

Kölner Rapid for letter gilding on stone

easy – fast - save – high quality

Kölner Rapid is an adherent which is especially developed to gild chiseled or sand-blasted letters on stone as for example on monuments or tombstones. With Kölner Rapid restoration and reparation of gilding can be done fast, appropriate and on-site. Kölner Rapid must not be used for gilding on surfaces. For the gilding of surfaces we suggest the Kölner Instacoll System.

Kölner Rapid meets all requirements of permanent exterior gilding on stone. The product is water-based and easy and fast to process. The result is a high-quality and glossy gilding. Depending on the quality of the leaf gold and environmental effects, the gilding will last many years. A gilding on a laying stone won't last as long as a gilding on a standing stone because rainwater will remain in the letters of the laying stone and increase the process of weathering.

In 2010, the largest German gilded exterior object, the bronze statue „Victoria“ on top of the victory column in Berlin (Germany) with a surface of approximately 250m², has completely been gilded with Kölner products. The statue has never been so glorious.

Processing of Kölner Rapid:

Preparation:

The surface must be clean, dry and free from dust and grease. Depending on the absorptivity of the stone, two layers of Rapid must be applied. Lettering that was already gilded must be cleaned thoroughly. All remnants of leaf gold or adherents must be removed. Do not use a primer.

Application:

The yellow color of Rapid is perfect as ground color for leaf gold. Use a synthetic fiber brush (Toray) to apply Kölner Rapid to the lettering. After approximately 15 minutes of drying (depending on the thickness of the Rapid layer, temperature and relative humidity), a second layer of Rapid can be applied or it can be started with gilding. Beware that the Rapid layer must be completely dry before gilding. The gentle adherence of Kölner Rapid is perfect to achieve high-quality gilding with loose or transfer gold leaf. Depending on external circumstances, the adherence remains sufficient for the application of leaf gold to the object for about 8 hours.

After applying the leaf gold, it can immediately be pressed down with an Instacoll Tissue and be burnished with the Instacoll Tissue gently. A gilding tip must not be used. A gilding tip is too soft to press on the leaf gold. To press leaf gold into deepenings, the handy Instacoll Tool which is made of rubber and especially designed for deepenings, can be used. Leaf gold and Kölner Rapid which have accidentally been applied outside the area to be gilded, can easily be removed in an usual manner. Amongst others, Kölner Rapid is soluble in ethanol.

Weather resistance:

A with Kölner rapid gilded object can be exposed to normal weather conditions after a few days. It is important to distinguish between a laying and a standing stone. At a laying stone rainwater might run and remain in the lettering. Beware that depending on weather conditions and season, condensed water can be caused by the difference between day and night temperatures. In case of any doubts we advise to extend the drying time up to several weeks.

We are at your disposal for any further information. Please do not hesitate to contact us.