Newbuild Medium Cement Free

Product Data Sheet

A dry ready mixed Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar for building and pointing.

CORNERSTONE™
PROTECTING THE PAST & PRESENT

Product Description

Factory blended mortar using graded kiln dried sand and Saint-Astier Naturally Hydraulic Lime to give a highly flexible mortar.

Mix Ratio

2:5 as standard, other mix ratios available on request.

Binder

Saint-Astier NHL5, other binders available on request.

Aggregate

3mm down washed, sharp flint sand and soft sand blend.

Usage

This product is suitable for use as a building and pointing mortar.

Suitable for applications in construction where the binder strength is appropriate for the host background or surface. Suitable for internal or external use.

Do not use this product below 5°C, do not use this product if freezing conditions are predicted within the following few weeks (including wind chill); we have designed other products which are more appropriate for cold weather work, please contact us for more information. Do not use this product in temperatures above 30°C.

Benefits

- Better workability & reduced shrinkage risk
- Slower drying; better curing
- Developed to achieve a similar strength to 1:1:6 cement mortar
- Quality controlled production
- Consistency of mix ratio and working additions
- Features a lime mortar aesthetic
- Faster strength development than regular lime mortars

Coverage

After mixing, a 25kg bag will produce approximately 15 litres of mortar.

For pointing; 1.2-1.5m² at 10mm depth.

For building application, a 25kg bag will give enough to lay approximately 25x standard house bricks.

Colour and Texture

All of our standard Newbuild range is entirely natural in colour. No pigments or colourants are added.

This blend is made with a 3mm down tan flint & silica sand, this gives a naturally buff, tea-like colour.

Please note that as sands come from a natural source there can be some variation in colour. While variances are slight, for applications where colour is important such as unpainted pointing, we strongly advise that each elevation is completed using mortar from the same batch.

Preparation

In general, this will be determined by the purpose and application of the mortar.

Dense impervious backgrounds/materials are unlikely to be very absorbent and require little to no dampening, whereas more absorbent backgrounds/materials require adequate dampening in order to prevent rapid drying.

Whilst the Newbuild product range includes additions to help mitigate shrinkage issues, best practice still needs to be followed.

Ensure surfaces are clean and free of dust and other debris.

For all other works, ensure the background is adequately dampened to promote adhesion/bond with the host surface.

Mixing

A 25kg bag of mortar will require 3.6 to 4.3 litres of clean potable water. Always avoid making the mortar too wet, as this can promote shrinkage issues.

For drum type mixers, it is essential not to overfill the mixer.

As a dry mixed material, it is possible that some settlement or separation may occur in the bag during transit; when mixing part bags, it is especially important that the dry contents are thoroughly blended prior to mixing with water.

Best Practice/Advised Mixing: First add 80% water of the total water into the mixer, followed by the dry mortar and turn the mixer on. Allow the mortar to mix until the water is thoroughly distributed, then add additional water to achieve desired consistency.

Mixing Time: When using a belle mixer mix for a minimum of 5 minutes, but for no longer than 10 minutes. When using a plasterers whisk mix for a minimum of 2 minutes, but for no longer than 5 minutes.

Other Mix Methods: We accept that it is common site practice to add a little extra water by hand to the mortar before use. Providing the mortar is well mixed and not too wet, this method will be suitable for any last minute adjustments. However, this

Manufactured by Cornerstone Mortars
Cornerstone products are CE marked
and manufactured under an ISO9001:2015
accredited Factory Production Control System.

Brims Park, Old Callywith Road
Bodmin, Cornwall PL31 2DZ
info@cornerstonemortars.co.uk
+44 0800 7839014

material should not be hand mixed from a powder.

Once water has been added, this mortar has an open time of at least 12 hours. Longer in colder weather.

Usage and Finishing

Areas of Use: This mortar can be used for building and pointing purposes, where the masonry units are of a suitable strength to take this mortar type.

Building: There are multiple building styles and methods so covering them in a short document like this is not feasible. This mortar is suitable for laying blocks, bricks or stonework with a joint size down to approximately 7mm. If the masonry is particularly high suction and/or the weather is quite hot then it may be advisable to dip it in water before laying so that the mortar doesn't dry back too quickly and allows enough time for placement and adjustment. Whilst we recognise that this is not currently considered best practice (rather running the mortar wetter is preferred) it is a suitable way to work with lime mortars so long as you're not completely killing the suction of the masonry unit.

Curing: After application and finishing the mortar should be kept damp to promote a cure and protected from direct sunlight and drying winds for a minimum of two weeks; longer in colder weather. This can be achieved by use of sheeted scaffolding, damp hung hessian or even just unprotected regular dampening in sheltered areas. Whilst this product develops strength faster than typical lime mortars is cannot be treated in the same way as a cement mortar.

Our most common recommendation is to cover over the fresh work with damp hessian sheeting to keep the fresh mortar damp and aid in its early strength development. The hessian should be setup with an overhang in such a way that it doesn't allow it to 'slap' against the wall which can ruin any finish that has been applied and smear lime onto the masonry.

Overspill: Lime mortars cannot be "acid washed" to clean the mortar face or excess overspill onto bricks, you will start to dissolve the mortar. Workmanship should be at a standard that issues like overspill do not occur or should be sufficiently minimised; adjusting the mortar stiffness can be a factor in this if the tradesperson is not familiar with lime mortars.

Finishing: Mortars like this are generally used for their aesthetic qualities, as such we do not recommend closing the surface down by ironing in or smoothing the face. We would recommend a churn brush or wire brush finish; this can only be applied when the mortar has sufficiently stiffened/hardened, and this is generally a longer period of time in comparison to when cement mortars are finished.

Packaging

This product is supplied in 25kg polythene lined paper bags, palletised for shipping and handling. The packaging is a mixed material and should be recycled accordingly.

Also available as tonne bags for 3 Tonne or higher order quantities.

Storage

This product should be stored in dry conditions, in unopened bags and clear from the ground. Always protect bags from water and damp. Reseal part bags after opening if unused product is present.

Use within 6 months of manufacturing date (provided on each bag).

Health and Safety

RISK PHRASES: R36 / R37 / R38 / R43

- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Contact with wet mortar may cause irritation, dermatitis and/or burns.
- Contact between lime powder and body fluid (sweat, eye fluid etc.) may cause skin burns and respiratory irritation, dermatitis or burns.

SAFETY PHRASES: S2 / S24/25 / S26 / S37

- Avoid eye and skin contact by wearing suitable eye protection, protective clothing and gloves.
- Avoid breathing dust.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- On contact with skin and/or eyes, rinse immediately with clean water and seek medical attention.

Declaration

Cornerstone lime mortars, renders and plasters are manufactured to the requirements of BS EN 998-1: 2016 and BS EN 998-2: 2016.

This product does not contain Portland cement.

This product does not contain any synthetic or natural polymers, glues or bonding agents.

Document Control

Datasheet version 1.2, issued September 2024. More modern versions of this document will supersede this datasheet, with no exclusions.

Manufactured by Cornerstone Mortars
Cornerstone products are CE marked
and manufactured under an ISO9001:2015
accredited Factory Production Control System.

Brims Park, Old Callywith Road
Bodmin, Cornwall PL31 2DZ
info@cornerstonemortars.co.uk
+44 0800 7839014