REMOVING SOLUVAR® VARNISH (cont.)

- Longer times may be necessary, depending upon age of artwork and strength of mineral spirits. If varnish is not dissolving or dissolving slowly, use a higher strength mineral spirits or turpentine.
- Stronger mineral spirits are not labeled as such, but have a stronger odor.
- Rub cloth gently over a 1 square foot area until varnish starts to dissolve.
- Using a clean cloth and clean solvent, rub the area again to remove residue. Repeat this procedure for the entire area to be cleaned. If any paint color shows on the cloth, stop immediately and allow the surface to dry.
- Allow painting to dry before reapplying a fresh coat of Soluvar® Varnish.

PAINTING ON FABRIC AND LEATHER

Liquitex® Professional Artist Acrylic Colors are the most permanent paints for fabric and are available in three distinct bodies. They offer exceptional quality, durability, adhesion and the largest assortment of pure pigments of any professional quality acrylic paint.

- Heat setting, steaming or chemical fixing is not required
- A variety of applications are possible.
- Liquitex® Acrylic Colors can be used on cotton, cotton-poly blends, woven, knitted, felt, terry cloth, silk, velvet, velveteen, corduroy, flannel, suede, leather and most synthetics.

- **Liquitex® Soft Body Professional Artist Color**
  - Ideal for most fabric painting techniques, especially lightweight or textured fabrics.
  - Dries smooth and even with good leveling with few brush marks.
  - Use for flat large area coverage, fine line detail, airbrush, stencil, watercolor, staining, dying, silk screen, calligraphy and marbling.
  - Easy mixing with water and mediums.

- **Liquitex® Heavy Body Professional Artist Color**
  - Exceptionally smooth, thick buttery consistency.
  - Retains brush strokes and knife marks. Excellent for impasto.
  - Flexible when dry, allowing built-up surfaces to remain free of cracks and chips.

- **Liquitex® Super Heavy Body Professional Artist Color**
  - Superior shape retention and unique “gutsy” handling.
  - Excellent for ‘textural’ and ‘sculptural’ applications with very low shrinkage from wet-to-dry.
CHAPTER 4: APPLICATIONS / PAINTING ON FABRIC & LEATHER

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Pre-wash new fabric to remove sizing, which interferes with adhesion. Let dry.
- Adjust paint to desired consistency using Liquitex® Mediums
- **Note:** For Excellent results use Liquitex® Fabric Medium, add distilled water if necessary—do not over-thin.
- Test technique on a separate piece. Each fabric has a different absorbency and will affect paint handling.
- Place protective layer on work surface to prevent sticking. Stretch sweatshirts with cardboard for best paint application.)
- Applying thick paint to large areas will tend to stiffen fabric.
- Iron on low synthetic heat setting. Use a pressing cloth or iron on reverse side of fabric.
- **Note:** Loose fabric weave allows more of the color to penetrate the fibers.

DRYING TIME

- Varies depending on surface, application and humidity. Paint will dry to touch in 5 minutes to 2 hours,

WASHING FABRIC

- After paint fully dries, wait at least 4 days before washing.
- Hand wash and hang dry is best. Do not presoak or use hot water. Wash items inside out.
- Dry cleaning machines that spin-dry fabric at room temperature are recommended. Dry cleaning suede is acceptable. Spot cleaning solutions should be avoided or used sparingly.

FABRIC PAINTING TECHNIQUES

Airbrush and Spray Application

- Liquitex® Soft Body and Liquitex® Airbrush Medium are recommended for this technique.
  - Mix 1 part Soft Body Colors with 1 part Airbrush Medium.
  - Add more Airbrush Medium as needed to achieve desired consistency.
- Colors must permeate cloth and be seen as ghost image on reverse side to be permanent.

Block Printing

- Liquitex® Heavy Body Colors and Liquitex® Slow-Dri® Gel Retarder are recommended for this technique.
- Coat a linoleum or wood block with waterproof varnish.
CHAPTER 4: APPLICATIONS / PAINTING ON FABRIC & LEATHER

FABRIC PAINTING TECHNIQUES (cont.)

Block Printing

- While varnish is wet, sift finely shredded fabric (flocking) onto the varnish. When dry this absorbent surface will hold paint for application.
- Mix Liquitex® Heavy Body Artist Color with up to 25% Slow-Dri® Gel Retarder and spread onto the block with a soft foam roller.
- Wet the fabric and place the block face down onto the cloth pressing firmly and evenly.
- Stretch the fabric on a padded surface to help facilitate printing.
- Use absorbent, medium-to-heavy weight fabrics without deep texture for best results.

