

# USG GYPSUM PLASTER RETARDERS



## DESCRIPTION

### For slowing the setting time of conventional plasters, veneer plasters, lime finish plasters and setting-type joint compounds

- Two formulations meet a variety of setting requirements: Standard Strength and For Lime-Based Products
- Products easily disperse into mixing water for quick addition to plaster mix
- USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength is recommended for slight to moderate lengthening of set times of plaster products and setting-type joint compounds
- USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: For Lime-Based Products is used with conventional lime/finish plasters and USG Diamond® Veneer Finish

USG Gypsum Plaster Retarders are additives that lengthen the setting time of gypsum plaster by slowing the chemical crystal formation that causes the gypsum plaster to set or harden.

USG offers two retarder products to meet a wide range of needs. USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength is recommended for slight to moderate (30 to 45 minutes) lengthening of set times of veneer and conventional plasters as well as setting-type joint compounds. USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: For Lime-Based Products is used with USG Diamond® Veneer Finish, USG Red Top® Brand Finish Plaster and USG Red Top® Brand Gauging Plaster.

## LIMITATIONS

- Excessive additions of retarder will drastically reduce strength, thereby impairing the integrity of the finish work.
- Excessive amounts may produce “dry-out”—the inability of plaster to set before the water necessary for chemical reaction evaporates.
- USG Gypsum Plaster Retarders should never be added directly to the plaster mix. The addition of dry retarder does not provide controlled dispersion as quickly or uniformly as retarder pre-mixed with water.

## DIRECTIONS

### APPLICATION—GENERAL

Prior to use of any additive, mix a trial batch of formulated product and determine the set time. Once the set time is known, a measured amount of USG Gypsum Plaster Retarders/water mixture is added to adjust the set. Any available container (wax cup, coffee can, measuring cup, etc.) can be used to measure the retarder/water mixture. Keep mixing equipment clean between batches to prevent altered setting in subsequent mixes.

### USG GYPSUM PLASTER RETARDER: STANDARD STRENGTH

USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength should be mixed with water before adding to plaster. Mix 1 tspn. of dry retarder with 5 oz. of water to prepare a solution that will extend the set time of 100 lbs. of gypsum plaster by 30-40 minutes or more.

For larger quantities, mix 1-1/4 lb. of USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength with 5 gal. of water in a convenient size container to prepare the retarder solution. Slowly add retarder to the water and stir until dispersed. Screen out any retarder lumps that may have formed. These lumps would cause soft discolored spots in the plaster surface. Note that retarder is only dispersed in water and not dissolved, thus prolonged standing will allow the retarder to settle out. Always stir the retarder mixture before using. Poor dispersion increases the possibility of variable sets and soft unset spots in the plaster surface.

### USG GYPSUM PLASTER RETARDER: FOR LIME-BASED PRODUCTS

Add USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: For Lime-Based Products directly to the mixing water prior to the addition of plaster. Once the proper amount of retarder is added, the water should be stirred to dissolve the retarder. As little as 1 tspn. per 50 lb. bag of lime-containing plaster will extend the setting time by 20 minutes or more.

## CLEANUP AND STORAGE

Clean mixing containers and tools with water immediately after use. Partially used containers should be closed as tightly as possible. Store material in a cool, dry place. Avoid direct sunlight. Maintain temperature above 40°F (4°C).

## PRODUCT DATA

**Shelf Life:** Up to two years under protected storage conditions. Rotate stock.

**Availability:** USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength are distributed throughout the United States. Consult your USG Company sales office or representative for information.

**Packaging:** USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength is available in 2.5 lb. stand-up pouch with reclosable zipper. USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: For Lime-Based Products is available in 3 lb. stand-up pouch with reclosable zipper.

## SUBMITTAL APPROVALS

Job Name	
Contractor	Date

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

See usg.com for the most up-to-date product information.

#### DANGER

**USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: Standard Strength.** Causes skin irritation. Causes serious eye damage. Wash thoroughly after handling. Use only in a well-ventilated area, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection. If swallowed, inhaled, or skin irritation occurs immediately get medical attention. If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses and continue rinsing. If on skin: Wash with plenty of water. Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse. When mixed with water, this material hardens and becomes very hot sometimes quickly. Also, contact can cause severe chemical burns. DO NOT attempt to make a cast enclosing any part of the body using this material. Dispose of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.

For more information call Product Safety: 800-507-8899 or see the SDS at usg.com

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

#### CAUTION

**USG Gypsum Plaster Retarder: For Lime-Based Products.** 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. Dust from mixing may cause irritation to eyes, skin, nose, throat and upper respiratory tract. Use only in a well-ventilated area, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator. Wear eye protection. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If on skin: Wash with plenty of water. If swallowed and/or irritation persists, call a physician. Keep containers closed when not in use.

For more information call Product Safety: 800-507-8899 or see the SDS at 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 USG 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. For most current information, visit usg.com. 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 installing all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read Safety Data Sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

800 USG.4YOU  
800 (874-4968)  
usg.com

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United States Gypsum Company  
550 West Adams Street  
Chicago, IL 60661

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