

Sgraffito Technique

Sgraffito is a decorative technique used in wall painting and plaster work where **layers of coloured plaster are applied and the top layer is scratched away to reveal the colour underneath.**

Process:

- A **base layer of plaster** is applied to the wall surface.
- A **second layer of plaster in a different colour** is spread on top while the surface is still workable.
- Using sharp tools, the artist **scratches or incises the upper layer** to expose the lower layer, creating patterns, lines, or images.
- The contrast between the layers produces the final design.

This technique was widely used during the Renaissance for decorating building facades and interior walls because it allowed artists to create **detailed, durable designs directly in plaster.**