

## **Roccia Forte**

# 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

#### **GENERAL**

Our Roccia Forte plaster is Coarse and reflective and is developed with the purest form of Kaolin clay known as Kaolin Grolleg or China clay that has been blended with marble powder, coarse marble sand and special additives for added adhesion and hardness. Kaolin clay is much safer to work with, is more ph neutral, zero voc and ecologically friendly to the environment. There is no use of kilns or production of carbon dioxide in the making of Roccia. This plaster comes in two different grades, fine and coarse in a cream white base that can be tinted. Roccia can be used on interiors only and should be applied in a minimum of 2 coats. The coarse grade of Roccia plaster is used if you want a more robust finish, with more pitting and tears due to the large size of the grains. The larger grains of marble, also create a higher build, and allow for heavier coats that will cover more imperfections, heavy texture coats, or float finishes that pull the grains and create swirl looks etc. The fine version is more refined, and will allow for a more compact, polished and closed pore look. The smaller grains create a slightly thinner profile, will help to create tighter skip trowel finishes, old world looks, smooth or sponge finishes. The final appearance of Roccia can have distressed stone effects, matte to satin finishes and coarse old world finishes or skip trowel effects. Unlike our Vp Satin series, our clay plasters have a mechanical set vs a chemical set and can be easily cleaned and fixed for repairs by using water to soften the clay. The working times of our clay plasters are longer than lime based plasters and can be kept wet with water to eliminate cold joints 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.

Roccia can be modified for extra durability and ease of use, especially for base coats. Simply add a prepackaged amount of lime provided with your plaster prior to mixing with water to create a slight chemical set that helps in durability and keeps your base layer from wetting out and becoming difficult to work on or to help novice applicators.

### **COVERAGE**

Depending on surface conditions, a 20kg bag of Roccia Forte will cover between 50 to 80 sq. ft. with two coats (coarse) or a 20 kg bag of Stucco Finish will cover 70-100 with two coats (Fine).

### **APPLICATION**

Use a stainless steel trowel or a spatula to apply the two coats of Scintilla Intonaco.

### SUITABLE APPLICABLE SURFACES

Apply Roccia Forte 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. You can 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 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. It may be a better option in this case to remove the texture entirely, and or float with drywall compound first producing a level 4 finish first, priming and then applying Roccia Forte. Scintilla Intonaco is able to cover texture on its own and may work for your particular circumstances and substrate.

Preparatory work: Mask and protect adjacent surfaces and remove any dust from surface, especially after sanding. Mask about 0.5-1 mm 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 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 to control cold joints however, and this technique can be used if the sample board reflects this finish prior to install.

This plaster will start to thicken in the bucket after mixing, and when it becomes thicker during application, you can mix it again with a drill until it becomes workable again; however, never add more water to the mix.

#### PRODUCT APPLICATION

First Coat: First apply one layer of Roccia Forte over our interior Quartz primer fine ensuring you apply at grain size and cover the primer entirely and have a smooth surface free from lines and excess plaster. 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. It is extremely important to use a flexible trowel for the first coat of Roccia to ensure you minimize or eliminate entirely any ridges and trowel lines on the wall. This plaster is not heavily modified and does not pull like an acrylic product drying and can be back troweled as the product dries to knock down any texture and lines. Do not use a sponge to raise the grain as this will not produce a smooth surface after subsequent coats.

Second Coat: Apply Roccia 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. Roccia is a natural plaster and will dry with subtle light and dark sections depending on the application technique.

We do not recommend sanding in between coats as this step is not necessary and will produce dust or bare spots on your wall that will not produce a flawless finish.

Polished finish: On the last coat as the plaster dries, burnish plaster with edge of trowel obtaining a satin to shiny surface.

Matte finish: As the final coat is drying, you can use a sponge or sponge trowel to lightly compress the finish similar to acrylic stucco, leaving a more open grain finish. Very lightly compress this finish after with a flexible steel or plastic trowel to press the grain lightly into the surface.

