



## Concrete-look

### Instructions Technical Data

SAFETY FIRST KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. AVOID EYE CONTACT. SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION IF INGESTED OR EXPOSED TO EYES. AVOID PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO SKIN. WEAR SAFETY GOGGLES AND GLOVES WHEN WORKING WITH PLASTER. WEAR OSHA APPROVED RESPIRATOR WHEN WORKING WITH DRY MIXES OR WHEN SANDING PLASTER. FOR MSDS (MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET), VISIT [WWW.5STARFINISHES.CA](http://WWW.5STARFINISHES.CA)

#### GENERAL

Our Concrete-look plaster is developed with the latest in admixture technologies all blended with high quality portland cement, lime, marble powder and graded silicas. This line of plaster comes in four different grades, x-Coarse, coarse medium and fine each having their own specially designed concrete grey color, or a white base that can be tinted (X-coarse comes in grey only). These plasters can be used on interiors as well as exteriors. Concrete-look should be applied in a minimum of 2 coats over our interior or exterior supplied quartz stone primer. The x-coarse and coarse grade plasters are used to create the appearance of concrete wall forms, rough concrete surfaces, or imitation board form, stamps or roller stamp effects. The smooth and medium grade of plaster allows for the appearance of polished concrete or more refined skip trowel effects, etc.

Our pre-mixed dry powder is formulated for superior adhesion, workability and durability. We have ensured that the plaster easily mixes and wets out thoroughly leaving a smooth lump free plaster. A wide range of interior and exterior textures can be achieved with our Concrete-look plaster; including the natural appearance of concrete and textured designer wall finishes commonly asked for in the industry.

#### COVERAGE

Depending on surface conditions, a 20 kg bag of Concrete-look will cover in two coats between 50-80 sq ft (X-Coarse) 70 to 80 sq. ft. (coarse) 100 sq ft (medium) or a 15 kg bag of Concrete-look will cover 80-120 sq ft with two coats (fine).

#### APPLICATION

Use a stainless steel trowel or a spatula to apply the two coats of Concrete-look

#### SUITABLE APPLICABLE SURFACES

Apply Concrete-look over substrates that are clean, cohesive, free of contamination and as follows:

**Gypsum Drywall:** (Interiors Only) Drywall should be taped and smoothed to a level 4 finish. Use our Quartz primer watered down 30% over new drywall to help seal and consolidate the surface. Then apply a second layer of Quartz primer without adding any extra water to provide a surface that will provide a permanent bond to our plasters and perfect junction between drywall and plaster. Standard PVA primer can also be used if a painting company is coming in before you to prime enabling you to apply only one coat of quartz primer. Let dry at least 1 hour prior to application or until dry to the touch.

**Existing painted substrates:** Always prime first with a recommended primer. If the surface is oil based or glossy, use a high adherence primer for bonding to difficult surfaces. Then apply one coat of our quartz primer prior to application and let dry at least 1 hour or until dry to touch.

**Existing texture** It is recommended to remove the texture via sanding or grinding, or to cover it up first with drywall compound etc to ensure a smooth and problem free substrate. Then prime with our quartz primer with 30% water, and one coat of quartz primer without adding extra water. Under certain circumstances you could cover existing texture with our coarse concrete-look and or 2+ coats of our basecoat plaster.

**Exterior application:** If the surface is previously painted, acrylic stucco, California stucco etc, then check the integrity of the surface, pressure wash and scrape clean any loose areas. If there is mold or mildew remove with appropriate cleaners and apply a stain blocking primer. Then apply one coat of our exterior primer prior to applying Concrete-look. If the surface is new brown coat, ensure it has dried for at least 30 days, then apply one coat of our exterior primer diluted 50-100% prior to applying Concrete-look, followed by a second application of primer undiluted. After a min of 1 week drying time, Apply two coats of our penetrating natural look sealer to ensure optimum water repellency and exterior durability. Protect from rain and runoff water prior to sealing as early stains and patina could occur.

**Preparatory work:** Mask and protect adjacent surfaces and remove any dust from surface, especially after sanding. Mask about .5-1mm from adjacent surface or trim to allow for thickness of plaster. Always protect floors and surrounding areas as plaster does drop and the sand will scratch any floors etc as you walk.

**PRODUCT PREPARATION** All surfaces must have even absorption rates for the final appearance to look uniform. It is crucial to ensure the correct primer is used and to not try and cover over drywall or cement stucco with our product that has not been primed.

