Promix Fibred Basecoat

Product Data Sheet

A dry ready mixed Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar for rendering & plastering.

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PROTECTING THE PAST & PRESENT

Product Description

Factory blended mortar using graded kiln dried sand and Saint-Astier Natural Hydraulic Lime, combined with carefully selected additives to improve the mortar's physical and mechanical properties, whilst maintaining all of the virtues of a pure Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar.

Mix Ratio

2:5 as standard, other mix ratios available on request. With the addition of a 18mm fibre.

Binder

Saint-Astier NHL2 or NHL3.5, other binders available on request.

Aggregate

4mm down washed silica sand.

Usage

This Basecoat is suitable for coarse render coats, typically including; dubbing out, scat coats, scratch coats and occasionally float coats.

Suitable for applications in construction where the binder strength is appropriate for the host background or surface. Suitable for external and internal use.

Do not use this product below 5°C, do not use this product if freezing conditions are predicted within the following few weeks (including wind chill); we have designed other products which are more appropriate for cold weather work, please contact us for more information. Do not use this product in temperatures above 30°C.

Benefits

- Better workability & reduced shrinkage risk
- Slower drying; better curing
- Quality controlled production
- Consistency of mix ratio and working additions

Coverage

After mixing, a 25kg bag will produce approximately 15 litres of mortar.

For render applications; a single 25kg bag will cover 1.5m² at 10mm thickness on a totally flat wall. As walls are never completely flat on-site trials will always give the best indication of yield for your specific project.

Colour and Texture

All of our standard Promix Render range is entirely natural in colour. No pigments or colourants are added. Cornerstone Promix Fibred Basecoat is made with an off-white sand which gives a bright but off-white render when floated.

Please note that as sands come from a natural source there can be some variation in colour. While variances are slight, for applications where colour is important such as unpainted render, we strongly advise that each elevation is completed using render from the same batch.

Preparation

In general, this will be determined by the purpose and application of the render.

Dense impervious backgrounds/materials are unlikely to be very absorbent and require little to no dampening, whereas more absorbent backgrounds/materials require adequate dampening in order to prevent rapid drying.

Whilst the Promix product range includes additions to help mitigate shrinkage issues, best practice still needs to be followed.

Ensure surfaces are clean and free of dust and other debris.

Mixing

A 25kg bag of mortar will require 4 to 4.5 litres of clean potable water. Always avoid making the mortar too wet, as this can promote shrinkage issues.

For drum type mixers, it is essential not to overfill the mixer.

As a dry mixed material, it is possible that some settlement or separation may occur in the bag during transit; when mixing part bags, it is especially important that the dry contents are thoroughly blended prior to mixing with water.

Best Practice/Advised Mixing: First add 60 to 70% water of the total water into the mixer, followed by the Promix Render and turn the mixer on. Allow the mortar to mix until the water is thoroughly distributed, then add additional water to achieve desired consistency.

Mixing Time: Mix for a minimum of 5 minutes, but for no longer than 10 minutes.

Quenching: Like most lime mortars this blend will benefit from Quenching; allow the mortar to stand for 10 to 20 minutes after mixing, before use. Whilst this is not mandatory you may find the mortar stiffens a bit if used straight out of the mixer, it may need a splash more water with remixing or just knocking back up again after 20 minutes as a result.

Other Mix Methods: We accept that it is generally site practice to add the water to the mortar.

Manufactured by Cornerstone Mortars
Cornerstone products are CE marked
and manufactured under an ISO9001:2015
accredited Factory Production Control System.

Brims Park, Old Callywith Road
Bodmin, Cornwall PL31 2DZ
info@cornerstonemortars.co.uk
+44 0800 7839014

Providing the mortar is well mixed and not too wet, this method will be sufficient. Once water has been added, this mortar has an open time of at least 14 hours. Longer in colder weather.

Usage and Finishing

Areas of Use: Our Promix Basecoat range will be suitable for use onto masonry backgrounds with some suction; for application onto tanking please consult us first as special application methods or bonding materials may be required. Render carrier boards like Celenit or similar are also suitable substrates however fine fibred wood wool or wood fibres insulation boards are not appropriate. For any other render carriers please contact us for more details on suitability.

Coats: Promix Fibred Basecoat should be used as a minimum of two coat system; a single coat application will ghost through the background. The second coat may be the non-fibred version to prevent the fibres being visible in the finish

Application: Always wet a substrate (including previous render layers) to control suction before use, however you don't want to be laying into water sitting on the surface of the wall as this will act as a slip-layer and prevent the render from bonding.

Dub out the wall to bring it roughly flat by filling pockets, voids or missing pointing with a relatively stiff mix. After dubbing out a shallow scratch should be applied to any areas which have been filled, this will help create a key for the scratch coat to bond to. Allow 48 hours for this to stiffen sufficiently to take the scratch coat of render. Keep these areas damp by regular mist spraying until the scratch coat is ready to be applied.

The scratch coat should be applied at a target thickness of 10-12mm, this should be scratched using a cross-hatch pattern scratch to approximately 1/3 of the depth of the render. The more common 'wavy line' scratch used on modern sand and cement renders is not appropriate for this design of material. This coat should be left for a minimum of 7 days to build up in strength before application of a float coat. During this period the render should be damp cured by mist spraying and protection from direct sunlight and drying winds, preferably with damp hessian sheeting.

The float coat should be applied at a target thickness of 8-10mm and should not be thicker than the scratch coat. The scratch coat may need mist spraying before application to control suction. This should be floated with a wooden or plastic float to compress the surface after application; lime renders should be stiffer than sand and cement at time of floating and should not drag under the float. Optionally this can then be sponged up after it's stiffened a little more to give a smoother surface if this is to be the final coat. Whilst the fibres will mostly lay flat they will be visible – if this is not the aesthetic required then please consider use of an un-fibred topcoat.

The float coat can be left at this point to give a coarse finish or it can be topped with a finer sand, if a top coat is to be applied then the surface should be devil floated to give a light key for the top coat.

After application the render should be kept damp to promote a cure and protected from direct sunlight and drying winds for a minimum of two weeks; longer in colder weather. This can be achieved by use of sheeted scaffolding, damp hung hessian or even just unprotected regular dampening in sheltered areas.

Packaging

This product is supplied in 25kg polythene lined paper bags, palletised for shipping and handling. The packaging is a mixed material and should be recycled accordingly.

Also available as tonne bags for 3 Tonne or higher order quantities.

Storage

This product should be stored in dry conditions, in unopened bags and clear from the ground. Always protect bags from water and damp. Reseal part bags after opening if unused product is present.

Use within 6 months of manufacturing date (provided on each bag).

Health and Safety

RISK PHRASES: R36 / R37 / R38 / R43

- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Contact with wet mortar may cause irritation, dermatitis and/or burns.
- Contact between lime powder and body fluid (sweat, eye fluid etc.) may cause skin burns and respiratory irritation, dermatitis or burns.

SAFETY PHRASES: S2 / S24/25 / S26 / S37

- Avoid eye and skin contact by wearing suitable eye protection, protective clothing and gloves.
- Avoid breathing dust.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- On contact with skin and/or eyes, rinse immediately with clean water and seek medical attention.

Declaration

Cornerstone lime renders and plasters are manufactured to the requirements of BS EN 998-1: 2016.

This product will contain no Portland Cement whatsoever.

Document Control

Datasheet version 1.5, issued September 2024. More modern versions of this document will supersede this datasheet, with no exclusions.

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