

Iron Gall Ink

In the medieval recipes there are only two methods of preparing ink. Either, mixing gum with carbon, or treating salts of iron with tannic acid. **Iron Gall Ink** was probably invented in the first centuries of our era. The earliest known surviving document written with iron ink is an Egyptian parchment of the seventh century. Almost all later medieval manuscripts, which usually appear brown in colour, are written with iron gall ink. The ink is quite a lot thinner than other inks as its colour results from a chemical reaction. Being thinner, it is quicker to use, flows well and produces exceptionally fine hairlines. It appears watery and grey at first but dries to a dark blue/black on exposure to air. It is unlikely to fade for a long time.

Blot's Iron Gall Ink is carefully blended with reference to Palatino's recipe of AD 1540. Iron Gall Ink is rare and usually expensive but you can experience this medieval ink at the realistic price of £3.99

Iron Gall Ink is particularly suitable for Copperplate, fine Italics and sketching but can be used with any broad edged dip pen - keep the pen well inked. Wash the pen well with clean water after use. Blot's Iron Gall Ink is bottled in a wide-necked jar (which can be useful if you use an angled holder).

IronJar (wide-necked jar) 28.4ml
£3.99 each

Packs of 4 jars
(Iron4) **£12.00**

Trade enquiries welcome.



"Ink-making is in many ways a wonderfully romantic process, redolent of alchemy and witchcraft"

Iron Gall Ink is ideal for Pen & Ink sketching. It can be used as a wash and will provide a wide range of different tones.

At first you will have to experiment to estimate the amount of water required as the ink darkens on drying.

In the finished sketch you will find sepia looking sections. It is not sepia but probably rust from bits of undissolved iron !