



HEALTH & SAFETY

GYPSUM-BASED POWDERS

1. Identification of the substance / preparation and company

Substance / preparation

- Knauf Bonding Compound
- Knauf Gypsum Parge Coat
- Knauf Cove Adhesive

Manufacturer

Knauf
Kemsley Fields Business Park
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME9 8SR

Telephone: (01795) 424499
Emergency telephone: 01795 416270

2. Hazards Identification

Sanding of gypsum plasters may generate excessive dust.

3. Composition/Information on ingredients

The principal constituent of Knauf Drywall gypsum-based powders is calcium sulphate hemihydrate. Natural constituents may include limestone, clay and a small amount of quartz. Additives may include hydrated lime (less than 2.5%), small amounts of polymer water retention agents, binders, dispersants and setting time modifiers.

Plaster powders/dust may irritate eyes or sensitive skin, dust may irritate respiratory system. An alkaline solution may be produced on contact with body moistures.

4. First Aid Measures

- Inhalation: Remove the person to fresh air.
- Skin contact: Rinse skin with running water, then wash with water and soap.
- Eye contact: Irrigate with plenty of water and obtain medical advice.
- Ingestion: Wash mouth out and drink plenty of water.

Please note: should any symptoms persist obtain medical assistance.

5. Fire-fighting Measures

Non combustible and prevents flames from spreading.

6. Accidental release measures

The formation of dust should be controlled and suppressed, collect released dust and put into bags.

Prevent these products from contaminating drains and watercourses as a powder or a slurry.

(refer to section 8, Exposure/Protection and section 13. Disposal Considerations).

7. Handling and Storage

Bagged products are supplied on pallets. Pallets should be lifted with a fork lift truck, and not stacked more than two-high to preserve stability. They should be stored in a clean dry environment.

Note: If handling manually, consider risks as required by manual handling operations regulations 1992.

8. Exposure controls/personal protection

Occupational exposure limits (OEL)*

Substance	Total inhalable	Total respirable
Gypsum	10mg/m ³	4mg/m ³
Limestone	10mg/m ³	4mg/m ³
Mica	10mg/m ³	0.8mg/m ³
Hydrated Lime	5mg/m ³	5mg/m ³

Maximum Exposure Limit (MEL)*

Substance	Total inhalable	Total respirable
Silica		0.3mg/m ³

* 8 hour TWA reference period.

Personal protection

- Respiratory: The area of work requires appropriate ventilation and dust formation should be minimised and controlled. If dust formation can not be controlled wear a half face mask to EN 149 Class FFP1S.
- Hand: Impermeable gloves are recommended in prolonged or repeated wet contact. A barrier of cream to the hands can be



HEALTH & SAFETY

applied to reduce the effect of hand contact.

Eye: If the formation of plaster dust or splashes are likely to occur, safety goggles to BS EN 166 2A5 are recommended.

Skin: To avoid skin contact wear protective overalls and footwear.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Appearance: Dry powder

Odour: Odourless

pH: Neutral to alkaline as wet plaster mix pH 7-13, depending on grade.

(Refer to section 2 – Composition/Information on ingredients).

10. Stability and reactivity

Stable and unreactive.

11. Toxicological information

Inhalation: Plaster dust can cause short term irritation of the respiratory system, no known long term effects.

Skin contact: Powder or wet mix may cause dry skin leading to irritation if contact is prolonged or if the skin is sensitive.

Eye contact: Irritation can be experienced due to powder or wet mix splashes, the eyes must be washed out immediately, to reduce the discomfort and possibility of long term damage.

Ingestion: Swallowing small quantities of powder or wet mix will not cause any significant reaction or long term damage.

12. Ecological information

Mobility: Sparingly soluble in water, forms a solution and solidifies.

13. Disposal Considerations

Can be disposed of at an authorised landfill site in accordance with local or national regulations.

14. Transport Information

Not classified as hazardous for transport.

15. Regulatory Information

Products are not classified as hazardous under:

Occupational Exposure Limits EH40, (reviewed and reprinted annually).

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002.

16. Other Information

This product should be used as directed by Knauf. For further information consult the technical department.

An on-site risk assessment should be carried out before use.

This safety data sheet:

- supersedes all previous issues, and users are cautioned to ensure it is current. Destroy all previous data sheets, and if in any doubt, contact Knauf, quoting the date in the top right hand corner of this document.
- does not replace the users own workplace risk assessment.
- was compiled using the current safety information supplied by the distributors of the component materials.
- is based on the present state of our knowledge and is intended to describe our products from the point of view of health and safety requirement. It should not be construed as guaranteeing specific properties.