

Notes from Max Doerner & Jacques Maroger

SIZING THE CANVAS

Traditional Canvas Sizing

Objective

By the end of this tutorial you should be able to understand why you need to size your canvas. How to make and store your glue sizing. Best practices to apply your sizing.

Key Points

1. Why the Sizing
2. How to Apply Your Glue - Apply your glue from the center out, and as rapidly possible. This will keep your stretcher bars from warping
3. Applying the Second Coat
4. Final Preparations of Your Linen
5. Trimming You Linen
6. Adding Your Artist Stamp

Materials List

1. Brush - Large House Painting Bush
 2. Brush - Small Hog Hair Brush
 3. Distilled or Filtered water
 4. Double Boiler
 5. Electric Burner
 6. Hyde Glue Pellets
 7. Measuring Cups
 8. Razor Blade
 9. Rocker Stamp
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1. Why sizing? Linseed oil or oils in general will attack the linen, the glue will create the barrier you need to protect the linen from your oils. The glue will also make your linen less permeable to moisture. The sizing is the foundation to building a high quality ground.
 2. Apply your glue from the center out, and as rapidly possible. This will keep your stretcher bars from warping .

3. Applying the second coat - after your first coat has dried, give it a light sanding with 220 grit sandpaper. Apply the second coat the way you did your first coat.
4. After your second coat has dried remove excess linen with a razor blade or carpet knife.
5. I like to add a rubber stamp to the back of my canvas. This will create and added value for art dealers and collectors.
6. The stamp should have your name on it, date and location it was painted. This should be applied to the canvass directly and not the frame. Since frames can be removed.