

Introduction to Gilding

Materials and Equipment

2 Brushes
Red Acrylic paint
Gold size - water based
Gold leaf - 23¾ct Double Transfer
Tamping pad - cotton wool wrapped in silk
Soft brush

Stages in Gilding

- 1. Paint Object Red**

This adds more depth and warmth to the feel of the gold leaf when applied onto a red surface.
- 2. Allow paint to dry**
- 3. Apply Gold Size**

Size is the adhesive that holds the gold leaf to the surface.
- 4. Allow size to become touch dry**
- 5. Apply Transfer Gold Leaf**

Transfer means the gold leaf sheet has been pressed onto tissue paper, and so is easier to handle than loose leaf. Take care to overlap the leaves by approximately 2mm to avoid getting gaps in between the leaves. After applying the leaf to the sized surface rub over the paper backing with your fingers but be careful not to move the paper backing or scratch the leaf surface. Make sure there are no air bubbles and that the leaf is firmly fixed to the surface.
- 6. Tamp the Gold Leaf**

Tamping gently presses down the gold leaf, breaks away any loose excess leaf that hasn't come into contact with the size where there are overlaps of the leaf and creates one flat surface.
- 7. Remove gold dust with a soft brush**
- 8. If required apply Gold Size to areas missed and reapply Gold Leaf**