

## Paint

### Cost for Coloured Limewash

From a quick search of the internet - coloured Limewash Paint £63 for 5 litre can, with coverage of 9m<sup>2</sup> per litre. Therefore, cost per m<sup>2</sup> – with recommended 4 coats - would give you = £63 / 5 litres / 9m<sup>2</sup> coverage x 4 coats = £5.60 per m<sup>2</sup>

All current paint would need to be stripped off.

Whether on top of current or stripped out, need a coat of special primer for proper adherence. The cost of the primer would be an additional £78.50 / 4 litres / 25m<sup>2</sup> coverage / 1coat = 0.79 per m<sup>2</sup>.

It is also recommended that for the final coat you mix in a densifier – 4 parts limewash to 1 part densifier = £20 / 2.5 litres / 8m<sup>2</sup> coverage /4 (to 1 ratio) / 1 coat = 0.25 per m<sup>2</sup>.

So true cost is ~£6.64 per m<sup>2</sup>

### Cost for Emulsion Paint

Dulux Trade Matt Paint £58.00 for 10 litre can, with coverage of 17m<sup>2</sup> per litre. Therefore, cost per m<sup>2</sup> – with recommended 2 coats = £58 / 10litres / 17m<sup>2</sup> coverage x 2 coats = £0.68 per m<sup>2</sup>

### Area to paint (approx.)

	Length	Height	width	Number	m2
Church	25	7.5		2	375
		7.5	13	2	195
	25		13	1	325
Other	6	2.5		2	30
		2.5	6	2	30
	6		6	1	36
TOTAL					991

### Additional concerns are:

Purely on a cost basis, the cost of limewash is more than nine times more expensive rather than using a water based emulsion paint - £6,580 for limewash V £673 for water based emulsion

Cannot be applied by roller – must be by brush only. The brush is not a standard – it needs to be natural fibre limewash brush 1.5 inch x 5.5 inch

### Additional time to apply limewash paint:

- 2x due to more coats,
- Application time in itself will be nearer 5x slower than emulsion



Variation on appearance – normally used as a texturing not a smooth element. You will always see brush strokes

Consistency of colour – user dependent. Even suppliers say that on the same wall there will be a noticeable difference in both texture and colour

Additional health and safety – particularly damage to eyes (you must keep clean water at hand always as effect is immediate if not treated), and exposed skin

The lime in the limewash can drop out – and so regular mixing is required throughout the day

**Limewash will stain lead, but only superficially. It will not damage it.**

**You need to keep a wet edge – or you will get overlap lines**

**Lime renders can vary dramatically in porosity, leading to patching**

**Limewash should only be applied to a freshly dampened surface. Limewash should never be applied to a dry surface, as this will cause rapid drying out of the Limewash and result in dusting**

**Do not empty into drains or watercourses. Contact the local Environmental Department for disposal instructions.**

**Ensure the limewash is applied as evenly as possible and is well worked into any cracks and joins, but not allowing it to build up too thickly at any point or it will craze on drying out**

**For subsequent coats allow the previous coat to dry out completely, preferably overnight. Lightly dampen down with water the previous coat before applying the next**

**I made a request for an idea of cost of a tradesman to undertake the works, and below is the response I received:**

***“On average, expect to pay around £250 to £400 per day for a professional painter. We spoke to our Checkatrade member, Soloman Art, who broke down his costs for limewashing walls: £40 per square metre (no fewer than 50 square metres) labour only. You need to provide own materials, safe access and the walls in question need to be pre-prepared.”*** (So, labour only cost would be in the order of £39.5k for limewash) (Water based would be ~£10k)

**The Probation Service would only sanction water-based paints.**

**Produced by Jeff Robinson October 2024**