Brushwork

Recommended Products:
- Liquitex® Soft Body Colors and/or Liquitex® Heavy Body Colors
- Liquitex® Slow-Dri® Fluid Retarder, Liquitex® Gel Retarder, and Liquitex® Fabric Medium
  - Mix Liquitex® Soft Body colors with Fabric Medium for a softer feel to finished painting.

Drawing

Recommended Products:
- Liquitex® Heavy Body or Super Heavy Body Artist Colors
- Liquitex® Gloss Gel, Liquitex® Gloss Heavy Gel or Liquitex® Matte Gel Medium
  - Screw a plastic cake decorator tip onto a tube of Heavy Body Artist Color and squeeze apply.
  - Super Heavy Body Colors can be applied with cake decorator through a variety of different tips.
  - Mix paint with Liquitex® Gel Mediums to adjust consistency; apply with cake decorator to produce thick lines.
  - Use absorbent fabric. Hand wash and Hang Dry.

Dyeing and Staining

Recommended Products:
- Liquitex® Soft Body Professional Artist Color
- Liquitex® Flow-Aid™
  - Wash fabric to remove any starch or sizing.
  - Mix Flow-Aid™ water (1 part Flow-Aid™ to 20 parts distilled water) with Soft Body Professional Artist Color.
  - Mix 1 part color and 3 parts Flow-Aid™ water to increase transparency and decrease color intensity.
Dyeing and Staining (cont.)

Recommended Products:
› Transparent and translucent colors work best and dry with a softer finish.
› For soft edges, pre-wet fabric with Flow-Aid™ water; for hard edges leave dry.
› Tightly woven cotton and silk will achieve richest colors.
› A hot wax resist may be used for hard edges. Remove wax resist by dry cleaning.
› All colors are permanent; no heat setting required.
› Wet colors will dry lighter.
› Titanium White and all Iridescent and Interference colors may stiffen fabric.

Silk-Screen

Recommended Products:
• Liquitex® Soft or Heavy Body Colors
• Liquitex® Slow-Dri® Fluid Retarder,
• Liquitex® Gloss Medium & Varnish
  › Mix up to 25% Liquitex® Slow-Dri® Fluid Retarder into paint to slow drying.
  › For heavyweight fabric use Liquitex® Soft Body colors; lightweight fabric use Liquitex® Heavy Body colors.
  › Squeegee paint through screen. Wash screen with water immediately after use.
  › Gloss Medium & Varnish can be used as a permanent screen block solution. Apply directly to screen.

• Stamping
  › Paint stamp with either Liquitex® Soft or Heavy Body Colors.
  › Press painted side onto surface using even pressure; allowing absorption into fabric.

• Stenciling
  › Use either ready made stencils or cut from heavy paper, oak tag, acetate or frisket films. Use spray stencil adhesives if necessary.
  › Apply paint with polyurethane foam dauber, rag or stencil brush.
  › Thinning paint may cause it to bleed.
  › Do not force paint under the edge of stencil.

• Watercolor
  › Use Soft Body Professional Artist Color, thinned with distilled water to desired consistency.
  › Multiple applications can be painted over once dry without picking up underlying colors.
  › Lightweight fabrics allow paint to spread quickly.
LEATHER

- Long-term paint adhesion can be a problem due to variations in surface, thickness, fiber structure, oil content, dye type and tendency to stretch. Always do a test sample.

**Preparation**
- For maximum adhesion and longevity, the paint should penetrate into the leather.
- Deeper penetration will achieve greater adhesion.
- Remove any surface coating, shine, or smoothness by sanding with fine sandpaper or emery cloth.
- Remove surface oils by wiping with alcohol (denatured or rubbing) or acetone only in areas to be painted.

**Painting Techniques**
- Before applying paint, flatten and adhere leather to a stable surface.
- For light or bright colors on dark leather first apply Liquitex® Soft Body Titanium White thinned with 25% distilled water to the painting area.
- Follow any of the already discussed Fabric Painting Techniques.

**Cleaning**
- Wipe with damp cloth or mild soap and water.

**Care**
- Paint may crack if leather is stretched beyond the binding capability.
- Avoid wearing painted leather below 45° F. (Acrylic paint can crack if bent below this temperature.)