



# INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING PROFESSIONAL OIL PAINTING CLEANER

Thank you for purchasing Fine Art Restoration Company's Professional Oil Painting Cleaner (POPC).

**Before you begin cleaning your oil painting, please carefully read through our advice for how to achieve the best results.**

## IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICE

Prior to cleaning, ensure that you are operating in a safe environment. You should:

- Use in a well ventilated room.
- Wear protective gloves, and if necessary, a mask and eye protection.
- Not use the cleaner for more than 20 minutes per application.
- Not drink or inhale the Professional Oil Painting Cleaner.



If the POPC causes a reaction or irritation while using or after coming into contact with your skin, seek urgent professional medical advice. The POPC is also flammable, and should not be used near heat, sparks, open flames or hot surfaces and you should not smoke near the POPC.

## HOW TO USE THE CLEANER

Leave the painting and POPC in a warm room for several hours before use.

1. Place the painting on a clean and flat work surface. Make sure you have a good source of light, and the room is not draughty.
2. **Optional** - Take a photo of the painting before you start, so you can compare the difference, plus we'd love to see your results.
3. Check that there are no loose particles of paint on the surface. If you see that the painting has loose or flaking paint, do not use the cleaner. Contact the Fine Art Restoration Company for professional advice.
4. Stir the paste and apply a generous amount to a cotton pad.
5. Spread it evenly on an area approximately six inches square and proceed in similar sized sections.
6. Leave the paste on the area for one to three minutes depending on how dirty the artwork is. It's important that the paste doesn't dry out while being left on the painting, because it only has any cleaning action while it is wet. If the cleaner does dry after being left for too long, it can be removed by using a cotton pad dampened with the cleaner. Likewise, if you find that any fluff has become stuck to the surface, remove as soon as possible. If the paste dries with fluff on it, it can also be removed by using a cotton pad dampened with the cleaner.
7. Using the same cotton pad, wipe the area with the paste in a circular motion. If your painting is textured, use a soft bristle brush moistened with the paste to remove the dirt.
8. Take a clean cotton pad, dampen with a little bit of the cleaner and wipe away the dirt.
9. You need to repeat steps 4-8 for the whole of the painting until all of the dirt is removed.
10. Once you have completed the clean, leave your artwork to dry for ten minutes and give a gentle buff over with a clean cotton pad.

## NOTES ON THE CLEANER

- The cleaner cleanses the surface of a painting from dirt and contaminants.
- Soap and water should not be used as part of the cleaning process, as they will cause damage.
- The cleaner does not attack the varnish or old paint surfaces - old varnish that has become dull is revitalised.
- Using the cleaner will remove blooming from your painting
- The cleaner will not leave a sticky surface and does not darken a painting or lose the transparency or brilliance of an artwork.
- If your painting has an excessively shiny varnish, the cleaner will reduce this.
- The cleaner provides a lasting protective finish for your painting.
- The cleaner should not be used on newly painted or varnished surfaces less than twelve months old or unvarnished oil paintings.
- The cleaner is only for use on oil paintings.

## AFTER USING THE CLEANER

The cleaner is completely safe to use at home. If you find that the painting remains unchanged after using the cleaner, it is likely because the varnish is perished, yellowed or there is dirt trapped underneath the varnish layer. In such cases, a professional solvent-based clean is recommended. POPC does not remove the varnish layer, which is why it is safe for home use.

If your painting has loose or flaking paint, refrain from using the cleaner. In the first instance, contact the Fine Art Restoration Company for professional advice on how the paint layer can be stabilised.

If your painting needs to be gently polished in the future, a velvet or similar type cloth can be used.

## WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR RESULTS

Share your before and after photographs at:

 /fineartrestore

 @fineartrestore

 @fineartrest

 info@fineart-restoration.co.uk

## GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions or concerns about or when using the cleaner, please get in touch.  
We're available Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.30pm.



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