# **Application Tips**

# SHEETROCK<sup>®</sup> Brand Wall and Ceiling Texture

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# Surface Preparation

Substrate must be sound, dry, clean, and free of oil, grease, mildew, efflorescence, and other foreign materials and/or contaminants. Product, air, and surface temperatures must be maintained at a minimum of 55 °F (13 °C) throughout the finishing process when using joint compound, primer, and texture products.

**New Drywall** Treat joints and nailheads with an appropriate USG Joint Treatment System.

New Concrete/Plaster Age at least 60 days before texturing. Remove form oils and efflorescence and grind down form lines. Fill cracks and holes, and level concrete surfaces with Sheetrack® Brand Durabond® Setting-Type or Easy Sand™ Lightweight Setting-Type Joint Compound or Cover Coat® Brand Compound and let dry.

Painted Surfaces Lightly sand to dull any sheen and develop "tooth" for good bond. Wash surface with a strong

detergent (e.g. TSP-trisodiumphosphate) from the bottom up to remove any dust, dirt, or sheen.

**Note:** Texturing over previously painted, textured, or stained substrates may require application(s) of a stain-blocking sealer to obtain uniform color (check manufacturer's instructions for stain containment instructions). Prevent rust stains by spot priming bare metal with a good rust-inhibitive primer and let dry prior to the full surface priming.

## Substrate Priming

Application of a prime coat is necessary to equalize surface porosity. After prepared surfaces have thoroughly dried, apply a prime coat of Sheetrock® Brand First Coat flat latex paint or a good quality interior latex flat wall paint with high solids content. Prime coat should be applied undiluted and allowed to dry before decorating.

# Mixing

Stir until consistency is smooth and uniform.

#### **Thinning**

Experiment with small amount of mixed material prior to use, adjusting water proportions to match product viscosity to individual requirements. For thickest finish (heavy trowel, roller, or brush application), use as-is. For thinnest finish (light roller or spray application), add no more than 1 quart of water per 2 gallon pail.

#### Aggregate Additions

**Perlite** Up to 1.6 lbs. (0.74 kg) per 2 gal. **White silica sand** Up to 8.6 lbs. (3.9 kg) per 1 gal.

Note: Water is not to exceed 2/3 gal. per 2 gal. pail.

### **Application**

**Spray** Use spray equipment similar to Grover 452-A 10-to-1 ratio, double-action pump with 7-1/2 in. stroke, equipped with 4 ft. pole gun with 3/8 to 1/2 in. round orifice; or Binks 7-E-2 handgun with 3/8 in. round openings. Use 3/4 to 1 in. material hose, 3/8 in. atomizing hose, and 1.2 in. air line from compressor to pump. Compressor must be adequate (85 cfm) for length and size of hose. Keep pressure as low as possible. Hopper-type applicators may also be used.

Do not exceed recommended coverage, as subsurface defects, variations in base suction, or color differences may show through, or lighter texture may result. Remove spatters immediately from woodwork and trim.

Stipple Knockdown Use roller, brush, or trowel to apply texture so that a heavy, stippled surface remains. Wait until material firms slightly. Lightly strike down tops of stipples using flat side of trowel.

**Stucco** Use roller. Deep pile creates a more textured surface; shallow pile creates a softer look.

Swirls Use whisk broom, trowel, or brush to create gentle overlapping arcs.

Rough 'n' Tumble Use roller, brush, or spray gun to apply texture. Wrap rope around roller and gently work over surface.



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#### **Patching**

**Small Cracks, Dents** Press and smooth texture into opening with putty knife. Wipe away excess. Let dry overnight. **Large Cracks** Bridge opening with self-sticking mesh tape. Press and smooth texture compound into tape with putty knife. Wipe away excess. Let dry overnight.

**Holes** For small holes, bridge opening by criss-crossing 2 to 3 strips of self-sticking mesh tape over opening. For large holes, stuff hole with crumpled newspaper. Criss-cross 2 to 3 strips of self-sticking mesh tape over opening. Fill opening flush to adjacent surface by lightly pressing texture compound through tape with putty knife. Wipe away excess. Let dry overnight. If necessary, apply second coat. Let dry overnight.

#### **Painting**

When dry, overpaint texture on walls. Use a good quality interior latex paint. Unpainted surface is not washable.

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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.

