

# Red Top® Gypsum Plaster

## Wood-Fiber



### For conventional plaster applications

- Strongly recommended as a scratch coat for metal lath applications.
- Contains fine particles of selected wood fiber, needs addition of water only.
- Develops higher strength than conventional gypsum plasters.
- For plaster wall and ceiling assemblies requiring high fire-resistant and sound-isolating performance.

### Description

RED TOP® Brand Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster is a higher-strength basecoat plaster material than RED TOP® Brand Gypsum Plaster and can be used without aggregates. The material is manufactured with fine particles of selected wood fiber, so it needs addition of only water. RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster can be applied to all standard lath and masonry plaster bases, but it is strongly recommended as a scratch coat for metal lath. This plaster requires aggregate when used in machine applications or when applied to masonry.

RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster provides a plastic working material that will conform to most designs and help achieve durability in walls and ceilings. It can be applied by hand or machine methods, on gypsum and metal lath, gypsum and clay tile, concrete and cinder blocks, and other approved plaster bases.

**Fire Protection** Gypsum plaster, properly proportioned with approved aggregates and used with specified plaster bases, provides excellent fire protection.

**Sound Isolation** Gypsum plasters can offer sound transmission loss characteristics suitable for most requirements. Sanded basecoat plaster provides optimum results.

**Control of Set** RED TOP Wood Fiber Gypsum Plaster is formulated for use with market aggregates, and in varying climatic conditions and job conditions. The quicker a gypsum plaster sets, the stronger the basecoat.

### Limitations

1. Where sound isolation is the prime consideration, only sand aggregate should be used.
2. Over interior monolithic concrete, USG™ Plaster Bonder should be applied before plastering.
3. Gypsum plasters should not be used where they will come into contact with water or excessive moisture.
4. Plaster application on masonry or concrete walls, or ceilings that have been coated with bituminous compounds or other waterproofing agents, is not recommended. The interior side of exterior walls should be furred and lathed prior to plastering to prevent seepage and condensation.
5. Basecoat plasters must not die or stop against a hollow metal door frame return. Dampen trim return vibration by grouting, and by using special anchors. Grouting with sanded RED TOP Gypsum Plaster must be raked out to allow lath and plaster to be inserted into the frame.

### Directions

#### Preparation

In cold weather, all glazing should be completed and the building heated to a minimum of 55 °F (13 °C) before gypsum base or lath and plaster installation. Building temperature must be maintained in uniform range above 55 °F for an adequate period prior to application of plaster, while plastering is being done, and until plaster is dry. Heat should be well distributed in all areas, with deflection or protective screens used to prevent concentrated or irregular heat on the plaster surfaces.

Ventilation and air circulation should be provided to dry the plaster after application for proper set. Keep windows open sufficiently to provide air circulation in glazed buildings; in enclosed areas lacking normal ventilation, mechanically remove moisture-laden air.

If glazed sashes are not in place and the building is subject to hot, dry winds or temperature differentials from day to night of 20 °F (11 °C) or more, openings must be screened with cheesecloth or similar material.

**Mixing** When RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster is to be mixed with aggregate for machine application or when the basecoat is to be applied to masonry, add 1 cu. ft. of sand per 100 lbs. of plaster. When it is used as a scratch or brown coat, up to 1 cu. ft. of sand per 100 lbs. of plaster may be added. Mix basecoat plaster by hand or in a mechanical mixer to a uniform consistency.

**Application** Apply the basecoat plaster by hand or machine. Monolithic or unit masonry surfaces that exhibit high suction shall be moderately wetted immediately before plastering.

For two-coat work over gypsum lath and masonry, apply the RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster base (first) coat with sufficient material and pressure to form a good bond to the base and to cover well; then double-back

to bring the plaster out to grounds. Straighten to a true surface with a rod and darby without the use of additional water and leave rough to receive the finish (second) coat.

For three-coat work, apply the RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster scratch (first) coat with sufficient material and pressure to form good full keys on metal lath, and good bond on other bases, and then cross-rake. Apply brown (second) coat after scratch (first) coat has set firm and hard. Bring out to grounds and straighten to a true surface with a rod and darby without the use of additional water. Leave the brown coat rough to receive the finish (third) coat.

Product Data	Technical Data	Plaster	Mix	Compressive Strength psi—dry <sup>(1)</sup>	Weight lb./cu. ft.—dry	Conductivity (k)
		RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster	neat	1,750	82	3.15
		RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster (with sand)	100:1	1,400	97	—

(1) Average laboratory results. Figures may vary slightly for products from individual mills. Tested in accordance with ASTM C472. Aggregate is in cu. ft. per 100 lbs. of plaster.

**Approximate Coverage—sq. yd./ton**

Product	Applied over a base of:		
	Gypsum Lath	Metal Lath	Unit Masonry
RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster	85	54	66
RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster (with sand)	135	86	105

**Compliance with Standards:** Complies with ASTM Designation C28; RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster meets Federal Specification SS-P-00402B, Type III.

**Thermal Coefficient of Expansion (Unrestrained):** Wood-fiber gypsum plaster (sanded 100:1)— $8.0 \times 10^{-6}$  in. per in. per degree F (40-100 °F); 14.4 mm per mm per °C (4-38 °C).

**Hygrometric Coefficient of Expansion (Unrestrained):** Wood-fiber gypsum plaster (sanded 100:1)— $2.8 \times 10^{-6}$  in. per in. per % relative humidity (5-90% R.H.);  $2.8 \times 10^{-6}$  mm per mm per % relative humidity (5-90% R.H.).

**Storage:** Store material in a cool, dry place. Avoid direct sunlight. Maintain temperature above 40 °F (4 °C).

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

**Availability and Cost** RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster is distributed throughout the United States. Contact a United States Gypsum Company sales office or sales person for additional information.

**Packaging:** RED TOP Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster is available in 50 lb. (22.7 kg.) bags.

<b>Submittal Approvals:</b>	<b>Job Name</b>	
	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Date</b>

**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. 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. 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. Wash with soap and water after use. If ingested, call physician. Product information and MSDS: (800) 507-8899 or [www.usg.com](http://www.usg.com). **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**Trademarks**

The following is a trademark of United States Gypsum or a related company: RED TOP.

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

**Notice**

We shall not be liable for incidental and consequential damages, directly or indirectly sustained, nor for any loss caused by application of these goods not in accordance with current printed instructions or for other than the intended use. Our liability is expressly limited to replacement of defective goods. Any claim shall be deemed waived unless made in writing to us within thirty (30) days from date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

**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.

