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APPLYING, BLENDING, AND SETTING COLORS.

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This invention relates to methods of applying, blending and setting colors, and more particularly to coloring or tinting photographs in a simple and efficient manner; but it may be used by artists generally to secure results more rapidly and perfectly than by the methods heretofore known and used.

According to my improved method, and by the use of the preparations hereinafter referred to and which are designed particularly for use in photography, difficulties of properly coloring a given area, no matter how small or large, with any color or blend of colors, are wholly overcome, the effect is most pleasing in appearance, the method itself is economical in application, and an amateur may obtain results which only professionals have hitherto been enabled to obtain.

The method may be generally described as follows:

(1) The area to be colored is intimately coated with the blending and spreading preparation;

(2) The colors—whether oils, crayons, pencil, or those specially prepared, are then applied roughly;

(3) A tuft of cotton in the fingers, or upon a support similar to a pencil, is moistened with the blending preparation and the colors carried to any detail of the picture;

(4) The roughly blended colors may then be held over a source of heat until the residue of the blending medium melts and further removes all lines of distortion or inequalities, resulting in a more perfect blend and smoother results than can readily be obtained mechanically.

(5) When cold, a clean tuft of cotton is gently rubbed over the entire surface, leaving a perfectly smooth, attractive finish, without lines, blots or irregularities, and which may be either dull or highly glossy, depending upon the character of the particular blending medium selected.

These results are made possible by the use of various waxes and oils with or without gelatins or albumin, which are emulsified with sufficient water to make a smooth paste.

The theory of the action is, that the surface emulsion of the photograph is slightly softened by the water present; the waxes and oils, remaining soft until later dried by heat, take any character of pigment and can be smoothly and leisurely distributed, and any excess of color or misapplied color can be completely and instantly removed. When the application is completed, and the finished picture is held over a source of heat, the waxy surface first becomes soft, the colors run together to form perfect blends. Continued heat then volatilizes the oils, the colors become firmly fixed to the drying gelatin, and the process is complete. The presence of the thin, residual film of waxes upon the surface then makes it possible to give the surface a pleasing luster, if subsequently polished.

By simple variations in the formulæ given as examples, different results are produced:

	Parts by weight.	
	A	B
Carnauba wax	15	10
Beeswax	20	15
Butanol	40	35
Turpentine	60	55
Gelatin solution	50	50
Paraffin		10

When highly glossy finishes are desirable, the proportion of hard waxes is increased; but when extremely dull matts are desired, the hard waxes may be omitted and the solvents increased. It is to be understood that virtually any wax and most of the gums may be used interchangeably in these formulæ, and that any volatile solvents or aqueous emulsifiers may be employed without departing from the spirit and purpose of my invention. It should be understood that the application of heat is not essential to the performance of my process but that under certain conditions it may be desirable.

Ordinarily, my improved method may be utilized in connection with any type of color or paint now upon the market, and will be used perhaps more largely with colored pencils, whether dry or of the "grease" variety. However, for especially fine work selected pigments are made up in a medium substantially similar in composition to the formula given above. These "paints" will never harden in the tubes and may be spread with the greatest ease and deliberation until the exact results desired are obtained.

Another very desirable feature of this process is that after the coloring or tinting process has been completed on the photograph, the print remains flat and pliant in an unmounted state.

Still another very desirable feature of this process is that, after a picture has been

colored, the coloring may be practically entirely removed by the application of the blending and spreading composition. Thus, if the painting or picture is not satisfactory, it is only necessary to apply the blending and spreading composition and wipe off or otherwise remove the coloring, leaving a surface that is ready for recoloring. The coloring may be removed regardless of the time that has elapsed since it was applied.

A further very desirable feature of my invention is that artists' colors may be used to paint over and accentuate the results obtained by the process set forth above.

I claim as my invention:

1. A method of applying, blending and setting colors, comprising the steps of coating the area to be colored with a blending and spreading medium containing a mixture of waxes and oils; applying the colors to said coated area; and subjecting the coated and colored area to heat until the blending medium melts and removes all lines of distortion or inequalities.

2. A method of applying, blending and setting colors, comprising the steps of coating the area to be colored with a blending and spreading medium containing a mixture of waxes, oils and gelatin; applying the colors to said coated area; and subjecting the coated and colored area to heat until the blending medium melts and removes all lines of distortion or inequalities.

3. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, and applying a blending composition containing waxes to said surface.

4. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, and applying a blending composition containing waxes and oils to said surface.

5. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, applying a blending composition containing waxes to said coated surface and subjecting the coated surface to heat.

6. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, applying a blending composition containing waxes and oils by friction to said coated surface, and polishing said surface.

7. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, applying a blending composition containing waxes and oils by friction to said coated surface, subjecting the coated surface to heat until the blending composition melts and removes all lines of distortion or inequalities, and polishing said surface.

8. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, applying a blending composition containing oils and waxes to the said surface, and subjecting the said coated surface to heat to remove all lines of distortion or inequalities.

9. The method of applying colors to a surface coated with a blending and spreading composition which comprises applying colors to said coated surface, applying a blending composition containing oils and waxes to the said surface, subjecting the said coated surface to heat to remove all lines of distortion or inequalities, and polishing the coated surface.

10. The method of applying colors to a surface which comprises applying colors to said surface and then applying a blending composition containing waxes to said surface.

11. The method of applying colors to a surface which comprises applying oil colors to said surface and then applying a blending composition containing waxes to said surface.

12. The method of applying colors to a surface which comprises applying colors to said surface and then applying a blending composition containing waxes and essential oils to said surface.

13. The method of applying color to a surface which comprises first coating said surface with a blending and spreading composition containing essential oils and waxes, applying colors to said coated surface, and then applying a blending composition containing essential oils and waxes to said surface.

14. The method of applying color which comprises coating the area to be colored with a composition containing a mixture of waxes and oils and then applying the color to said area.

15. The method of applying color which comprises coating the area to be colored with a composition containing wax and then applying the color to said area.

16. The method of applying color which comprises coating the area to be colored with a wax emulsion and then applying color to said area.

17. The process of preparing a photographic or similar surface for the application of color thereto which comprises coating such surface with a composition containing wax.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

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