

# Leaf

Perhaps nothing showcases beauty better than nature. Use that as your inspiration to create a tranquil atmosphere in a master bath or a family room by incorporating the natural texture of leaves. Consider a random placement of leaves and a colorful tone to add a light touch of whimsy.



*Frosted Spruce SWF 415*



*Erie Driftwood SWF 407*

## **Time Required:**

For an average room with 400 sq. ft. of wall space, it will take you approximately 4 total hours over a 2-day period.

## **Before You Begin:**

You'll find a variety of color combinations for this technique in the Faux Impressions™ store display. Once you narrow down your options, Sherwin-Williams® recommends that you create a sample board to finalize your color selection and practice your technique before tackling an entire wall.

## **Additional Support:**

Watch a step-by-step video of these application techniques at [sherwin-williams.com/faux](http://sherwin-williams.com/faux).

## Supplies:

Items needed for a 400 sq.-ft. wall area:

- Contractor Series® faux technique sample boards
- One roll of 2" low-tack/safe-release tape
- Assorted drop cloths and rags
- Paint tray
- 9" roller frame
- 9" Contractor Series® premium roller cover (3/8" nap)
- Nylon/polyester brush
- 6¼" roller frame
- 6" Contractor Series® premium roller cover (3/8" nap)
- Symphony by Purdy™ sea sponge glazing mitt
- Contractor Series® Decorative Embossed Leaves
- Latex gloves
- Two gallons of Duration Home® Interior Latex Matte paint (base coat color)
- One quart of Faux Impressions™ Latex Glaze
- One quart of Duration Home® Interior Latex Matte paint (glaze color)
- 5-quart mixing container

## How to create a Leaf finish.

**Step 1A Apply Base Coat Color:** Apply one coat of Duration Home® Interior Latex Matte paint in your base coat color. Matte finish is required for proper results.

You may use a brush to cut into corners and around trim, but while the paint is still wet, immediately blend it into the body of the wall with a 6" premium 3/8" nap roller (**diagram 1A**). This is an important technique to follow, as any brush marks will create an unwanted "picture frame" effect around the edges of your wall when you're finished. Cover the remainder of the wall using your 9" premium 3/8" nap roller.



**General Preparation:** Clear the area of all decorative items and move furniture to the center of your room. Protect any adjacent surfaces such as ceilings, wood trim and baseboards by masking them with low-tack tape. Spread drop cloths over floors and furniture. If using a ladder, be certain that it is sturdy and will reach all necessary areas safely. Properly clean and prepare all surfaces prior to applying any products.

**Step 1B Apply Leaves:** While your paint is still wet, press the decorative leaves against the wall, then use your roller to gently cover them with a thin layer of paint (**diagram 1B**). Arrange leaves randomly or in grouped clusters to achieve the effect you desire.

Allow the paint to dry completely following the label directions for recommended drying and recoat times.

**Step 2 Recoat:** When the base coat is dry to the touch and appears to have a uniform matte sheen, apply a second coat of Duration Home Interior Latex Matte paint using the same tools and techniques as in Step 1A.



**Step 3A Mix Decorative Glaze:** Once the paint is dry and appears to have a uniform matte sheen, you are ready to mix your decorative glaze. Pour 8 ounces of Faux Impressions™ Latex Glaze into a mixing container and add 8 ounces of Duration Home® Interior Latex Matte (glaze color). Stir the contents to create a uniform solution. This mixture will cover approximately 350–400 square feet.

Apply a small amount of the glaze mixture to the moistened sea sponge mitt or a rectangular cellulose sponge. Coat the surface evenly using a wooden stir stick or your hand.

**Step 3B Glaze:** Begin in an upper corner and rub the glaze on the wall using a random circular action similar to applying wax to a car. Reload the glazing mitt or sponge often, and blend the areas as you move along the wall (**diagram 3B**). As the mitt or sponge dries out, you may go back over any areas to lighten the glaze coverage and reveal more of the leaf texture and base coat color.

Once dry to the touch, gently remove the low-tack tape, reset your room, and enjoy your newly personalized space.

