

Product Data Sheet

Thistle® Undercoat Plaster

Thistle Undercoat Plaster is ideal for smooth and low suction backgrounds. It's easy to spread and finish thanks to its fine mix and good workability, and is available in handy sized bags for smaller jobs.

Where to use

Use it for quick and easy repairs, whether you need to repair impact damage, fill deep chasing, or just patch small areas. The plaster is suitable for a wide range of internal backgrounds, including brickwork, blockwork, concrete and most smooth and low suction backgrounds.



Product information

Composition

This is a retarded hemihydrate, pre-mixed gypsum plaster.

Colour

Pink/grey.

Nominal weight (kg)

7.5 and 12.5 bags.

Performance

Here we only provide performance information related to the product. Please see the White Book online for system-dependent performance.

Standards

EN 13279-1:2008, Type B4/20/2 and C3/20.

Declarations of Performance (DoP) available [Click here](#).

Reaction to fire	A1
Thermal resistance (m ² K/W)	0.028

Effect of moisture and condensation

Don't expose the plaster to moisture repeatedly or for long periods of time, as this can cause it to lose strength and adhesion.

Effect of temperature

Thistle plasters aren't suitable for plastering onto frozen backgrounds. However, you can use Thistle plasters in frosty conditions as long as you prevent it from freezing after it's been applied. Dry, bagged plaster isn't affected by low temperatures.

Once Thistle plasters are fully set and dry, they shouldn't be exposed to temperatures above 49°C. When applying in hot or dry conditions, make sure the plaster doesn't lose water too quickly, as it needs some of the mixing water to set and reach full strength.

Application

Background preparation: solid backgrounds

Follow this guidance when working with solid backgrounds:

- Before applying the plaster, use the Thistle Essential Selector Guide to check that the background is suitable.
- Make sure the surface is dry, clean and protected from the weather.
- Before plastering concrete backgrounds, remove any mould, oil or other agents from the surface.
- You don't need to wet no-fines concrete before plastering.
- Allow enough time for normal ballast concrete to mature before applying the plaster.
- Don't apply plaster to 'green' backgrounds, or where any free water is visible.
- Wet mature concrete to displace the air before plastering.
- You may need to use Thistle Bond-it on smooth low suction backgrounds.

Mixing up

Add Thistle plasters to clean water and use clean mixing equipment, as contamination from previous mixes affects the setting time and strength. Fresh contamination has more of an effect than old, so you should wash equipment just after mixing rather than just before.

Thistle plasters are suitable for mixing by hand or using a mechanical whisk with a slow speed and high torque. While mechanical mixing speeds up the process, there is no need to continue mixing after you've dispersed the lumps and reached the right consistency. Over-mixing wastes time and energy, and can affect setting times, reduce workability, and make it difficult to achieve a flat finish.

Applying to different substrates

Plastering onto board backgrounds

- 1 Before applying Thistle plasters to Gyproc plasterboards or Glasroc F MultiBoard, reinforce flat joints using Thistle ProTape FT50 or FT100, or prefill any gaps wider than 3mm and reinforce them using Gyproc Joint Tape. Thistle ProTape FT50 and FT100 fibre tapes are self-adhesive, so you can fix them to the board's surface before the first application of plaster. If you're using Gyproc Joint Tape, embed it in the first coat over each joint, leaving enough plaster under the tape to ensure good adhesion. Then press the tape firmly into the plaster and immediately cover it with a further application.

- 2 Apply plaster to the whole surface after the joint treatment has partially set but not dried. Some joints will experience more movement, such as around door or window apertures, where board edges aren't fully supported, or on ceilings below floors that are susceptible to high deflection. In these areas, embed Gyproc Joint Tape in the finish for better resistance to cracking than with fibre tapes.
- 3 Fix Thistle Thin Coat Angle Beads or Thistle Thin Coat Stop Beads to plasterboard angles by embedding them in dabs of plaster. Avoid fixing the bead to the board 'dry'; this could reduce the adhesion as it's difficult to squeeze plaster between the bead and the plasterboard.
- 4 To hold the bead in alignment as the plaster sets, we recommend you use additional mechanical fixings like non-rusting nails, screws and staples. Wipe any surplus from corners before the plaster sets, as scraping it away later may damage the zinc coating.
- 5 Apply the plaster with a firm pressure, and build it out to the required thickness without exceeding 8mm. Rule the plaster to an even surface and lightly scratch it to form a key for 2mm of Thistle finish plaster. Follow good site practice as outlined in BS EN 13914 Code of Practice for Internal Plastering.

