



## Artex texture

Product selector and how-to guide

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# Product range

## Preparation

### Artex Sealer

- General purpose sealer
- Seals porous surfaces prior to texturing
- Increases wet edge time, particularly in warmer conditions and on large areas
- Pigmented - helps to obliterate the background and protects plasterboard liners against discolouring



<b>Available sizes</b>	2.5 litre
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### Artex Stabilex

- Universal stabilising solution
- For penetrating and binding powdery surfaces prior to texturing
- Improves adhesion of the finish to the surface
- Water-based formula
- Dries to a transparent finish
- Suitable for interior and exterior use



<b>Available sizes</b>	5 litre
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# Product range

## Texturing

### Artex Textured Finish

- The original decorative textured finish for ceilings and walls
- Ideal for both preparation work and texturing
- Easy to paint



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<b>Available sizes</b>	5kg, 10kg, 25kg
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### Artex Ceiling Finish

- Specially formulated for refurbishment work
- Revolutionary low odour formulation
- Good build properties
- Easily mixed using cold water



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<b>Available sizes</b>	25kg
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### Artex Textured Finish Ready Mixed

- Moisture resistant texture - ideal for areas of high humidity such as domestic kitchens and bathrooms
- Ready to use
- Wipe clean
- White finish



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<b>Available sizes</b>	5 litre, 10 litre
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# Product range

## Tools

### Artex Caulkers

- For filling, jointing, smoothing out and preparing surfaces



<b>Available sizes</b>	250mm, 300mm
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### Artex Texturing Brush

- For creating a range of textured effects



<b>Available sizes</b>	150mm x 100mm
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### Artex Comb

- For creating artistic combed patterns



<b>Available sizes</b>	250mm
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### Gyproc Joint Tape

- For flat or internal angles on walls
- Pre-creased for ease of application to internal angles
- High resistance to joint cracking



<b>Available sizes</b>	150mm
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# Preparation

## New plasterboard

Square edged wallboard is specified for texturing work, fitted in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations for plastering or direct decoration, except that a nominal 3mm gap should be left between all edges.

If the board liner is likely to be exposed for any length of time before texturing, an application of Artex Sealer is recommended as early as possible, to stop discolouring.

## Concrete

### Cast in-situ

All surfaces to be decorated must be clean, sound and free from contaminants such as mould-oil. Buff down all board and shuttering marks. Gaps, imperfections, differences in levels over 3mm and areas where aggregates show, should be made good with a suitable bonding plaster and allowed to dry.

Seal the entire surface with Artex Stabilex and allow to dry. Fill blow holes and stepped levels less than 3mm with a caulking mix of Artex Textured Finish or Ceiling Finish and allow to dry. Caulk out the entire surface to produce a smooth level surface then either:

— Allow to firm, but not dry, and texture as required

**or**

— Allow to dry, seal with Artex Stabilex and allow to dry, then texture as required

When using Artex Ready Mixed Textured Finish, the second option must be followed.

### Pre-cast slabs or beams

Fill all V-joints flush, and make good gaps, imperfections and differences in levels over 3mm with a suitable bonding plaster and allow to dry.

Seal and finish as per cast in-situ, but tape over all filled V-joints with Gyproc Joint Tape during the caulking stage.

# Preparation

## Previously decorated surfaces

All the normal rules of re-decoration apply when texturing. It is essential to prepare the surface to be flat, sound, clean, dry and free from dust or friable materials.

### Ceiling tiles

Remove tiles and all the adhesive underneath.

### Wallpaper

Remove all wallpaper and thoroughly wash with warm water, to remove all paste.

### Paint and distemper

Remove all traces of distemper or whitewash, even where overpainted, by washing and scraping.

Flaking paint – Scrape off and ensure the edges of any remaining areas are sound.

Emulsion – Check adhesion and remove any suspect areas.

Gloss / eggshell / flat oil – Check adhesion, removing any suspect areas. Lightly sand to remove shine. Clean off all surface dust.

### Lath and plaster

In some cases, preparation may be extensive and re-boarding can often be more economical. The plaster must be removed from the laths and new plasterboard fixed over using longer nails or screws to adequately penetrate the timbers behind.

### Plaster skim over plasterboard

To minimise the risk of subsequent cracking, all joints should be identified and then taped whether or not cracks are evident. Unfortunately there will always be a potential risk of subsequent cracking due to the method of board fixing, the original joint treatment, and/or subsequent excessive movement.

