

Lime Paints – Recommendations & Data

Vibrant and beautiful, the Le Décor - St. Astier lime paint range is the perfect compliment to lime plaster and suitable for most backgrounds. It can be applied to gypsum plasters, drywall, lining paper, cement and lime backgrounds, bricks, blocks and untreated timber.

Mixing

In a gallon container place 1lb, 15.2 oz. (.88 kg) of powder and complete with clean water. (For five-gallon units, place 9 lbs, 13.2 oz. (4.4 kg) in a five-gallon container and complete with clean water.) Substituting 10% of the water with liquid latex, such as Sika Latex, is acceptable, for ease of application. Further dilution might be necessary on extremely porous backgrounds. Proper mixing is essential. When mixed it should be completely free of lumps or fine particles. Check the bottom and sides of the mixing tub to ensure all the powder is fully combined.

Application

Do not work in temperatures below 40°F (8°C) or above 85°F (30°C) or in a humid environment. Protect painted areas from direct sun, drying wind and rain for 3 to 4 days (longer in damp weather conditions). Do not use warm air dryers.

All newly plastered surfaces should be properly cured before applying lime paints.

Apply with a good quality long hairbrush in short strokes. Evenly and thinly spread the lime paint on the surface, work into any small hollows or cracks. Do not overload the brush, use only the bottom third of the bristles, do not apply unevenly. Stir regularly during application. Generally 2 coats are sufficient. Wait 12 - 24 hours between coats.

Be patient. Apply in thin coats - do not apply too thick.

On large areas of work, always keep the working edge damp, do not allow the lime paint to dry out and form a dry joint. Inadequate protection of the working area will exacerbate drying. Maintain a dampened background in advance of application with a light mist spray. Sufficient personnel should be used to complete large areas without forming dry joints. Always finish whole walls or elevations into details, angles, corners, down pipes or the like in one operation to avoid color banding.

Background

Remove any loose or flaking paints and repair defective plasters or stuccos. Test the background for suction by lightly flicking clean water from a brush on to the surface of the wall. Rapid suction into the background means that saturation with clean water will be required. In this case it may also be necessary to thin the first coat with 30% additional water. If thinning is required mix as normal then take out with a measured container the quantity you require to be thinned, place it in a separate container and add the extra water. A low suction background does not require pre-wetting or additional thinning for the first coat. **Very smooth or polished surfaces offering little or no suction might require sanding down with sandpaper to create the necessary suction.**

Ensure that background is fully cured, clean and sound. Do not use lime paint in areas subjected to abnormal condensation such as a kitchen or bathrooms, unless sufficient ventilation is available to prevent condensation. Lime paints are not film-forming materials that will hide the background condition therefore salts and dampness will show through. Some surfaces may have variations in background materials (i.e.: brick, stone, cement, etc) and therefore care is required in controlling differing suction levels. Lime paints can react poorly with some modern gypsum premixed plasters due to their additives content.

Wallpaper joints are often smeared with adhesive during hanging. Make sure that the adhesive paste used is water-soluble. Clean the joint before applying lime paint, as excess adhesive residues on the face of the paper will cause the lime paint to dry out a different color.

Recommendation: If in doubt, always try on a small test area.

Unsuitable Backgrounds

Not to be used on backgrounds with no suction or containing waterproofing agents, oil paints, grease distempers or cement paints, which have water repellent agents.

Protection

Do not use below 40°F (8°C) or above 85°F (30°C). Avoid working in foggy/ damp weather. Protect from rain, strong direct sunlight and drying winds for at least 24 hours or longer if required.

**Recommendations in this document are for general guidance purposes.
For job specific advice please consult your local Distributor.**