinner and therefore easier to sand off later when administering the distressing technique. Allow to dry.



3 Wax on...

Apply a layer of wax to the frame, gently working it in with a brush using a series of backwards-and-

forwards motions to get the wax into all the nooks and crannies.



4 ...Wax off!

Once finished, use a lint-free cloth to wipe off any excess wax, gently rubbing it all over the surface. Waxing at this stage will help you achieve the best end result, as it will help control the paint as you sand it off to achieve your distressed effect, as well as minimising dust.



5 Sand it back

Sand the frame and rebate back, working very gently with a small piece of superfine sandpaper. Aim to knock back the top layer to reveal sections of the paint below, concentrating on areas such as edges, which would naturally receive more wear, for an authentic look. Don't worry if you sand back down to the original wood in places – it all adds to the charm.



6 Final wax

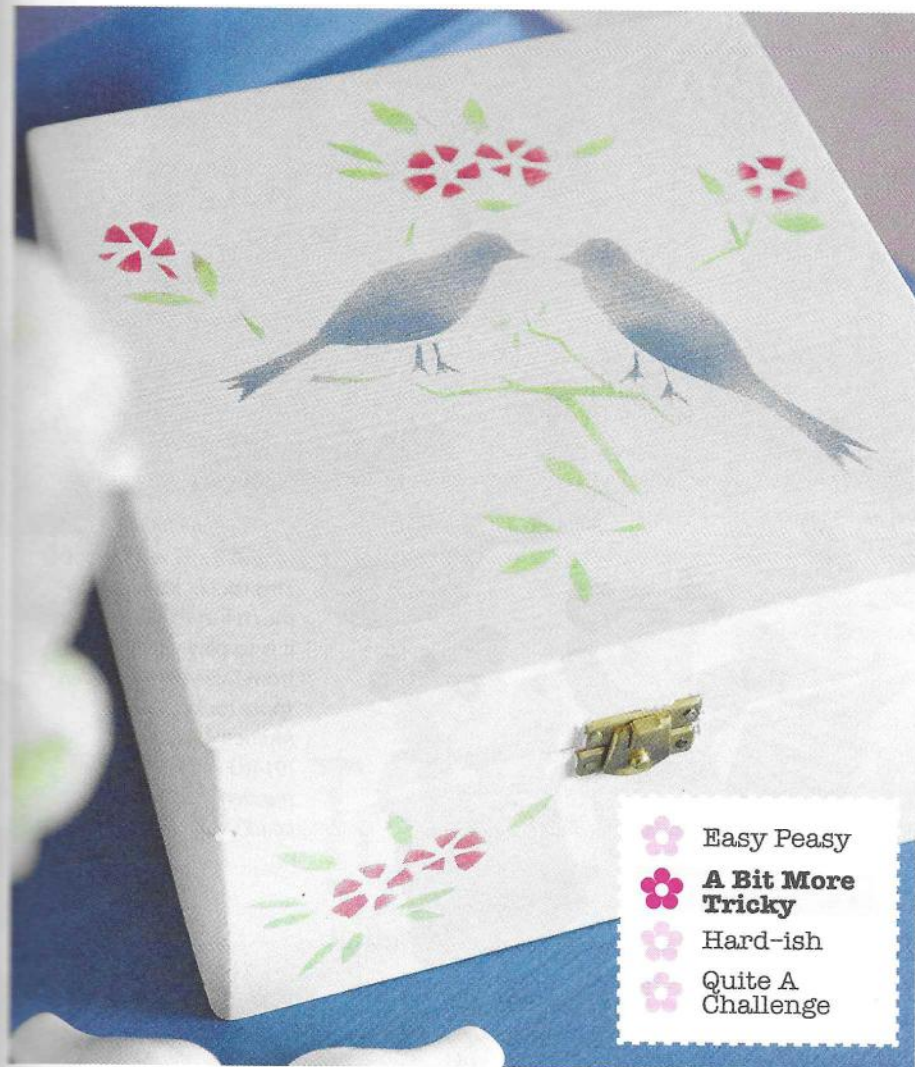
When you are happy with the finish, clean off the frame to remove all traces of dust, then apply another layer of wax, as before. Wipe off any excess with a lint-free cloth, then replace the mirror glass (or remove the masking tape and newspaper). Leave overnight to cure before hanging.

A pretty painted box is a lovely place to keep precious items such as jewellery. We decorated ours with a handmade stencil of a delicate bird motif, but you can use any pattern or motif you like!

You Will Need

- Wooden box – we used BCN3 box, £7.50 plus p&ep, Boxy Lady (01579 384376; boxylady.co.uk)
- Paint for the box – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Chunky or rounded brush – we used Annie Sloan medium paint brush, £18.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Stencil – try The Stencil Library (01661 844844; stencil-library.co.uk), or make your own (see opposite)
- Paint for the stencil – we mixed our own colours using Annie Sloan's Emperor's Silk, Antibes Green and Greek Blue, all lightened with Old White; all £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Old yoghurt pots
- Decorator's masking tape
- Stencilling (stippling) brushes
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Soft brush for waxing – we used Annie Sloan short wax brush, £23.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Newspaper and a clean, lint-free cloth

Stencilled Trinket Box

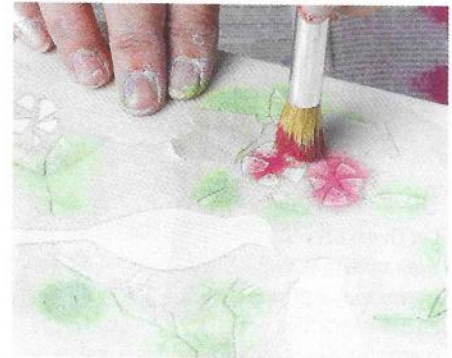


Tip For a bespoke look, try creating your own stencil. Source an image you wish to use then print it out or photocopy it to the size you want (or recreate our design using this template). Lay a sheet of acetate on top of it, then tape it in place, sticking down the paper underneath too, on top of a cutting mat. Using a sharp scalpel, carefully cut out the design and discard the paper.



1 Paint the box

Coat your box with an even layer of paint, taking care not to get paint on the hinges (cover these in masking tape if you wish). Let dry, then add a second coat. We used our paint at full thickness but for a softer look, you could dilute it with water.



2 Time to stencil

Fix your stencil to the top of the box in your preferred position with masking tape along its edges. If you are creating your own shades, mix a small amount of each of the paints you wish to use in an old yoghurt pot or other container. Working one colour at a time (we started with the green), dip your stencil brush into the paint then paint it onto your newspaper until the brush head is virtually dry. Using a stippling motion, dab the paint through the stencil, building it up more heavily in some sections and lighter in others for a delicate and uneven, rather than blocky, finish. Hold your finger over any sections you want to use a different colour on to ensure the colour only goes where you want it to or mask the sections off with masking tape. To check how the pattern's coming along, lift the stencil back to one side, holding your hand over the other half to stop it moving. Once you've finished with your first colour, move on to the next one, washing and drying the brush as you go unless you have enough brushes to assign one to each colour. For a final flourish, use sections of the stencil to decorate some of the edges of the box.



3 A coat of wax

Once your design is thoroughly dry, use a brush to work some clear wax over all the painted surfaces on the box in a backwards-and-forwards motion, then wipe off the excess with a cloth, gently buffing as you go. Leave to cure overnight.