# Preparation

## Damaged plasterboard

Cut out the section of damaged board beyond any broken core to the nearest supports. Using additional timber as required, fit a new section of board. Reinforce the repair edges with Gyproc Joint Tape, bringing the new section level with the existing ceiling at the same time. Continue as for re-patterning (see page 15).

## Tape delamination

Remove all suspect tape, together with underlying material and any weakly adhering texture. Bed new tape into the exposed joints. Continue as for re-patterning (see page 15).

## Repaired areas / holes

The edges of repaired areas should be taped and caulked. Stepped levels of less than 3mm should be caulked out with Artex Textured Finish or Ceiling Finish as necessary to disguise them.

## Cracks

Hairline cracks – brush in mixed Artex Textured Finish, or a flexible decorators filler.

Large cracks (wider than 3mm) – fill with a thick mix of Artex Textured Finish or Ceiling Finish and tape.

## Grease / Nicotine / Smoke

Wash off with a weak solution of mild detergent in warm water, then rinse the surface with clean water.

## Heated surfaces

Where surface temperatures are likely to exceed 35°C texturing is not recommended.

# Preparation

## Surface treatment

Absorbent backgrounds such as repaired areas, new plaster, jointed plasterboard and surfaces stripped of wallpaper or paint, should be sealed with Artex Sealer diluted with an equal amount of water. This reduces the absorbency of the background and improves the performance of the finish, particularly in warmer conditions and on large areas.



Backgrounds which remain friable after the best possible preparation should be treated with Artex Stabilex instead of Artex Sealer.

Where there is evidence that water soluble material is likely to bleed through from a fully prepared background, a proprietary oil-based primer sealer should be used instead of Artex Sealer.

**NB** Since Artex has no control over varying conditions and background specifications, no guarantee of results can be given. All surfaces must be completely dry before applying any sealer or primer to avoid delamination.

# Preparation

## Mixing

### Powder

Pour the required amount of water, using cold water above 5°C into a clean bucket – about 0.5 litres of water for every 1kg of powder.

Add the powder to the water slowly and mix to a thick, creamy consistency. Leave to stand for 10 minutes, then remix to a smooth paste. Adjust as required for filling joints and caulking.

For texturing work, gradually dilute with cold water – testing the consistency to avoid over-thinning.

- For rich textures add approximately 100ml of water for every 1kg of powder and mix to a creamy consistency
- For light textures add approximately 200ml of water for every 1kg of powder and use as an almost free-running mix

If the mix begins to set before it can be applied, discard the material, clean the container and tools thoroughly, and mix a fresh batch.

### Ready mixed

This product can be applied straight from the bucket. For a lighter texture, dilute with up to 10% clean cold water.



# Texturing

## Joint treatment

### Filling, taping and pre-caulking

Briefly immerse lengths of Gyproc Joint Tape in water, shake off any excess moisture and leave for 5 minutes to ensure the paper is supple and evenly moist.

Using an Artex Caulker, spread a band of caulking mix along the joints and into the gaps between the boards.

Apply the dampened joint tape centrally along the band of material, bedding it firmly and removing any excess material with the caulker. Spread a thin layer of material over the joints as required and fill all nail heads. Leave until thoroughly dry (12 - 24 hours).

### Caulking

Apply a further caulking coat in a wide band, beyond the previous taped areas, smoothing and feathering out edges to hide the tapes and joints and provide an essentially flat surface.

Caulk out all nail heads again then, either:

- Allow the caulked out areas to firm up but not dry before texturing
- or**
- Allow the area to thoroughly dry and seal the entire surface with Artex Sealer. Once sealer is dry, texture as required

**NB** When using Artex Ready Mixed Textured Finish, the substrate must be sealed. In all other cases, the use of Artex Sealer is at the discretion of the individual texture.

# Texturing

## Perimeter angles

### **New plaster walls**

Do not tape around edges. If coving is to be installed, fix prior to texture work.

### **Existing plaster walls**

Care should be taken when fixing to minimise the gap between the plasterboard edges and the wall. Gaps over 3mm should be flush filled with a suitable plaster filler and allowed to dry. Then, during the normal joint taping operation all perimeter edges should be taped. Tape must not be applied around the angle, but should butt lightly to the wall.

