

RED TOP® Gauging Plaster



Quick-Set Slow-Set Perlite Aggregate

Mixes smoothly and easily with lime to produce smooth-trowel and sand-float interior surfaces that resist cracking

- Provides smooth-trowel or sand-float lime-putty finishes for normal interior walls and ceilings.
- Produces hard, crack and abrasion-resistant surfaces.
- Quick-Set and Slow-Set formulations are unaggregated for use over sanded basecoats. Perlite Aggregate formulation features perlite fines for use over lightweight aggregated basecoats.

Description

RED TOP® Brand Gauging Plaster is a gray to white plaster (depending on gypsum rock source) that provides smooth-trowel and sand-float lime-putty finishes for normal interior walls and ceilings. Quick-Set and Slow-Set formulations are unaggregated for use over sanded basecoats. Perlite Aggregate formulation includes mill-mixed fine aggregates for use over lightweight basecoats. Produces hard, crack- and abrasion-resistant surfaces over gypsum basecoats. Quick-Set formulation sets in 30-40 minutes; Slow-Set formulation sets in 50-75 minutes.

Limitations

1. A smooth trowel finish should not be used over lightweight aggregate gypsum basecoat applied over metal lath. A sand float finish is recommended.
2. Where the gypsum basecoat is STRUCTO-LITE® Brand Basecoat or contains lightweight aggregate (perlite or vermiculite) over any plaster base except metal lath, and when a smooth trowel finish is used, the finish coat should be RED TOP Gauging Plaster and lime with the addition of 1/2 cu. ft. of perlite, or 50 lbs. of No. 1 white silica sand per 100 lbs. of gauging plaster or "quality" (mill-aggregated) gauging plaster.
3. Gypsum-based finishes should not be used directly over a portland cement basecoat or over concrete block or other masonry surfaces.

Directions

Mixing

Mix double-hydrate limes in a clean container or mechanical mixer. Add one bag of lime to 5-1/2 to 6 gal. of water (21-23 liters) and mix until the putty is smooth. Mix with a portable drill mixer 2-1/2 to 3 min. at 450-600 rpm or with a paddle mixer for 12-20 min. at 50-75 rpm.

Mix single-hydrate limes in a clean container, using approximately 6 gal. (23 L) of water to each 50-lb. (22.7 kg) bag of lime. For a smooth, plastic putty, machine-mix to a soupy consistency, then pour it into a soaking box and hoe briskly. Let the mix soak for 16 hours and then screen the putty through 8-mesh hardware cloth before using.

To prepare finish plaster, mix RED TOP Gauging Plaster in proper proportion by dry weight (see table) with lime. Over lightweight aggregate basecoat, add 1/2 cu. ft. of perlite fines or 50 lbs. (22.7 kg) of No. 1 white silica sand per 100 lbs. of gauging plaster.

Application

Apply a tight scratch coat over the entire working area of the of the partially dry basecoat. Immediately double-back with material from the same batch and fill out to a true and even surface nominally 1/16" thick (no more than 1/8" thick). Allow the surface to become firm, then trowel well with water. Final-trowel after finish has begun to set. Surface should be free from cat faces and other blemishes or irregularities.

RED TOP Gauging Plaster and lime with sand may be used to produce a float finish; however, best results are achieved by using RED TOP® Brand Keenes Cement with lime and sand. For float finish coats, scratch in plaster thoroughly and immediately double-back to a true, even surface. Use a sponge, cork, wood, carpet or rubber float to bring the aggregate to the surface to produce a finish of uniform texture, free of slick spots, cat faces and other blemishes. Use water sparingly to prevent variations in texture and finished color.

Product Data	Technical Data	Product	Finish Texture	Physical Properties	Gauging to Lime, to sand (dry wt.)	Approx. Coverage per Ton (sq. yds.) ⁽¹⁾
		RED TOP Gauging Plaster and Lime Finish	Smooth trowel	Standard	50 lbs. gauging 100 lbs. lime	390
		RED TOP Gauging Plaster Lime and Sand Finish	Float Finish	Standard	50 lbs. gauging 100 lbs. lime 400 lbs. sand	280

1. 1/16" thick.

Application: For interior use only.

Compliance with Standards: RED TOP Gauging Plaster complies with ASTM C28.

Storage: Store material in a cool, dry place. Avoid direct sunlight. Maintain temperature above 55 °F (13 °C).

Shelf Life: Up to 6 months under protected storage conditions. Rotate stock.

Availability and Cost: RED TOP Gauging Plaster is distributed throughout the United States. Contact a United States Gypsum Company sales office for additional information.

Packaging: RED TOP Gauging Plaster is available in 50 lb. (22.7 kg) bags.

Submittal Approvals:	Job Name	
	Contractor	Date

WARNING!

When mixed with water, this material hardens and becomes very hot - sometimes quickly. DO NOT attempt to make a cast enclosing any part of the body using this material. Failure to follow these instructions can cause severe burns that may require surgical removal of affected tissue or amputation of limb. Long-term breathing of respirable crystalline silica dust can cause permanent lung damage and/or cancer. Dust may cause irritation to eyes, skin, nose, throat and upper

respiratory tract. Avoid irritation by reducing exposure to dust. Use in a well-ventilated area or provide sufficient local ventilation. Wash with soap and water after use. Do not ingest. If dusty, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved dust respirator. Wear eye protection. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If irritation persists, call physician. If ingested, call physician. Product information and MSDS: (800) 507-8899 or www.usg.com.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Trademarks

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Note
Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your U.S. Gypsum Company sales office or representative for information.

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Safety First!

Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installation of products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

