

Circular Design for Interiors: Sustainable Wall Finishes with Recycled Plaster

Format: Self-paced online course

Duration: 6 Weeks (Flexible access)

Audience: Artisans, interior designers, builders, material innovators, and sustainability-conscious creatives

Delivery: 100% Digital or in-person by request

Certificate: Issued upon successful completion of final quiz/project

Course Overview

This course introduces learners to sustainable and circular interior design principles through the practical lens of **recycled plaster wall finishes**. Through video lectures, illustrated manuals, and downloadable resources, students will gain technical knowledge and hands-on skills for applying elegant, low-carbon finishes in real-world settings. Featuring case studies and tested material recipes, the course combines theory and practice to equip participants with creative, ecological design tools.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, learners will:

- Understand the principles of circular design in interiors.
- Identify and work with recycled plaster materials.
- Apply different techniques to create eco-friendly and long-lasting wall finishes.
- Customize finishes using natural pigments and additives.
- Communicate sustainability benefits in design projects.
- Develop confidence in specifying recycled plaster in professional work.

Course Structure & Materials

Each week contains:

- Pre-recorded Video Lectures
- Step-by-Step Tutorials
- Technical Manual
- Downloadable Recipes & Materials Sheets
- Glossary of Terms (PDF)
- A Self-Assessment Quiz each
- Final Certificate (after Week 6 quiz/project)

Week-by-Week Breakdown

WEEK 1 — Introduction to Circular Design for Interiors

Topics:

- What is circular design?
- From waste to value: the role of recycled materials
- Relevance of plaster in circular construction

Learning Objectives:

- Define circular design and its importance in interior architecture
- Understand the environmental benefits of reusing plaster
- Identify opportunities to integrate circular thinking into practice

WEEK 2 — Material Science: Recycled Plaster & Its Possibilities

Topics:

- Understanding gypsum, lime, clay, and hybrid mixes

- How to source and recycle plaster
- Properties and performance of recycled materials

Learning Objectives:

- Differentiate types of plasters and their behaviors
- Understand composition and mixing proportions for recycled plaster
- Learn about sourcing and safety for recycled materials

WEEK 3 — Surface Preparation & Layering Techniques**Topics:**

- Prepping walls for plastering (new vs. existing surfaces)
- Layering: scratch coat, base coat, finish coat
- Avoiding common errors: cracks, bubbling, uneven drying

Learning Objectives:

- Prepare a variety of surfaces for recycled plaster application
- Apply multi-layer systems for durability
- Identify causes and solutions for application issues

WEEK 4 — Texture, Pigment, and Finish Design**Topics:**

- Natural pigmentation: oxides, earth powders, plant-based options
- Finishes: smooth, textured, rammed earth, matte, gloss
- Working with light, form, and tactile surfaces

Learning Objectives:

- Mix and integrate pigments safely into plaster
- Achieve different textures and finish qualities
- Create a visual identity with sustainable surface design

WEEK 5 — Circular Design in Practice: Planning & Specification

Topics:

- How to specify recycled plaster for projects
- Budgeting and communicating ecological value to clients
- Design documentation and sample boards
- Planning for repair, reuse, and end-of-life scenarios

Learning Objectives:

- Draft a sample specification sheet
- Communicate the sustainable advantage to clients or stakeholders
- Incorporate plaster finishes in circular interior design proposals

WEEK 6 — Showcase & Final Reflection

Topics:

- Summary of key learnings
- Presentation of design samples or boards
- How to evolve your practice with circular principles
- Opportunities for further learning or collaboration

Learning Objectives:

- Synthesize course insights into a creative output
- Reflect on how to apply techniques in your design or build practice
- Create a plan for incorporating sustainable finishes into future projects



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