

Product Data Sheet

Thistle® DriCoat

Thistle DriCoat is a cement based undercoat plaster designed for renovations.

Where to use

Use it for replastering walls after flooding, or after fitting a new damp proof course. Walls that have dried out after flooding or a new damp proof course contain hygroscopic salts that can absorb moisture and cause persistent damp. Thistle DriCoat stops these salts migrating into the plaster to protect interior decoration from damage. Always finish with Thistle BoardFinish.



Product information

Composition

This is a cement based plaster with waterproofing additives.

Colour

Light grey.

Nominal weight (kg)

25.

Performance

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

Standards

EN 998-1:2016.

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

Reaction to fire	A1
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Effect of moisture and condensation

Thistle DriCoat is unaffected by exposure to moisture, although finishes including finishing plasters may be unsuitable for moist conditions. Do not use Thistle DriCoat to resist water under hydrostatic pressure.

Effect of temperature

Thistle plasters aren't suitable for plastering onto frozen backgrounds. However, you can use them in frosty conditions as long as you prevent the plaster 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

First identify and eliminate the source of the rising damp. Hack off the existing plasterwork to a height at least 0.5 metres above either the new damp proof course or the last detectable sign of dampness. Where the old plaster is gypsum based, remove it completely.

After injecting a chemical damp proof course, thoroughly rake out old mortar joints in areas with high salt concentrations, then brush the face of the brickwork with a wire brush.

Ideally, you should delay replastering with Thistle DriCoat for as long as possible to allow the background to dry out. Before replastering, carefully remove any salts brought to the surface of the background during drying. Heavy salt contamination in the background can cause persistent damp problems, so Thistle DriCoat shouldn't be used unless a survey shows that the risk from salts is minimal. If there is a high salt concentration, an independent wall lining may be a better solution.

Apply Thistle DriCoat once the background is clean, sound, free from dust and efflorescence, and where only residual moisture is present. Before plastering, treat low suction or smooth backgrounds such as engineering bricks with a water resistant bonding aid; plaster over this according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Where the background is dry, it's important to control suction by applying water. This prevents the plaster drying too quickly, which would impair its strength.

If the floor is solid, leave a 50mm gap between the plasterwork and the floor level. Don't bridge the damp proof course under any circumstances. Finally, don't use gypsum based materials to fix angle beads.

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. Mix for 2-3 minutes until you achieve a smooth homogeneous working consistency. Rest the mix for 3-5 minutes, then remix it back to the right consistency, adding small amounts of water as you need to.

Applying to different substrates

Apply the plaster with a firm pressure, and build it out to the required thickness without exceeding 11mm. Rule the plaster to an even surface and lightly scratch it to form a key. Leave a gap of at least 24 hours between applying each coat. Follow good site practice as outlined in BS EN 13914 Code of Practice for Internal Plastering.

Finishing

Allow the scratched undercoat to cure and shrink before applying Thistle BoardFinish plaster. In good drying conditions, leave a minimum delay of 24 hours. In cold or damp conditions, or where background suction is low, leave a longer delay. If the delay is not long enough, the finish coat could crack or shell.

Wall application thickness (mm)	11
Coverage per bag (m ²)	3.25
Set time: minimum	24 hours
Finish time: minimum	24 hours
Water requirements per bag (litres)	15

Painting and wallpapering

Add Thistle BoardFinish plaster before decorating. Don't decorate directly onto Thistle DriCoat plaster.

Tiling

Add Thistle BoardFinish plaster before tiling. Don't tile directly onto Thistle undercoat plaster.

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 paper bag and is supplied palletised.

Quantity per pallet	40 bags
Pallet: nominal height (mm)	1250
Pallet: nominal length (mm)	1250
Pallet: nominal depth (mm)	1000
Pallet: nominal weight (tonnes)	1.0

Environmental

Disposal

Harden the plaster with water and dispose of it according to local authority requirements.



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