

12ct Gold Leaf

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

12ct Gold Leaf is a genuine gold alloy leaf intended for decorative gilding applications where a lower-carat gold alloy is required. It is suitable for experienced gilders, restorers, signwriters, framers, artists and decorative craftspeople. The appearance and final durability depend on substrate preparation, size, environment and finishing system.

Product identification

Product	12ct Genuine Gold Leaf
Gold fineness	12 carat / 500 fineness - minimum 50% gold by mass
Alloy	Gold alloy with the balance made up of other metallic constituents. Exact alloying metals and proportions may vary by batch or shade.
Form	Thin beaten metal leaf; supplied loose and/or transfer depending on product format
Colour	Gold alloy tone; shade may vary according to alloy composition, batch and lighting
Typical use	Decorative gilding, lettering, ornamental work, frames, artworks and interior features

Application guidance

Surface preparation: Apply only to clean, dry, stable and suitably prepared surfaces. Remove dust, grease, loose material and contamination before sizing. Porous or absorbent substrates should be sealed or primed as appropriate.

Sizing: Use a compatible gilding size and follow the size manufacturer's instructions for application, open time and tack. Test compatibility before starting important work.

Laying the leaf: Handle with clean, dry tools and avoid unnecessary contact with fingers. Lay the leaf onto the correctly prepared tack and lightly press or mop into place using suitable gilding tools.

Finishing: Carefully remove skewings and excess leaf after the size has cured sufficiently. Where protection is required, use a compatible clear coating only after testing; coatings can alter colour, sheen and ageing characteristics.

Performance and limitations

Exterior use	12ct gold contains a significant proportion of alloying metals and is generally more susceptible to tarnishing and environmental attack than higher-carat gold leaf. For exterior or exposed work, suitability should be assessed carefully and a protective system may be required.
Tarnish	Possible, particularly in damp, polluted, marine, sulphurous or chemically aggressive environments, or where the leaf contacts reactive substrates or unsuitable coatings.
Coverage	Coverage varies with leaf dimensions, overlap, substrate profile, wastage and the skill of the applicator. Allow for additional leaf on textured or complex work.
Compatibility	Always carry out a small trial on the actual substrate, size and finishing system before full application.

Handling and storage

Store flat in the original closed packaging in a clean, dry environment away from moisture, chemicals, direct heat and strong air movement. Handle gently to prevent creasing, tearing or contamination. Keep work areas free from draughts when using loose leaf.

Health, safety and disposal

This document is a product data sheet and is not a Safety Data Sheet. Normal good workshop hygiene should be followed. Avoid inhalation of fine metallic particles generated during sweeping, sanding or other secondary operations. Dispose of waste in accordance with local requirements and recover precious-metal waste where practical.

Important note

The information above is intended as general technical guidance for Wrights of Lymm 12ct Gold Leaf. Because substrates, site conditions and application methods are outside our control, users should confirm suitability by trial before use. Product appearance and alloy composition may vary slightly between production batches. For project-specific requirements, contact Wrights of Lymm Ltd before application.

Wrights of Lymm Ltd Gold Leaf Specialists Excellence since 1840	Tel: 01925 752226 Email: info@wrightsoflymm.co.uk Web: www.wrightsoflymm.co.uk
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