Plastering onto precast concrete

To reduce the risk of cracking, apply the floating coat using enough pressure to fill all of the gaps between units. Wire scratch the surface of the pricking-up coat to provide a good key for the floating coat, and allow it to set but not dry before applying the floating coat using the same plaster. Floating coats should be 8mm thick, applied up to a total plaster thickness of 25mm, and you should wire scratch the surface between each coat. Rule the final floating coat to an even surface and lightly scratch it to form a key; you could use a devil float to achieve this.

Plastering onto composite ceilings

Pre-treat concrete beams with Thistle Bond-it bonding agent. If required, control the suction of the infill panels with a dilute solution of Thistle GypPrime.

Plastering onto expanded metal lath

First apply a pricking-up coat, which should be forced through the metal lath to ensure good adhesion to the background.

Application (continued)

Wall application thickness (mm)	11
Ceiling application thickness (mm)	8
Gyproc HandiBoard, Gyproc WallBoard and Gyproc Plank: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	8
Engineering bricks with raked joints: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	11
Dense aggregate concrete blocks and no-fines concrete: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	11 (Thistle Bond-it may be required)
Normal ballast concrete soffits: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	11 (Thistle Bond-it may be required)
Other aggregate concrete: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	8 (Thistle Bond-it may be required)
Precast concrete units and composite ceilings: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	8 (Thistle Bond-it is required)
Extended metal lath: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	11 (from face of lath)
Backgrounds treated with Thistle Bond-it (e.g. glazed or painted surfaces): maximum recommended thickness (mm)	8
Expanded polystyrene soffits: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	8 (Thistle Bond-it may be required)
Expanded polystyrene walls: maximum recommended thickness (mm)	11 (Thistle Bond-it may be required)
Coverage per bag (m ²)	3.5 at 8mm thick 2.75 at 11mm thick
Working time: maximum	80 minutes
Set time: minimum	200 minutes
Water requirements per bag (litres)	4.5 for 7.5kg bags 7.5 for 12.5kg bags
Dry set weight (kg/m ²)	8 at 8mm thick 11 at 11mm thick

Painting and wallpapering

Make sure Thistle plasters are thoroughly dry before decorating, although you can apply a coat of permeable paint in the interim. You can decorate the finished surface using most proprietary paint finishes and wall covering adhesives, but always follow the manufacturers' recommendations for the best results.

Tiling

Add a Thistle finish coat plaster before tiling. Don't tile directly onto Thistle undercoat.

Snagging and minor repairs

Thistle undercoat plaster finished with 2mm of Thistle finishing plaster provides a system that's suitable for moderate to high impact and wear. If the plaster is correctly applied, you shouldn't need to maintain it afterwards.

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Sitework

Storage

Store bags dry, as water causes lumps to form inside. If storing on a concrete floor, use dry timber platforms.

Handling

British Gypsum fully accepts its responsibilities as a supplier of building materials and systems as required by Section 6 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. However, when designing and installing systems that use British Gypsum products, you must consider the legal requirements set out in:

- 1 Manual Handling Operations Regulations
- 2 Construction (Design and Management) Regulations
- 3 Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH).

Safety Data Sheet

Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available [Click here](#).

Shelf life

Stored correctly, this product has a shelf life of six months, and bags are marked with a use by date so you can use them in strict rotation.

Packaging overview

This plaster is packaged in a plastic bag and is supplied palletised.

Quantity per pallet	100 bags: 7.5kg 72 bags: 12.5kg
Pallets: nominal height (mm)	1068 for 7.5kg bags 940 for 12.5kg bags
Pallets: nominal length (mm)	1200
Pallets: nominal depth (mm)	1000
Pallets: nominal weight (tonnes)	1068 for 7.5kg bags 940 for 12.5kg bags

Environmental

Disposal

Segregate the plaster from non-gypsum waste for recycling where possible, and dispose of it according to local authority requirements.



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