



Thistle Spray Finish

Product Data Sheet

Introduction

Overview

Thistle Spray Finish is a gypsum finish plaster designed for application by worm pump type plastering machines (also called mono pump machines). It may also be applied by hand.

It provides a smooth, inert, high quality surface to internal walls and ceilings, and a durable base for the application of decorative finishes.

It is a retarded hemihydrate, pre-mixed gypsum plaster, requiring only the addition of clean water to prepare it for use.

Applications

Thistle Spray Finish is designed for the finishing of low-suction backgrounds, e.g. Gyproc plasterboard, Glasroc F MULTIBOARD, Glasroc F FIRECASE and Rigidur H, and surfaces treated with ThistleBond-it.

Standards

Thistle Spray Finish complies with *BS EN 13279-1 type B7/50/6*, and is manufactured under a quality system independently audited and certified as conforming with *ISO 9001: 2008*.

Performance

Fire protection

Gypsum plasters provide good fire protection due to the unique behaviour of gypsum in fire. Thistle Spray Finish is designated Euroclass A1 in accordance with *BS EN 13501-1: 2002*.

Thermal resistance

It should be assumed that Thistle Spray Finish makes a negligible contribution to thermal resistance of building elements.

Based on design values in *BS EN 13279-1*, the thermal conductivity can be taken as 0.43 W/mK.

Effect of temperature

Thistle Spray Finish is not suitable for plastering onto frozen backgrounds but may be used under frosty conditions provided that after plastering the surfaces are adequately protected from freezing. Dry bagged plaster is not affected by low temperatures.

Thistle Spray Finish is only suitable for situations where the temperature does not exceed 49°C. During the application of gypsum plasters in hot conditions, care should be taken to ensure that rapid loss of water is avoided. Gypsum plasters require a proportion of the mixing water in order to set and achieve full strength. If water is dried off too rapidly, the strength of the plaster will be impaired.

Effect of condensation and other moisture

Thistle Spray Finish should be protected from continuous exposure to liquid water. Prolonged or repeated exposure may cause a loss of strength and / or adhesion.

Coverage

Coverage per bag m ²	Setting time	Dry set weight kg/m ²	Pallet quantity kg
11 at 2mm thickness	1 hour, 40mins	2.4	1400 (56 bags)

Installation

Background preparation

Plasterboards (excluding moisture resistant grade boards):

Skimming should be specified only on the face of boards, i.e. the side without a paper overlap. This will be the ivory face in the case of Gyproc WallBoard, Gyproc WallBoard TEN, Gyproc DuraLine and Gyproc HandiBoard, or the coloured face of Gyproc FireLine and Gyproc SoundBloc. Joints must be reinforced with Thistle ProTape FT50 or FT100, or, for higher crack resistance, Gyproc Joint Tape. A range of corner and stop beads are available for reinforcement of external angles and edges.

Moisture resistant grade boards:

Skim plastering should not normally be specified to Gyproc Moisture Resistant and MR grade boards. These types of board are intended for use in environments of higher than normal humidity for which no gypsum plaster is designed to be suitable. Where moisture resistant board options are used in shell and core construction to provide temporary resistance to high moisture conditions, they can be skimmed at a later date after the building envelope has been made weather-tight. Plaster should be applied only to the face of moisture resistant boards and pre-treatment with ThistleBond-it is required.

Glasroc F MULTIBOARD, Glasroc F FIRECASE and Rigidur H:

Skim finishing using Thistle Spray Finish should be to the smooth face of the board. Application techniques and joint reinforcement are similar to those used on plasterboards.

Storage

Bags should be stored dry, as absorption of water shortens the setting time, causes set lumps to form in the bags and may reduce the strength of the set plasterwork. If storing on a concrete floor, dry timber platforms should be provided. Thistle Spray Finish stored correctly has a shelf life of four months and bags are printed with the 'use by:' date in order to permit use in strict rotation.

Mixing

Machine operation

Thistle Spray Finish is primarily designed for mixing and application by worm pump type plastering machines. Details of the set-up and operating procedures for the m-tec M100SC are available from www.british-gypsum.com For other machines, please refer to the manufacturer for guidance and information. In general, the plaster consistency should be slightly softer than that used for hand application. Mixed plaster resulting from consistency checks may be used by hand, e.g. for pre-filling joints, fixing beads or at reveals, to minimise waste.

Hand operation

Thistle Spray Finish may also be mixed by hand by adding to clean water in clean mixing equipment. Contamination from previous mixes adversely affects the setting time and the strength. Fresh contamination has more effect than old, so equipment should be washed just after mixing rather than just before.

Application and finishing

Machine settings and spraying technique should be adapted to give an even spray pattern with average thickness of 2mm. The applied plaster should be initially flattened with a spatula or trowel within 10 minutes of application. Air trapped at this stage will be released later.

The plaster is trowelled at approx. 40 minutes, 1 hour 10 minutes and finally, at 1 hour 40 minutes. Any application of water in the latter stages should be minimal and applied to the trowel, not directly to the plaster. Good site practice should be followed as outlined in *BS EN 13914 Code of Practice for Internal Plastering*.

Thistle Thin Coat Angle Bead or Thistle Thin Coat Mini Mesh Bead is fixed to the board angle by embedding in 'dabs' of

finish plaster. To hold the bead in correct alignment as the plaster sets it is recommended that additional mechanical fixings are used (non-rusting nails, screws or staples) as required. Before this plaster sets, any surplus should be wiped from the corner, because scraping it away later may damage the zinc coating. If the bead is fixed to the board 'dry', the adhesion may be reduced because it is difficult to squeeze plaster between the bead and the plasterboard.

Before applying Thistle Spray Finish to boards, flat joints are reinforced using Thistle ProTape FT50 or FT100, or any gaps exceeding 3mm are pre-filled and reinforced using Gyproc Joint Tape. Thistle ProTape FT50 and FT100 fibre tapes are self-adhesive and are fixed to the board surface before the first application of plaster. Gyproc Joint Tape is embedded in the first coat over each joint, leaving sufficient plaster under the tape to ensure good adhesion. Gyproc Joint Tape is pressed firmly into the plaster and immediately covered with a further application.

Plaster is applied to the whole surface after the joint treatment has partially stiffened, but not dried. For joints which may be subject to more movement (including around door or window apertures, where board edges are not fully supported, or on ceilings below floors which are susceptible to high deflection), Gyproc Joint Tape embedded in the finish provides better resistance to cracking than fibre tapes.

Decoration

Gypsum-based plasterwork must always be thoroughly dry before decorating, although a coat of permeable paint can be applied in the interim. Plaster surfaces can be decorated with most proprietary paint finishes and will accept the majority of wall covering adhesives. The manufacturers' recommendations in respect of applied decorative treatments should always be followed.

Tiling

Tiles up to 20kg/m² can be applied directly to the Thistle Spray Finish, except where the system includes a bonding agent. As the total weight of tiles and plaster applied over a bonding agent is limited to 20kg/m², consideration should be given to tiling directly to the background. If plastering to provide a background for tiles, avoid polishing the surface. Polished plaster surfaces should be roughened and a suitable primer used.

Maintenance

Thistle Spray Finish on plasterboard provides a plastering system suitable for moderate impact / wear areas. If the plaster is correctly applied, it should not require any form of maintenance.

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