

Glamorous in gold

This stunning feature wall in Barbara and Rob Farrell's Paarl home was painstakingly created using small sheets of gold leaf.

HERE'S HOW

Sihan Wiid of Mink Interiors explains the process:

- First we painted the wall with a base colour of maroon. Turquoise, umber and maroon work well when it comes to gilding; when they show through the gold leaf, they create a lovely aged look. We chose maroon as it creates a warm feel in this large hallway.
- An adhesive (gilding size) was then brushed onto the wall and the gold leaf sheets were stuck on. A thin plastic or wax paper should be added on top of the sheets before a fine brush is used to 'paint on' the delicate leaves. The plastic or paper is then removed. "We didn't apply all the corners of the leaves perfectly so that some of the maroon would show through for an antique look.
- After two days, the Japanese blossoms were hand-painted using xxxxxxxx paint and fine brushes. A feather was used to brush on the branches.
- The entire wall was sealed with xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx. >>

Project team included Sihan Wiid of Mink Interiors, Hilary Greg Cruywagen of Paint & Design and fine artist Raag Strydom

Metallic paint is an *affordable alternative* to gold leaf and great for a solid look – *Sihan Wiid of Mink Interiors*