



Artex Smooth-It (powder)

Product Data Sheet

Introduction

Overview

Artex Smooth-It (powder) has been specially formulated for application over existing textured surfaces, covering over unwanted patterns to leave a smooth finish. The high coverage rate combined with minimal drying shrinkage is designed to finish the job in fewer coats than with some other materials.

Applications

Artex Smooth-It (powder) is a low odour product that can be applied direct to emulsion painted textured surfaces. Rather

General product information

than physically removing any unwanted texture (which can often be a very messy operation), Artex has formulated a material to cover over the existing texture to produce a smooth surface.

Due to its lightweight fillers, plaster content and low shrinkage rate, a higher level of coverage can be achieved compared to standard textured products, meaning that, in most instances, the job can be often completed in one day.

Product	Size	Water required for 25kg of powder	Coverage per bag (standard stipple finish)
Artex Smooth-It (powder)	25kg bag	16.5 litres	25m ²

Installation

Background preparation

Ensure that the existing texture and any overlying paint are firmly bonded to the background and to each other. Surfaces should be dry, clean and free from dirt, dust and grease. Dampen the surface and remove any loose material and prominent texture points by scraping the surface with a good quality stripping knife.

Once this de-nibbing has been completed, it is advisable to apply Artex Stabilex liberally to the surface and allow to dry. The Artex Stabilex solution helps to bind back any dusty, friable surfaces and may reduce the risk of de-lamination.

Mixing

Part-fill a clean bucket with cold, clean water and slowly add Artex Smooth-It (powder). Mix to a thick paste using an Artex hand mixing tool* or drill whisk. Excess mechanical mixing should be avoided. Allow to stand for five minutes before remixing to a smooth paste.

Do not mix more than can be used within 1 hour - a fresh batch should be mixed for each coat required. Discard setting material and thoroughly clean the bucket before mixing another batch. Once the material has been mixed,

avoid any re-mixing as this may reduce the final strength and quality of the finish.

**Tools and water used in the mixing process must always be clean. Contamination from previous mixes can shorten the setting time and in turn, reduce the finished strength and quality of the product.*

Prior to mixing always ensure the area is well ventilated.

General application

Using either an Artex Caulker or a trowel, work the first coat of material into the texture surface to infill the texture valleys. Once the material has fully set, repeat the operation as many times as necessary to hide the original texture pattern. The number of coats required will depend on the original depth of the texture pattern. Generally two - four coats are sufficient to cover most texture patterns. Ensure that each coat has chemically set before further coats are applied.

To achieve a final smooth finish, it helps if the final caulking coat is mixed slightly thinner than the other coats.

If Artex Smooth-It (powder) does get into your eyes, do not rub but wash with plenty of clean, warm water and seek medical attention.

Finishing

Drying

To ensure best results, adequate ventilation must be provided to dry out the finished work. Drying time is normally 24 – 36 hours. Once dry, lightly sand any imperfections with a fine glass paper.

Decoration

Once completely dry, any dust should be removed before applying a liberal coat of Artex Stabilex. Once the Artex

Stabilex is dry, the surface is ready for painting. Always follow the paint manufacturer's instructions.

Tip: A matt finish is recommended as it will disguise any imperfections and enhance the final smooth appearance.

Cleaning

Wash hands and tools in warm water after use.

Conditions

As the conditions and methods of use are beyond the manufacturer's control, no responsibility can be accepted for failure of products when not used as directed. The user, before application, should establish the suitability of products for use in specific conditions.

Storage

Store in good dry conditions and protect from frost and damp as failure to do so could result in shortened setting times and may reduce shelf life. Artex Smooth-It (powder) has a 6 month shelf life from date of manufacture and therefore should be used within this timeframe.

Standards

Artex Smooth-It (powder) is manufactured under a Quality Management System, which is independently audited and certified as conforming with **ISO 9001:2008** (certificate no: **FM 504548**).

Manual handling

Artex Smooth-It (powder) should always be carried using correct manual handling techniques and safe systems of work. Some of these guidelines are summarised below and across. For further guidance, please refer to the Manual Handling section of the British Gypsum **SITE BOOK** and the British Gypsum Manual Handling Guide. Both can be downloaded from **www.british-gypsum.com** or can be obtained by calling the British Gypsum Drywall Academy Advice Centre on 0844 800 1991.

- Whenever possible, place one foot in front of the other to produce a good base and reduce the pressure on the body.
- Assess the load by placing your hand on it and moving.
- Only handle what you feel you can manage.
- Initiate movements with your legs, unlocking the knees and driving with the legs to start the lift.
- Keep the load as close to your body as possible when lifting or handling.
- Turn instead of twisting and move your feet.
- Let your back find its natural curvature.
- Never lose control of the load.

Loading and unloading pallets

- Always wear safety shoes.
- Always place one foot forward by operating from the corner of the pallet or placing one foot on the pallet taking care to ensure that the pallet does not tip in the process.
- Unlock the knees for low level work.
- Take a firm grip of the load with both hands.
- Lift using the legs to start the movement.
- Turn by moving the feet.

Application and installation

- Always work in a balanced position.
- Operate with one foot forward.
- Keep the body upright.
- Always use appropriate platforms where necessary.

General notes

In practice, consideration must be given to design criteria requiring specific project solutions. Please contact the British Gypsum Drywall Academy Advice Centre for further guidance on 0844 800 1991 or at bgtechnical.enquiries@bpb.com

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For a comprehensive and up-to-date library of information visit the British Gypsum website at: www.british-gypsum.com

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FM 504548

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