Never use more than one wet mix for an entire wall surface, as the color and amounts of water used for the mix will not match perfectly. Never mix water into the plaster if its thicker during application as this will cause the plaster to change color due to a higher hydration rate. Doing this will cause the material to dry to a different color. You must mix only what is needed and mix the entire material using some extra water at the start to ensure the mix will be wet enough as it starts to set later in the bucket. Never spray water over the setting product as your working on the wall, as this also will cause staining and lighter and darker areas that are inconsistent with the natural look of the plaster. It is not bad practice to spray with water however, and this technique can be used if the sample board reflects this finish prior to install.

## PRODUCT APPLICATION

**First Coat:** Concrete-look should be applied at grain size, covering the entire wall. Allow at least 12 hours for the first coat to dry. All areas should be one color with no darker sections that are wet to the touch.

**Second Coat:** Apply the second coat working in small sections, either right to left for left handed people, or left to right for right handed, so that you are always working into a wet edge. Apply the plaster as per the system developed in your sample board, and as the plaster dries, you can lightly sponge it, compress with the edge of the plaster trowel, and or use the face of the trowel for a different style of compression, creating more higher and lower spots of varying colors. Be careful using the face of the trowel as darkening of the plaster occurs very quickly. Concrete-look is a natural plaster and will dry with subtle light and dark sections depending on the application technique.

**Polished finish:** On the last coat as the plaster dries to a clay like dryness, burnish plaster with edge of trowel obtaining a high marble like finish with our smooth finish, or a low lustre compacted finish with our coarse. Wax can be applied for an even higher polish.

**Top coats:** If desired, plaster can be finished with a sealer, lime wash, wax, glaze, or pearlescent paints etc. Please wait a min of 48 hrs for interiors prior to sealing, and 1 week for exteriors or areas of high humidity such as a bathroom.

**Colorants:** Plaster can be tinted to almost any color with water based or dry pigments. Multiple colors can be applied simultaneously for more creative finishes.

**Delivery, Storage and Handling:** Keep materials away from direct sunlight. Store them in original, unopened packages in a dry, dark location at temperatures between 45 and 95 degrees F. Always wear OSHA-compliant eye protection. Wear a respirator to mix, sand or scrape the product. Work only in well ventilated areas. Avoid prolonged skin contact. Avoid working with the material in temperatures below 41 degrees F or above 96 degrees F. Keep away from children. Do not use products older than 3 years. Always test an older product before use to ensure its quality. Read the entire MSDS and product labels.

**Cleaning:** Use a dry cloth to remove dust and loose dirt from surfaces, then wipe them with a clean damp cloth as needed. Mild detergents or proprietary cleaning agents may also be used. Scrub gently or use a low-pressure water stream if necessary. Solvents such as acetone or mineral spirits can also be used, provided proper safety procedures are observed. Clean vertical surfaces moving upward from the bottom. Use a damp rag followed by a dry rag to remove any remaining cleaning agents. Find a small, inconspicuous portion of the surface to test cleaning products and methods before applying them to a wider area. Follow the manufacturer's package label instructions.

Do not use acidic cleaners, bleach or CLR style cleaning agents, as they will damage the plaster.

**Blemishes:** You can sand with high grit sandpaper or steel wool to try and remove any small stain. Find a small, inconspicuous portion of the surface to test these techniques. Reapply sealer and/or wax to sanded areas as necessary.

**Mixing:** Our dry mix plaster can be mixed to different consistencies depending on the finish you are applying. In the case of stamped finishes you would want the mix to be more stiff, and with smooth polished finishes the mix should be more wet and thin. The final ratio of water should be around 25-35% of the dry mix, equal to around 5-7 liters of water per 20kg of product. Start slow and never add more water than you need at the start, as the mix can become too wet. It is best to mix your plaster first and then add your liquid colorant. If your using our dry pigments then first add the pigment in a ratio of 1 part pigment to 1 part water and ensure it is very well mixed prior to adding to your plaster.

When mixing, always have some water in the bottom of the bucket first, as this helps in mixing and not getting dry plaster stuck to the bottom of the bucket. It is best to mix the plaster in two buckets broken up first and then combine after mixing and do a final mix so the color is mixed thoroughly. You should use a high speed drill, such as a Makita hammer drill that has a max RPM of 2000. If you use a mixing spade to get the initial mix together, then always use a higher rpm hammer drill after as this faster speeds allow for a vortex to be created and ensures a uniform mix. The plaster will not mix entirely without a higher RPM drill.

**Pot life:** This product will set by the following morning and cannot be used in batches larger than what can be used for each wall.

To order materials, find more tech information and install ideas please visit [WWW.5STARFINISHES.CA](http://WWW.5STARFINISHES.CA).  
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