

RTU plastering mortars are factory made, retarded, general purpose plastering mortars, which are delivered to site ready-to-use and thus require no further mixing. They incorporate a cement set retarder which makes it possible to extend the working life of the plastering mortar, generally for 8 hours.

COMPLIANCE

RTU Plastering mortars comply with BS EN 998-1. RTU mortars are manufactured from carefully selected washed sand conforming to the requirements of BS EN 13139, cements conforming to BS EN 197-1, admixtures to BS EN 934-3.

MANUFACTURE

All RTU mortars are manufactured using state of the art computerised batching equipment. All constituent materials are accurately weighed to strict tolerances, ensuring a consistent mix every time.

WORKABLE LIFE

The standard working life available with RTU plastering mortar is 8-hour retardation. The plastering mortar will remain workable for the specified workable life when stored in covered tubs. The retardation effect will then wear off and the plastering mortar will set. Workable life will vary depending on weather conditions; hot weather decreases the retardation and cold weather increases the retardation period. Seasonal changes in temperature are taken into consideration during manufacture. Plastering mortars with longer or shorter workable life are available by special request.

WORKING CHARACTERISTICS

RTU Plastering mortars are designed to remain workable throughout the specified workable life of the mortar. However, in hot conditions some stiffening may occur due to loss of moisture through evaporation. The addition of small amounts of water mixed by a shovel in the tub or trowel on the mortar board within the stated workable life of the mortar is acceptable. Under no circumstances should further admixtures be added, or the mortar be remixed once the initial set has started, as the mortar will not obtain the required hardened properties.



KEY FEATURES

- **No need for on-site mixing equipment and no requirement for power or water.**
- **Quality assured product with guaranteed minimum strength.**
- **Accurate cement content and mix proportions.**
- **Consistent throughout your complete project.**
- **Increased productivity and labour savings.**
- **Reduced wastage and pilferage.**
- **Specific mixes available for machine application**

PLASTERING MORTAR CLASSIFICATION

Table 1

Plastering Mortar Classification BS EN 998-1	Harden mortar compressive strength @ 28 days
CS I	0.4 to 2.5 N/mm ²
CS II	1.5 to 5.0 N/mm ²
CS III	3.5 to 7.5 N/mm ²
CS IV	Greater than 6 N/mm ²

Table 1 shows the compressive strength classification as per BS EN 998-1.

Spray Application

Spray plastering mortar is suitable for application through spray plastering machines. The mix is design specifically to enable successful spraying and adhesion to the wall when in the plastic state. All other properties of spray plastering mortar are consistent with general purposing plastering mortar.

WEATHER PRECAUTIONS

The code of practise for use of Masonry: Materials and components, design and workmanship (BS 5628-3) should always be followed when working with mortars. Plastering mortar should be protected against rain and drying conditions. In hot dry weather precautions must be taken to ensure the plastering mortar does not dry too rapidly.

APPLICATION

Generally, all walls prior to receiving plastering mortar should be clean, sound and free from dust or any material which may reduce adhesion. Where the substrate is dense and smooth and adequate key must be provided to ensure adhesions and durability. In hot dry weather, and/or high suction backgrounds, it may be necessary to apply a coat of a proprietary surface treatment prior to plastering. Apply using traditional plastering tools such as hawk and trowel or through a spray plastering machine. Finish with float, sponge or scratched texture depending on desire finish.

WORKING IN HOT CONDITIONS

Evaporation of water from the plastering mortar is the primary concern when using mortar in hot weather. Loss of moisture also reduces the effect of the retardation causing the plastering mortar to set earlier and loose workability, therefore plastering mortar should always be stored in covered tubs and in the shade at all times.

Warm dry highly absorbent substrates will draw moisture out of the freshly applied plastering mortar and can then lead to poor adhesion. In this situation a proprietary solution should be added to the substrates to reduce absorbency and suction.

Protect freshly applied plastering mortar from excessive drying by wind or direct sunlight.

WORKING IN COLD CONDITIONS

It is inadvisable to proceed with plastering when the ambient temperature is below 4°C. The setting of plastering mortar is affected by temperature; setting will be delayed in colder weather. This factor is taken into consideration when manufacturing the mortar but significant reductions in temperature may increase the retardation period.



**For more information please contact our
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