



Utrecht Art Supplies Product Profiles: Primer Coverage

Ask the Expert: How much area does Utrecht Acrylic Gesso cover? How does this compare to Oil Priming White?"



A: Because there's so much variation in absorbency and texture of grounds, and because individual technique is a factor, each artist's experience will vary, but we can give some general guidelines.

The Chicago Public Art Group estimates 1 gallon of acrylic gesso will cover 100-300 square feet of wall space. We estimate one pint of gesso will cover about 12.5 to 37.5 square feet.

100% Pure Acrylic Polymer NEW TEMP GESSO

New-Temp acrylic polymer gesso is a completely formulated painting ground—ready to use—producing a flexible and non-yellowing ground. It applies easily and quickly, and dries rapidly, after which it is ready for receiving paint. It is composed of pure titanium dioxide and acrylic medium which makes for a brilliant white painting surface with no adulterants of any kind.

HOW TO QUICKLY PREPARE YOUR CANVAS WITH NEW TEMP GESSO IN A SINGLE STEP:
Apply the New-Temp Gesso with a two- to four-inch wide housepainter's brush directly on the linen without preliminary sizing. The gesso permanently adheres to and seals in the linen. After the first priming has dried, use a very smooth fine sandpaper to lightly smooth out any roughnesses. After this one may apply a second priming. New-Temp Gesso can also be tinted with any of the New-Temp colors to produce a toned ground, which is desirable in certain techniques.

New-Temp Gesso is an ideal priming for painting done with New-Temp colors. It has been used widely as a priming for oil paints since 1957. It is not yet fully time-tested, but is an advantageous and promising priming for oil painting. It is far faster and simpler to prepare the canvas for oil painting in this way than the traditional method of sizing and then priming the canvas and then having to wait at least a week for it to dry.




Rough surfaces require more gesso to achieve full coverage

For Oil Priming White, we recommend 2 tablespoons of primer plus 1 tablespoon of thinner per 18x24" canvas (3 square feet). There are 64 tablespoons in a quart, so we estimate single-coat coverage for 1 quart of primer should be about 96 square feet (an area of about 9.75 by 9.75 feet, or the equivalent of 4 canvases 4 feet square with primed sides). Most artists apply more than one coat, however. Regarding sizing for oil primed canvas: one pound of RSG will cover 6 to 10 yards of fabric.

Questions? [Ask the Expert](#)

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