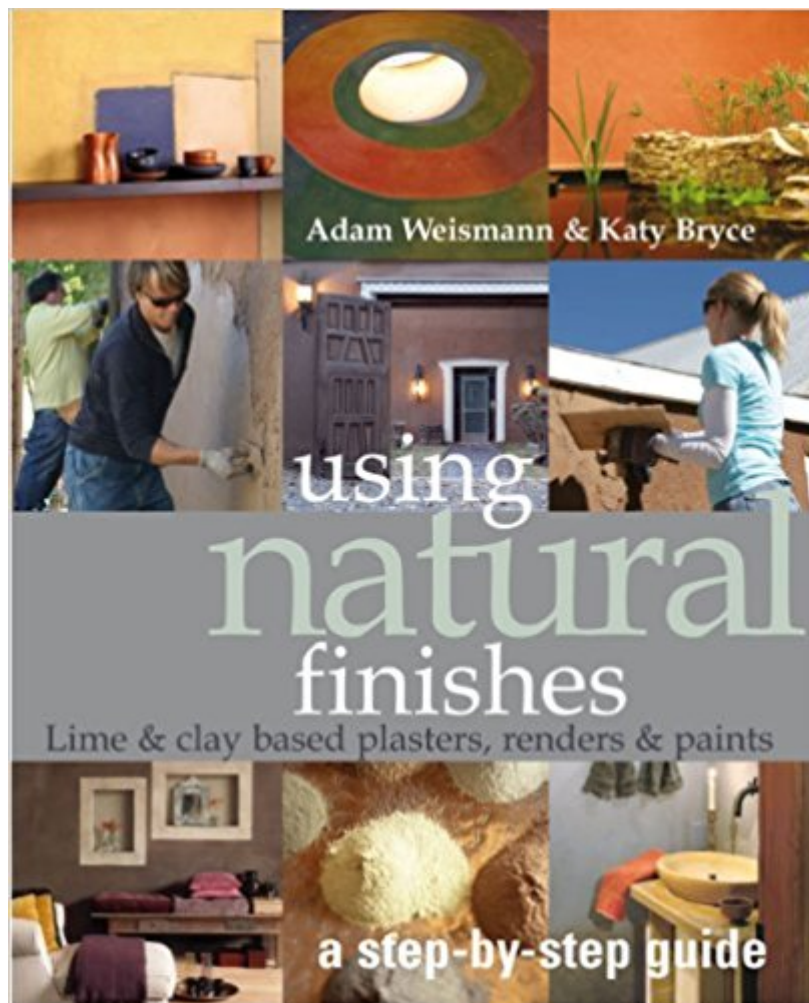




The book was found

# Using Natural Finishes: Lime And Earth Based Plasters, Renders & Paints (Sustainable Building)



## Synopsis

With the increasing awareness of eco-building techniques alongside the desire to make our homes healthier, the historical benefits of using natural renders and paints are being rediscovered. *Using Natural Finishes* is an in-depth guide to the selection, mixing and application of lime and clay based plasters, renders, paints and washes. Providing step-by-step instructions with detailed illustrations to show the practical elements of working with lime and clay-based finishes, the authors demonstrate how these natural breathable plasters and paints can be used on a wide variety of wall surfaces, including traditional and eco-build materials like cob, strawbale and stone, as well as modern plasterboard and concrete surfaces, with stunning results. Easy to follow DIY projects guide the reader through all aspects of using these natural finishes, with beautiful photographs of techniques and examples from the UK and abroad. Key words: cob, eco-building, natural building, strawbale, earthen plasters, earth plasters, clay plasters, natural paints, sustainable building, lime plasters, lime paints, lime wash, alis, casein, clay paints, eco paints, green paints.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“This highly informative and sumptuous book shows how the threat of climate change is also an opportunity to make buildings more beautiful.”  
—Sunand Prasad,  
president, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

