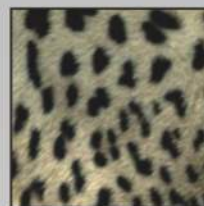
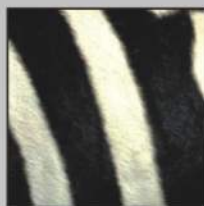


# THIS OR THAT



on the desired texture. It is important to maintain its uniform thickness and this will be ensured by using a U-notched trowel. We then smooth the mixture applied to the wall, using a plain trowel. Using two different trowels makes it possible to create a texture of similar thickness, similar in appearance across the entire surface. If we want to apply the texture to specific parts of the wall only, we may mark the working area using masking tape, which needs to be removed before the plaster sets.

Stage 4. The artistic creativity stage. Immediately after we have applied the white coat to the wall and before it sets, we disturb its smoothness, modelling it according to our imagination. We have ample time to do so, bearing in mind that the CEKOL C-45 white coat sets no sooner than 45 minutes after being mixed with water.

## AN ANTIQUE look that's almost authentic

In order to obtain a desired texture, we use various tools, such as a plain trowel, a U-notched trowel, a pointing trowel and painting rollers. How do we use them? Let's have a look at a trowel first. We apply its entire surface to the wet white plaster and then pull it away from the wall. The wet mass stuck to the trowel will follow it as the tool is pulled

away and will form protruding shapes resembling a mountain landscape. Now we smooth out excessively protruding 'peaks', applying the trowel delicately. The end result is that we obtain a unique, rough texture resembling uneven antique surfaces eroded by ageing.

## ECLECTICISM welcome

Another tool which can be used to shape the white coat on the wall with excellent results is a hard, textured paint roller. In order to obtain a repeated texture pattern on the entire surface of the wall, we apply the white coat in a uniformly thick layer. Then we smoothly move the roller over the wet mixture. Successive strips of the pattern are made by trying to move the roller at the same speed, bearing in mind that the pattern on the roller's sleeve is to be the same as the one we already have on the wall. Other type of the roller sleeves such as soft ones, made from a fur-like material, or hard foam, with numerous pores, may also turn out to be helpful in our out of the ordinary creativity.

## IMAGINATION full speed ahead

Other everyday objects may also be highly useful, e.g. a crumpled and squashed plastic bag or crumpled aluminium foil

applied to the wet mixture will give it the appearance of subtly creased fabric.

A texture may also be obtained by 'sculpting' a shape of our own creation in the wet mixture with our fingers, e.g. bricks or stones protruding from the wall. There are probably as many ideas as there are tools.

Stage 5. Decorating a texture. This very important stage boils down to painting the texture. Because the CEKOL C-45 which we used to create our texture is white, this makes the task an easy one. On such a uniformly white base, the colours we use will have their own characteristic and untainted hue.

Priming the wall before it is painted will reduce the amount of paint needed. We may use acrylic paints, silicone paints or a wax. A texture painted in several colours looks very attractive. First, we paint the entire surface in the colour we have chosen as the basic one and then, when the paint has dried, we apply successive colours here and there delicately and irregularly smudging and brushing. For this purpose we can use a sponge immersed in the paint and then well squeezed out so that when it is rubbed against the wall it leaves only a very small amount of the paint. A brush may be used in a similar way. By applying several colours of paint to the surface, we

obtain a very interesting final result and one which will also be unique.

A proper choice of texture and colours will make it possible to create a wall which is either very colourful or subtly shaded (depending on our taste) - a wall featuring effects from outer space, or with romantic or antique characteristics.



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