

Søuld

Sustainable building materials made
from eelgrass for healthy living.

Coloring with brick pigments

You can experiment with different natural pigments and binders. In this experiment we have used crushed bricks as a pigment, but you can also achieve a nice result using for example chalk or hematite pigments. Since there's no correct answer, feel free to experiment until you find a color and a pigment that that works for you.



Crushed bricks applied to Søuld Acoustic Boards.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES — We recommend using either a paint brush or a sponge to apply the homemade brick-water-mixture. Make a small test on the material to see which technique and result you prefer.

WHAT YOU NEED — For coloring, you will need a brick, a mixing container, a sieve, a coffee filter, boiling water, a stirring stick, a sponge or paint brush, and a protective surface (possibly a plastic sheet) to prevent any mess.

MATERIAL SENSITIVITY — Ensure that the materials do not absorb an excessive amount of water. Mats are more sensitive to water than boards. The final result varies depending on the surface of the material you color. The crushed brick-water-mixture gives a nice reddish color, but it does not stick well to the surface; brick dust may fall off which causes the color to rub off.

CAUTION — Coloring the material may influence the fire-classification!





1

SOURCING — To start, choose the pigment you want to use. In our example, we utilized red brick dust. To make brick pigment, grind a brick into a powder by scraping it against a stone or tile. Once powdered, sweep it into a container using a brush.

Sourcing

Filter

FILTER — Filter the powdered brick through a sieve. It's important to get rid of the biggest pieces of brick, so you are left with a fine brick powder.

2



3

ADD BINDER — Add a binder to the pigment. We have used boiling water for this experiment, which gives a nice color result, but doesn't stick very well to the surface of the eelgrass material.

Add binder

Filter

FILTER — Refine the mixture by pouring it through a coffee filter. This process creates a finer blend that adheres better to the surface. If the mixture doesn't flow through the filter on its own, press it through using your hands.

4



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APPLY — Use a sponge or a paintbrush to apply the pigmented water. A sponge is suitable for both Mats and Boards, while a paintbrush is particularly effective for boards.

Start by applying a modest layer by dabbing the sponge all over the mat. Repeat this on the edges of the mat if you want color on the sides. Begin with a modest layer and let it dry to make sure the material does not absorb too much water at once.

Apply

Dry

LET IT DRY — The color will not show properly on the surface right away because of the water. Let the Mat/Board air dry. When it's fully dry, you can see its true color. If you are not satisfied with the level of pigments, try applying another layer and let it dry again. You can also add more pigments to the water mixture depending on the desired outcome.

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