

Technical Bulletin

Finishing and Texturing Interior Concrete Walls and Ceilings

Note: The following suggested specification covers only that portion of finishing normally performed by the drywall or plastering contractor. It is strongly recommended that specifications covering the concrete installation include the following:

Prohibit use of, or require the removal of, bond breaker or curing agents which are incompatible with water based cements and/or paints.

Require inspection for and, if present, removal of any latent layer of cement on wall and ceiling surfaces which will receive surface decoration.

Require the removal of metal rod, strap, etc., which protrudes from the concrete surface.

Require the concrete surface to be free of rust or any other foreign matter which will interfere with the bond of water based cements, or would discolor water based paints.

1. Scope

Unless otherwise indicated, all interior concrete walls and ceiling surfaces are included. Contractor is to furnish all labor and materials necessary to produce a smooth, monolithic surface suitable for the application of specified decorative finish. (See Finish Schedule)

Fill all pores, voids and offsets with an All Purpose Joint System and trowel smooth. When deep fills are required (exceeding 1/8"thick), an initial coat of Smooth Set is recommended (maximum 3/8" thick), followed by coats(s) of All Purpose Joint System. Fills or patches exceeding 3/8" in depth should be repaired with an approved concrete patching material.

Note: The above materials are not to be used on moist surfaces or surfaces which might be subject to moisture.

2. Job Conditions

- 2.1 No finishing operation shall take place until concrete has aged at least 60 days, and the surface is stabilized (dry).
- 2.2 No materials shall be applied until a minimum temperature of 50°F has been maintained for a period of at least 48 hours in the working area and the surface moisture has been stabilized (dry). The same conditions shall be maintained during the complete finishing operation and until all materials are completely dry and stable. Provide adequate ventilation to insure proper drying.

3. Materials

- 3.1 All finishing materials shall be the products of Westpac Materials.
- 3.2 Materials to be delivered to job site in original, unopened containers, and stored in a location protected from weather and tampering.

4. Applications

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- 4.1 Mixing and/or thinning of joint compounds shall be done in accordance with Westpac Materials recommendations, which appear on each container. Intermixing of chemically hardening and drying materials is not recommended.
- 4.2 Where required, angle joints are to be concealed by embedding drywall tape directly over the joint in a coat of recommended joint cement for taping system (approximately three inches in width). Subsequent coats of joint or topping cements shall be applied to form a smooth, accurate angle.

Note: In all operations, allow each coat of joint cement to dry thoroughly before applying subsequent coats.

4.3 Where necessary, the dried joint cement surfaces may be lightly sanded to insure a smooth surface. All sanding dust is to be removed prior to decoration.

Approved protective respirators should be worn while mixing powders or sanding. Sponging is recommended where practical.

5. Texturing

- 5.1 Textures used shall be the products of Westpac Materials (See Texture Selector Guide) and mixed in accordance with their recommendations.
- 5.2 Samples of texture pattern and coverage to be submitted for architectural approval prior to application.
- 5.3 Masking (optional) All door frames, windows, and frames are to be masked prior to application of textures.
- 5.4 Clean-up (optional) Remove masking from area not to receive texture. Floors are to be scraped and left broom clean.

6. Decoration

- 6.1 Acceptability of surfaces for painting or decorating along with use and/or application of proper sealers and paints are the responsibility of the painting contractor.
- 6.2 Method of application of sealer and/or paint products can be critical. Roller application has proven to be the most satisfactory.

Note: For further information regarding other applications of Westpac Materials products, contact Westpac Materials.