# Red Top® Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mix</th>
<th>Compressive Strength (psi—dry)</th>
<th>Weight (lb./cu. ft.—dry)</th>
<th>Conductivity (k)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Top Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster neat</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with sand)</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Applied over a base of:</th>
<th>Gypsum Lath</th>
<th>Metal Lath</th>
<th>Unit Masonry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Top Wood-Fiber Gypsum Plaster</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with sand)</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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)—8.0x10^-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)—2.8x10^-6 in. per in. per % relative humidity (5-90% R.H.); 2.8x10^-6 mm per mm per % relative humidity (5-90% R.H.).

### 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.

### 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.