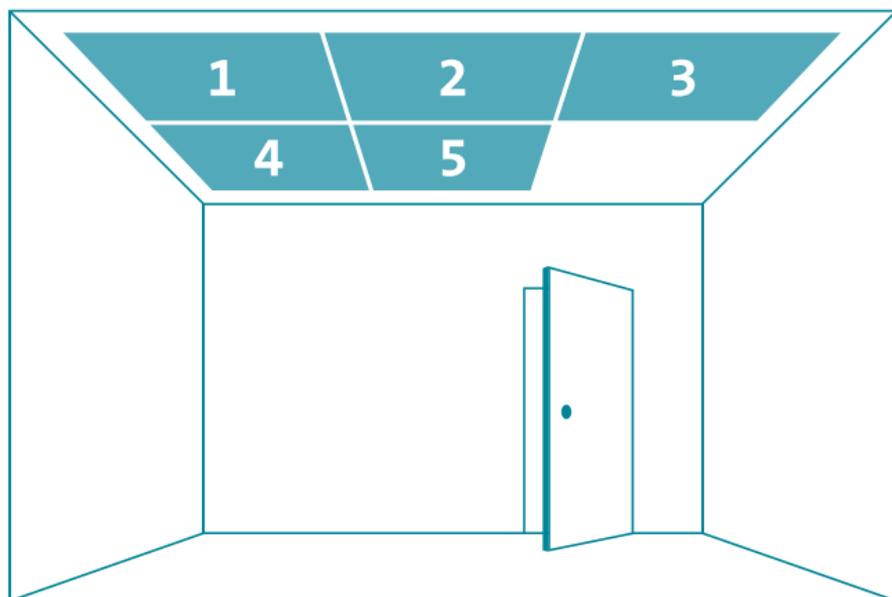
### **Drylined plasterboard walls**

The wall and ceiling angle should be taped.

# Texturing

## Application

For the best results and a longer working time, keep the room cool, make sure the background is well sealed and eliminate draughts by closing windows and doors.



Apply a generous, even coat of the mix by brush or roller in a band about 1 x 0.5 metres across the ceiling width or down the wall (a single band can be applied from ceiling to skirting). Texture this area and draw a brush margin (13-25mm) using a small brush along the edges of the ceiling or wall to form a narrow border. Apply the next band and blend in with the previously textured area, again forming the margin line at the edges.



Continue in this way, completing successive bands until the whole area is finished. Work quickly but carefully to make sure bands can be blended while the material is still wet.

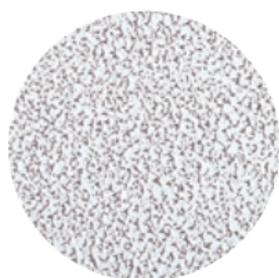
# Texturing

## Popular patterns



### Broken Leather

Cover an Artex Texturing Brush or sponge with a polythene bag. With a dabbing and half twist motion of the wrist in both directions, bounce the polythene face randomly across the surface.



### Stipple

Lightly bounce an Artex Texturing Brush on the coated surface, bringing it away cleanly to avoid drag marks. To achieve a completely random pattern, turn the texturing brush slightly between each bounce.



### Swirl

Place the Artex Texturing Brush on the surface, spin the brush and pull it away. Ensure the pattern is random.



### Circle (Fan)

Using an Artex comb, hold it at an angle of 25 - 30° to the texture. Make a sweeping stroke pivoting on one end of the comb to create a half moon shape. For the next row ensure the shape is created half way between the two directly above.



### Knifed plaster (Walls)

Using a filling / jointing knife hold it at a low angle to the texture and produce short strokes across the surface working in random directions.

# Texturing

## Re-patterning

To achieve a surface ready for decorating with a new pattern, first ensure that the existing textured finish is firmly bonded to the background.



- 1 Remove any weakly adhering material and make sure the surface is dry, free from dust, grease or other contaminants
- 2 Lightly dampen the surface and remove any prominent texture 'nibs' using a stripping knife
- 3 Apply Artex Stabilex liberally, to seal the surface, and allow to dry
- 4 Apply a caulking mix of Ceiling Finish or Artex Textured Finish over the surface with a caulking blade and allow to firm up, but not dry. Repeat this operation as necessary to disguise the original pattern. The depth of the existing pattern will dictate the number of caulking coats required
- 5 Depending on drying conditions, texture skill and size of area, either:
  - Allow the caulking to firm to the touch, but not dry, then texture as required
  - or**
  - Allow the caulking to dry, seal with Artex Stabilex, allow to dry and texture as required

**NB** Pin-holing in the new textured pattern can sometimes occur. Where possible, the first method is preferred. When using the second method, ensure that the final caulking coat is thoroughly dry before sealing with Artex Stabilex, which should then also be allowed to thoroughly dry to minimise pin-holing.