A huge and quite heavy book due to the high class of paper used - it contains a lot of useful information and a lot of wonderful, inspiring and educating photos and illustrations. It covers all that natural builder should know about natural plasters. Personally, I've attended a workshop where I've learned how to make natural plasters and stick them to walls - the skill itself is very, very easy. After looking at the illustrations provided by the book, I believe that the book itself can actually teach the skill - just grab some test wall and practice a bit, and you should have no problems :). Once you learn the skill of plastering, either yourself or with the help of workshop/teacher, this book will become your friendly companion. It has a lot of information, provided to readers in a simple, easy-to-understand way. And for those who are afraid of learning to plaster by themselves, this book will inspire to at least seek a workshop near your place - if not with the pros of natural plasters written down, then at least it will inspire with the beautiful photos that show wonderful creations that can be made with natural finishes.

As a new home owner, that wants my inner-space to reflect my values of nature and beauty, this book is my bible. I am planning on putting up clay paint in the bedroom, a first step to mastering the materials before attempting to do the more difficult clay plastering in the living and dining rooms. This book covers everything from traditional (and in one case waterproof) lime plaster finish from Italy, to the most organic finish of clay over either adobe or straw. It has enough of the structural science to make an engineer wag happily, while not making the non-engineer's eyes glaze over. The reader is told how, what and why for a variety of surface treatments, extensive resources, and very clear photography. All in all, this is a must have book for any home owner wondering if there is more to life than egg-shell finish latex paint!

It is unreasonable and negligent of the authors to believe the techniques and skills covered in this book can be accurately conveyed through print. This book set me back 5 months in my renovation, and in the end, I scrapped everything. Do you wonder why sheetrock is the standard in building? Because it is AMAZING! It works. It looks even and stays on the walls. Environmentalist? I thought I was too. After my experience with this book, I would be willing to paint the walls with baby seal blood and seal it with taiji dolphin blubber if it was guaranteed to stay on the walls. So why not 1 star? Because the book does contain information and nice pictures. For a retiree with all the time in the world with experience building and renovating, this book may be useful. If you can take a live workshop then need a reference, here's your book. However, for anyone working, raising a family,

with any other obligations, or anyone who enjoys their sanity, remaining hair, and harmonious marriage, my heartfelt advice is to not attempt anything in this book. P.S., Thanks for the tennis elbow

This is a beautiful book. Very detailed and instructive. I bought this book because I was looking for alternatives to tile in a bathroom. However, this book is geared more for the professional or someone who wants to learn this technique because they have many rooms they want to paint, or they want to become a professional. There is too much involved for me to learn to do it for the two rooms in my home. But the education and the information is very extensive and will be useful to those who want to learn this process. It helped me to understand why the cost of this process is high, but for me the environmental benefits outweigh the cost. I think the process is fabulous and I will use it in my bathrooms as it provides a great moisture barrier which means I don't have to tile the entire room.

It is kinda difficult to follow sometimes, due to the terminology that is used in the UK. However, dirt is dirt & clay is clay, so the recipes & mixes are very helpful. Our CEB (stabilized) house should be starting in about 3-4 weeks. The foundation & slab are to be poured just after the July 4th holiday. We are SOOOO looking forward to this. 14" walls, just like living in a cave! So many benefits to using clay mixes for the blocks! I recommend the book!

The way the book is organized is a little difficult. And to exclude lime that comes dry in the bag, excludes anyone who can't get anything else. I'm using hydrated lime in the bag and it's working out. And there are ways to make sure it's okay.

I wanted to install clay finishes in a house I'm building but the pre packaged products available were a little pricey. This book provided all the guidance needed to work with raw natural materials and the results were amazing! I will refer back to this book for many years to come.

I have two of Weismann's books and I have to say that the books are extremely interesting and informative. They are somewhat elite and stringent on the manner in which they come across pertaining to natural finishes though. I love the colorful detailed pictures and the easy read of it all. I will apply at least a couple of the ideas found so all is not lost. But it is very thorough so not a deal breaker for sure.

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