

# SHEETROCK® Brand Ceiling Spray Textures

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### Surface Preparation

Substrate surfaces to receive finish must be sound, dry, clean, and free of oil, grease, and efflorescence. Discolored texture can result from application over surfaces that are unprimed, not thoroughly dry, or otherwise improperly prepared. Prepare surfaces, maintaining min. 55 °F (13 °C) air, product, and surface temperatures when applying joint compound and prime coat, as follows:

**Glossy surfaces** Lightly sand to dull any sheen and develop “tooth.” Wash surface with a strong detergent from the bottom up to remove any dust, dirt, or sheen. A strong solution of TSP (trisodiumphosphate) works best; follow manufacturer’s directions on container. Prime bare metal with a good rust-inhibitive primer and let dry.

**New concrete** Age at least 60 days before texturing. Fill cracks and holes and level concrete surfaces with SHEETROCK® Brand DURABOND® Setting-Type or EASY SAND™ Lightweight Setting-Type Joint Compounds or COVER COAT® Brand Compound and let dry.

**New drywall** Treat joints and fasteners with an appropriate USG Joint Treatment System.

**Note:** Texturing over previously painted, textured, or stained substrate requires prior application of a stain-blocking sealer to obtain uniform color.

### Priming Substrate

After prepared surfaces have dried thoroughly, apply a prime coat of undiluted SHEETROCK® BRAND First Coat, and let dry. (Or use a good quality white interior flat wall paint with high solids content.) The application of a prime coat is intended to equalize surface porosity and provide uniform color, not to reduce sag potential. For plaster surfaces apply a primer-sealer recommended by paint manufacturers for priming lime gauging and lime-containing plaster finishes.

### Maintenance/ Adjustments

#### Mixing Equipment

**Large tanks for mixing SHEETROCK Ceiling Spray Texture** Clean out periodically to prevent premature spoilage.

**Self-contained horizontal mixing shaft spray units** Periodically inspect and adjust rubber wipedown blades; set mixer wall-to-paddle blade clearance for “small aggregate” (greater clearance leaves texture material partially undispersed).

#### Pumping Equipment

**General** Inspect and maintain according to manufacturer’s recommendations.

**Material hoses** Check all material hose lengths and connections. Minimize total hose length and number of line splices; eliminate line splices, if possible. (Pumping problems increase with hose length; connections and line splices are vulnerable to poly packing up and restricting material flow.)

**Air hoses** Check lines for air leaks; they reduce atomizing air pressure, and may cause problems.

### Mixing

During mixing, maintain air, water, and mix at min. 55 °F (13 °C). Use a clean mixing vessel, free of rust and soured material. Fill mixing vessel with correct volume of water and power mix while slowly adding SHEETROCK Brand Ceiling Spray Texture powder. Mix initially to heavier consistency than desired for spraying. Then check mixer paddles/shaft and corners of mixing vessel for unmixed material. Remove with light water spray. Remix until powder is completely wet, creamy and lump free, and allow mixture to soak for at least 15 minutes—longer with cold water. Thin mixture to spraying consistency by adding small amounts of water until final water/powder ratio is as directed on bag. (Avoid excessive water, which can cause board sag, check-cracking, poor texture bond and lack of hide.)

## Application

During and after application, and at all times until building is occupied, maintain min. air, water, mix, and surface temperatures of 55 °F (13 °C), and provide adequate ventilation for texture to dry properly. Inadequate ventilation can cause objectionable board deflection and reduced texture bond/surface hardness. Do not use unvented gas or oil heaters.

Correct equipment settings and mix consistency will maximize coverage (in ft.<sup>2</sup>/lb.), yet reduce aggregate fallout (bounce-back) and holidays (board voids). A steady, high-pitched sound should be heard from the pole gun during spray application. Slight adjustments for type and grade of aggregate in the texture may be necessary. Adjust air spike, orifice, and air pressure to optimize atomization and width of spray fan. As the pole gun orifice wears, it will slowly increase in size—periodically check and adjust it as necessary.

Spray texture mix on dry surface at a maximum rate of 8-10 ft.<sup>2</sup>/lb. For heavily textured appearance, apply two coats of texture, letting the first coat dry thoroughly before applying the next. (Do not vary coverage rate: check-cracking can result from excessive coating thickness, and poor hide from too thin a coating.)

### Trademarks

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### Note

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### SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety practices. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

