



A starter guide to using Water Mixable Oil Mediums

Artist Guides | Water Mixable Oil Mediums





Water Mixable Oil Mediums allow you to discover a world of texture, versatility, and longevity with your painting. As well as being transformative, they're also essential for control and flow.

This is a guide to using a few of the most popular Water Mixable Oil Mediums with Water Mixable Oil Colours.

Here you'll find out how to experiment with them; creating a new dimension to your work and giving you confidence to play and discover the magic that mediums can bring.

We recommend trying the mediums in this guide with the Winsor & Newton Artisan Water Mixable Oil Colour range.



Fast Drying Medium



If you work with multiple layers or fine detail, this medium will save you precious time.



What does it do?

Increases fluidity and flow and eliminates brush stroke retention. Allows the paint to dry faster for excellent glazing and fine detail.

Good to know

Fast Drying Medium is ideal for glazing, fine detail work and weton-wet techniques with all Water Mixable Oil Colours.

How to use it

Mix just enough with your paint to achieve a smooth texture. Use with water mixable thinner when painting in layers, to maintain the "fat over lean" rule.

Key properties

- Speeds up the drying process
- Liquefies the paint's texture
- Adds transparency and gloss
- Mixes and cleans with water



Thinner



The water mixable alternative to solvents commonly used with oil paints.





What does it do?

Produces a "leaner" mixture and is developed to maintain the oily feel of Water Mixable Oil Colour.

How to use it

Mix with oil colour to thin paint the desired amount. To clean tools, first, wipe the paint off roughly, then dip them into the Thinner. A separate vessel can be helpful to keep the medium in the original bottle cleaner for longer.

Good to know

Although water is suitable for diluting water mixable oil colour, its rapid evaporation can cause paint to thicken quickly on the palette. Using this thinner also reduces the colour shift from wet to dry.

Key properties

- Speeds up the drying process
- Dilutes the paint's texture
- Non-hazardous
- Almost odourless

Linseed Oil





This Linseed Oil has been modified so that it mixes with water to produce a "fatter" mixture.



What does it do?

Reduces the consistency of oil paint. Can be added to fast-drying mediums to balance drying times.

How to use it

Mix just enough medium with paint to achieve the smoother texture you want. To keep light colours bright, use Linseed Oil sparingly.

Good to know

If using pale colours, use Water Mixable Safflower Oil as an alternative to avoid yellowing, especially for whites.

Key properties

- Slows down the drying process
- Reduces viscosity for better flow
- Adds transparency and gloss
- Mixes and clean with water



Want to learn more?

Discover a word of artist-led tutorials and articles:



READ Artist Tamsin Relly on using Artisan **Water Mixable** Oil Colour



WATCH Exploring Artisan Water Mixable Oils and Artists' Oil