Old world finish: Apply the second coat leaving certain areas open and not covering the base coat entirely. At the same time, you can also come back over this coat and leave some opening again over the new plaster, creating a double layer of rips. Apply lightly some extra plaster onto the walls with the edge of trowel and finally use a rigatto tool to drag and create cuts and swirls in the final finish. As the final layers are drying, compress with the face of the trowel to darken raised edges and create the final finish for your walls. The more wet the plaster is and the more you rub with the face of the trowel, the darker these areas will become. Do not stamp the trowel face onto the fresh plaster, as the base layer of clay will be wet at this point and can pull off from the quartz primer. This finish is made easier by choosing to add the 5% of slaked lime into the plaster for a stronger base coat.

Pitted and Roller Stamp finish: Working in sections apply a thick coat if plaster that is a little thicker than grain size, and then roll the pitted roller, or texture stamp rollers over the surface to create your patterned look.

Burnishing Roccia is different from our Vp Satin series, as the plaster adds water to the base layers, which soften unlike a lime or cement based system. Waiting until the plaster is more dry before polishing is a good rule of thumb with clay plasters, because the base layers will be more dry and stable to apply pressure. You can apply and burnish as it dries, then as it dries more you can come back and burnish again, and finally burnish one last time after the entire wall is mostly complete.

Polished finish: On the last coat as the plaster dries burnish plaster with edge of trowel obtaining a satin to shiny surface.

Matte finish: As the final coat is drying, you can use a sponge or sponge trowel to lightly compress the finish similar to acrylic stucco, leaving a more open grain finish. Very lightly compress this finish after with a flexible steel or plastic trowel to press the grain lightly into the surface.

Old world finish: Apply the second coat leaving certain areas open and not covering the base coat entirely. At the same time, you can also come back over this coat and leave some opening again over the new plaster, creating a double layer of rips. Stamp extra plaster onto the walls with the face of trowel covered in a thin layer of plaster, and finally use a rigatto tool to drag and create cuts and swirls in the final finish. As the final layers are drying, compress with the face of the trowel to darken raised edges and create the final finish for your walls. The more wet the plaster is and the more you rub with the face of the trowel, the darker these areas will become.

TOP COATS: If desired, plaster can be finished with an oil based penetrating sealer (511 impregnating sealer found on amazon.ca), lime wash, and with our oil based cire wax or pearl paints on interiors. Please wait a min of 48 hrs for interiors prior to sealing. Do not use any water based products as the water will destroy the finish and break down the product. It is recommended to keep the plaster in most cases free of any sealers as it is very easy to make any repairs in the future.

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. Water or Mild clear detergents or proprietary cleaning agents may also be used to remove a small stain etc. Burnish the area immediately after to consolidate the clay again as it dries. Sanding the area will remove a little of the clay that has been damaged. 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: Clay plasters are easily repaired as they do not have a chemical set like lime or cement based plasters and can be rewet with water and repaired. You can sand with high grit sandpaper or steel wool to try and remove any small stain, or simply wet the area and remove a little of the damaged plaster, and either trowel over the area again, or add a little extra plaster and wet the area slightly to consolidate the new plaster into the surrounding areas. Find a small, inconspicuous portion of the surface to test these techniques.

MIXING: Our dry mix plaster can be mixed to different consistencies depending on the finish you are applying. In the case of first and second coats you would want the mix to be more stiff, with the third coat of plaster being more wet and thin to produce a final glossy surface. The final ratio of water should be around 25-30% of the dry mix, equal to around 4.5 liters of water per 15kg 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 them to 1/3 of your mix water and mix with a drill for 1 minute to ensure it is mixed entirely. It is possible to strain the water through a fabric paint strainer as well prior to adding plaster to the water.

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. The plaster will be

more thin during mixing, but will thicken considerably if left overnight. Try not to use the plaster immediately and allow the clay to slack over night and fully wet out. Once you mix it again the next morning with a little extra water it will be very smooth and homogenous, with any unmixed plaster fully mixing. 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 not set and can be mixed ahead of time and should be used within 3 days of mixing. Natural clay plasters are prone to mold growth if left mixed in a bucket and left for long periods of time.

To order materials, find more tech information and install ideas please visit WWW.5STARFINISHES.CA. 5 Star Finishes Ltd 200 4170 Still Creek Dr, Burnaby, BC V5C6C6 778 682 4287 info@5starfinishes.ca

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