

# Flockbox instructions

See my guides on how to get the best from your Flockbox at [warpainter.net](http://warpainter.net)

## Preparation

- **WARNING! Please read the safety section at the end of these instructions first.**
- **IMORTANT!** The Flockbox may not operate properly in an environment with less than 30% humidity such as a very dry heated room. This applies to all flocking devices, due to the flock not being able to hold a charge. You may need to open a window to let more moisture in.
- It is recommended that you run the Flockbox at 9 volts DC. You can also run it at 12 volts if required for extra performance.
- For details about power supplies and troubleshooting please visit [warpainter.net](http://warpainter.net)

## Setting up

1. **To use the top plate:** Plug the green cable into the green socket (the red cable is not needed).
2. **To use a separate sieve:** Plug both the red cable and green cables into their colour coded sockets. The red cable end clips onto your sieve, the green cable should touch the item to be flocked.
3. Insert your power supply into the metal socket. To save stress on your power supply please make sure it is switched off at the mains before and after plugging it into the Flockbox, this also avoids you getting an accidental static shock.
4. It is recommended you use a large piece of newspaper underneath the Flockbox to collect unused fibres for you to recycle as the Flockbox does throw a lot of flock around when in use.
5. Getting the odd static shock is unavoidable; I have had countless shocks and find it is the surprise factor that makes me jump more than any kind of real pain. Running the Flockbox at 12 volts can create a stronger shock but you can use rubber gloves if the shocks bother you.

## Using your Flockbox with the top plate

- Place some flock fibres onto the metal plate, too thin a flock layer may not pick up.
- Put glue or adhesive on to your item to be flocked.
- Switch the Flockbox on so that the light shows.
- Take the end of the green cable and hold it so the metal end touches the back of your item to be flocked.
- (Glue side downwards) hold the item over the flock pile moving it closer to the pile.
- You should find that the flock now attracts to your item. It may take a little experimenting but the flock should be sticking to the glued area and standing upright.
- The flock will temporarily stick to areas without glue but that will shake off once the static charge wears off.
- Sometimes it helps to stir the flock on the metal plate with a wooden stick or straw to agitate it and loosen some of the entangled fibres, this normally happens when the flock pile

gets low. Different flock brands/colours/lengths will vary on how well they perform with the Flockbox.

### Using your Flockbox with a metal sieve

- Firstly you will need to wrap the handle of your sieve in electrical tape, cover all gaps including the end of the handle in the tape and wrap around at least a few times.
- The red cable needs to have the crocodile clip inserted onto the end which then clips onto your metal sieve, not on the handle but on the front rim area.
- The green cable should go underneath or attach to the item to be flocked; a sheet of kitchen foil underneath the item can improve the flocking performance and the earth cable should be clipped onto to the kitchen foil. So if you are flocking a model hill you can either place it onto a sheet of kitchen foil which will spread the charge or you could clip a paper clip into the crocodile clip and push the paper clip into the hill, either way should work, the same method can be applied to other large items.
- Add your flock into the metal sieve turn on the Flockbox and shake the sieve over the top of the area to be flocked. The closer you get to the area to be flocked the stronger the charge will be to hold the flock upright.

### Other helpful advice

- Flock can be very durable when applied properly but is only as strong as the glue/adhesive that you use. So make sure you are using the correct type of glue for the surface that requires flocking. **PVA is the best** if you can use that. I do not recommend using superglue.
- If you find the Flockbox too powerful and is throwing out too much flock you can place a metal bowl with a rim edge on top of the Flockbox's metal plate, this will better contain the flock fibres but will reduce the pickup performance. A bowl can quickly be made out of kitchen foil for this use. Note: the higher the rim edge the more reduced the pickup performance.
- The shorter the flock length the easier it is to apply a thick coating. A 1mm flock is *far* easier to coat than a 6mm flock. I do not recommend using longer than a 6mm flock. Instead try flocking over the top of long flock to raise the height such as making longer grass tufts.
- It can help to use some shorter flock to fill out the base of a longer flock. I.e. Apply your longer flock and after a while throw some shorter flock onto the metal plate which will fill out the base of the longer flock.
- Flocking recesses is a problem even for industrial flocking machines. Again the longer the flock the more difficult it will be to obtain a full coverage. You will need to move your item around at varying angles to try and get the flock into difficult areas.
- I recommend using 1-2mm flock as a the base layer for model figures 15mm (1/100) scale and 1mm for 1/300 scale. It is easy to apply; looks great and once dry longer flock can be added over the top to simulate taller grasses.
- 2mm flock grass is best for the main base of 28mm figures, then add longer grasses over the top.
- Don't forget you can also make your own grass tufts using silicone paper; see my website for more details.
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## Safety instructions!

- Do not use this product if you have a pacemaker or any other electrical medical device inside your body as the Flockbox has not been tested for these devices and may be dangerous.
- This is NOT a toy and is intended for use by adults only. **Keep away from children.**
- Do not use this in the presence of explosive or flammable materials as it is possible for static sparks to cause ignition. This includes strong aerosol, some glue or adhesive vapours.
- Do not handle any other electrical device while using this product, such as mobile phones, MP3 players or data storage mediums, as it is possible the strong static charge produced by the Flockbox may damage sensitive electronics.
- A dust mask is recommended for 2mm flocks or shorter as some fibres will become airborne.
- Turn the power off when not in use.
- Do not use if this device is wet.
- To clean use a dry towel.
- Use 'common sense'!

**My website address:**

[www.warpainter.net](http://www.warpainter.net)