**NB** Precautions should be taken when removing old texture, see page 19 for further information.

# Texturing

## Finishing

Patterns may be laced (slightly smoothed) using a thin piece of plastic to produce a softer pattern.

### Lacing

Use an Artex Caulker or thin piece of plastic to reduce the sharpness of the peaks of heavier patterns. Lightly pull across the material as it begins to firm. The caulker or plastic should be kept damp with a wet sponge and clean water and should be held at a low angle to the surface.

To ensure best results, care should be taken with brush margins, cleanliness and lacing. Splashes should be cleaned off as they occur and all surfaces left clean. All tools should be washed in warm (not hot) water as soon as possible.

## Repairing minor cracks

Repair by dampening the area around the crack and filling with a thick layer of Textured Finish or Ceiling Finish. Blend the material into the existing pattern, and remove any surplus using a clean wet brush.

## Drying

Ventilate immediately on completion of texturing so that the finish can dry as soon as possible to avoid degradation. Drying time should not exceed 3 days.

### Uneven drying

Weather and site conditions, that are beyond the manufacturer's control may sometimes result in uneven drying, producing colour irregularities in the finish. This can be remedied by over-painting with emulsion, following the manufacturer's instructions for application to porous surfaces.

## Producing a smooth surface

To produce a smooth surface for painting, follow the instructions for re-patterning up to stage 4 and use Ceiling Finish.

## Texturing

To achieve a smooth finish, take care with the final coat and use a thinner consistency.



When dry, minor imperfections can be lightly sanded. Remove any dust before applying a final liberal coat of Artex Stabilex.

## Decoration

To produce an even finish or to freshen the appearance it is recommended that the textured finish is painted with a good quality emulsion, following the manufacturers instructions for application to porous surfaces.

Ready mixed, or previously painted textured finishes, can be cleaned by sponging off prior to painting. Previously unpainted Artex Textured Finishes must be treated following the paint manufacturers' instructions for application to porous surfaces.

## Climatic conditions

**Winter** - When dry, Artex Textured Finishes are not affected by natural changes in temperature. However application and drying should not be carried out in temperatures below 7°C.

**Summer** - High temperatures (above 27°C) can accelerate drying and cause cracking / crazing of finish.

**NB** Artex products are not suitable for application to surfaces that will be subjected to continuously humid conditions, such as communal showers, changing rooms and swimming pool areas.

# Texturing

## Coverage

Coverage depends on the substrate, type of application and depth of pattern.

### As a guide:

#### Powder coverage per kg

- Joint treatment – up to 2m<sup>2</sup> of board area
- Preparing concrete – up to 1.3m<sup>2</sup>
- Texturing – up to 2m<sup>2</sup>

#### Ready mixed coverage per litre

- Undiluted – up to 1.6m<sup>2</sup>
- Diluted – (at maximum dilution) – up to 2.4m<sup>2</sup>



# General information

## Storage

Powder – store in dry conditions and ensure the bags are off the floor

Liquids – protect from temperatures of below 5°C, or above 35°C

## Effect of fire

When applied to plasterboard or any non-combustible background, interior Artex textured finishes provide class '0' surface in accordance with the requirements of National Building Regulations. This permits the unrestricted use of these materials as a ceiling or wall finish.

## 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 suitability of products for use in specific situations should be established by the user before application.

## General precautions

Mix in well-ventilated conditions. If any Artex product gets into eyes do not rub but wash immediately with plenty of clean, warm water. If symptoms persist, seek medical attentions. Avoid excessive material on skin. Wash hands after use. Detailed Health and Safety information is available on request.

**Refer to the HSE website for further advice on working with previously applied textured coatings.**

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The enclosed information should not be read in isolation and is meant only as guidance for the user, who should always ensure that they are fully conversant with the products, systems and specifications being used and their subsequent installation prior to the commencement of work or a job.

We advise that you read and familiarise yourself with all the information contained in this literature prior to the commencement of the work, job or specification.

For a comprehensive and up to date library of information visit our website at:

**[www.artextld.com](http://www.artextld.com)**

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