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## **Intonachino [Extra fine, Fine, Medium and Coarse grades] Substrate details**

### **Internal Substrates**

#### **Metal Studs**

This is the preferred internal substrate for our decorative lime finishes. Metal stud walls are to be constructed with uprights at 400mm centres. Walls need to be constructed plum and straight with plenty of horizontal supports. The supports need to be constructed to support all 4 sides of the plasterboard. In curved wall applications we recommend the upright centres are reduced to a minimum of 300mm centres.

Plasterboard must be fixed in two layers using 12.5mm plasterboard fixed with suitable plasterboard screws at 300mm fixing centres [minimum centres]. Joints should be staggered between the two layers of plasterboard. The second layer of plaster board should leave 2mm joints between the sheets for material to be pushed into.

The aim is to achieve a very well supported solid wall with no bumps, ridges between sheets, or structure movement.

*[Required plasterboard finishes in documents below]*

#### **Beads**

Normal skim coat rendering and expansion beads need to be fitted. These should be well fitted straight, plumb with nails or screws to the plasterboard.

#### **Timber Studs**

Timber stud walls need to be extra well constructed using only good quality timbers, kiln dried and well seasoned. We recommend uprights are at no less than 400mm centres with plenty of extra horizontal supports. The supports need to be constructed to support all 4 sides of the plasterboard.

We recommend that in curved areas, walls are sheeted with high quality plywood to support the plasterboard.

Timber structures need to be kept dry and consideration of moisture content within the building always considered during construction. If a building is very cold or has high moisture content the stud wall can take a long time to fully dry out.

Walls that are not fully dry can shrink when drying thus resulting in movement or cracks.

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*[Required plasterboard finishes in documents below]*

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Normal skim coat rendering and expansion beads need to be fitted. These should be well fitted straight, plumb with nails or screws to the plasterboard.

### **Plasterboard finishes**

Walleffects can apply their finishes directly to plasterboard using their anti crack system. Plasterboard constructions need to be plumb and straight with no bumps or ridges. Any imperfections need to be fixed or straighten prior to our specialist arriving on site.

Joints need a 2mm gap left between all sheets with plasterboard being free from dust, dirt, oil etc.

Angles beads need to be fitted to all external corners and openings. Expansion beads need to be fitted where relevant. Beads need to be feathered back from using a good quality jointing compound.

Expansion beads only need to be fitted as required by the structure.

The advantage of this method is that our anti crack plasters system will go into the 2mm joints between the plasterboard sheets. Our plaster is much stronger than jointing compound or skim coats. All dust and dirt needs to be removed prior to our applications.

### **Drylined surfaces**

The finishes can be applied to drylined surfaces provided the wall is straight, plumb and solid. The 2mm joints between sheets need to be fully filled, taped with a good quality jointing compound and suitable jointing tape. All joints need to be flush and finely sanded.

Angles beads need to be fitted to all external corners and openings. Expansion beads need to be fitted where relevant. Beads need to be feathered back from using a good quality jointing compound and sanded.

Many of our plaster finishes are applied to these surfaces successfully however we recommended that our anti crack systems are used on top of drylined finishes.

All dust and dirt needs to be removed prior to our applications.

### **Skimmed Plasterboard**

This is suitable for our finishes provided the wall has been well constructed as detailed above, plasterboard joints are filled and taped. The walls need to be well skimmed with no bumps or ridges. Walls need to be straight and plumb. If joints are not taped it will result in cracks possibly after the building is complete. Good structures well plastered are essential for decorative finishes.

It is possible to use our antic crack system over skimmed walls and is recommended to reduce the risk of cracks.

### **MDF substrates**

This is a good substrate for all our plaster finishes and an easy way to create feature panels of site. We recommend it is primed on all sides with a good quality wood primer. This is to reduce the risk of soaking in moisture and swelling.

MDF should not be subjected to any moisture before or after our finishes have been applied.

We do not recommend applying our finishes over MDF joints and encourage that sheet sizes are considered and built into the design.

MDF will always crack where the sheets meet.

### **Decorated walls and ceilings**

Do not use over wall paper. Remove all traces of wallpaper and paste residue. Any loose material needs to be removed, backgrounds filled and sanded.

Substrates repaired need to be fully dry prior to application of our plaster finishes. Walls need to be straight with no bumps.

Pre painted walls can be coated over if the paint is well attached. Sand walls prior to all applications. Walls with paint not well attached need to have all paint removed and then lightly sanded. Fill or replaster walls if required. Fillers and plasters need to be fully dry before application of our products.

Walls and ceilings ideally need to be structurally sound with no ridges or bumps.

## **Masonry substrates**

### **Internal**

Most rendered internal walls can have a finish applied. All surfaces require a minimum of two plaster coats prior to our finish. Two coats of sand and cement with a fine float finish or most traditional basecoat plasters finished with a skim coat are normally sufficient.

All finishes need to be completed to a high standard being straight and plumb with no trowel or float marks. These need to be fully dry as per the plaster manufacturers instructions. New builds are prone to settlement cracks and we recommend our anti crack system is used to reduce the risk of settlement cracks appearing through the plaster surface.

### **Beads**

Normal rendering and expansion beads need to be fitted to all corners and openings. These should be well fitted prior to plastering and finished flush the same as for decorating with normal paints.

## **External Substrates**

### **Render**

Decorative Lime finishes were designed for solid structures which have been previously rendered with lime plaster renders. This has not changed and is the ideal substrate externally. We can provide lime mix details for substrates if required. Sand and cement renders are not suitable substrates for lime finishes.

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## Exterior Boards

It is possible to apply our lime finishes on cement boards. Please send us your project details to discuss exact substrate details.

## Potential problems

The Walleffects finishes will not crack however they will not stop structure cracks. Structures are very important as structural cracks and drying out cracks may appear through the finish. Areas where plasterboard meets block or concrete are usually prone to movement and sometimes cause problems. We recommend expansion beads are designed into these areas or studded over.

Below DPC is not suitable for our lime finishes.

Showers are not suitable areas for our finishes.

Backgrounds that are not fully dry can cause problems ie staining, efflorescent, cracking etc. It is essential that the project manager is aware of the importance of substrate drying times.

**Walleffects will try to provide an alternative for any problem substrate. Please talk to our technical advisor.**

Email – [tech@walleffects.co.uk](mailto:tech@walleffects.co.uk)

Phone – 028 816 48902

This document was created as a guide to help with specifications. This is an overview and offers no guarantee for problems that may arise. A site visit is always required to fully understand substrate requirements on each project