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. The temperature of the building 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 properly dry the plaster subsequent to plaster applications and proper set. This can be accomplished by keeping windows open sufficiently to provide air circulation in glazed buildings; in enclosed areas lacking normal ventilation, provisions must be made to 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.

Application

**Mixing Conventional Plaster**

STRUCTO-LITE Brand Gypsum Plaster contains mill-mixed aggregate, so it is mixed with water only on the jobsite. Mix basecoat plaster by hand or in a mechanical mixer to a uniform consistency.

**Applying Basecoat**

Apply the basecoat plaster by hand or machine in one or two coats. 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 STRUCTO-LITE Brand Gypsum Plaster basecoat (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 STRUCTO-LITE Brand 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.