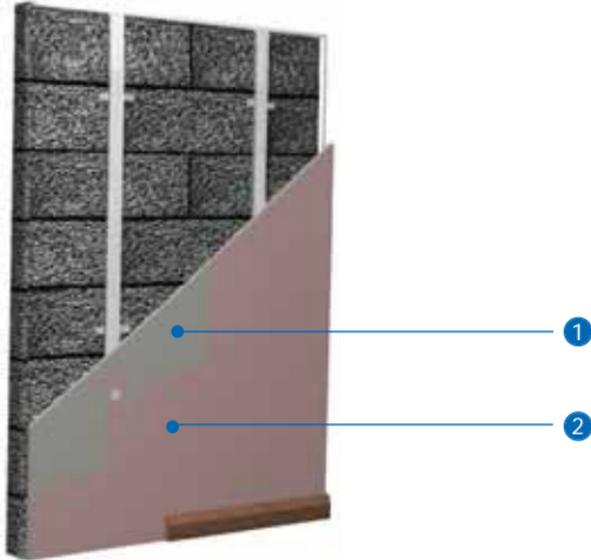


Plaster skimming - Hand applied

Plaster skimming to plasterboards and Glasroc F MULTIBOARD is a popular method of providing a smooth, seamless surface ready to receive decorative treatment. Skim plastering gives many of the advantages of a traditional plaster finish combined with quick turnaround on site. Surface preparation simply involves joint reinforcement and, if tapered edge board is used, flushing-out the tapers. The plaster is trowel-applied to the wall or ceiling surface to a 2mm thickness.





- 1 Plasterboard
- 2 Plaster

Key facts

- Traditional plaster finish
- Provides uniform surface
- Resilient and scuff-resistant for general purposes, and excellent resistance to accidental damage provided by Thistle Durafinish
- Applied to 2mm thickness
- Finished in one visit to site
- ConstructionSkills grant-approved training

Components

Plaster products



Thistle Board Finish

25kg

Quantities¹

Approx
1 bag
per 10m²

or



Thistle Multi-Finish

25kg

Approx
1 bag
per 10m²

or



Thistle Uni-Finish

A premium finish coat plaster that requires no prior preparation with PVA on the majority of backgrounds.

25kg

Approx
1 bag
per 10m²

or



Thistle Durafinish

To provide improved resistance to accidental damage.

25kg

Approx
1 bag
per 10m²

or



Thistle Spray Finish

Gypsum finish plaster for spray or hand application.

25kg

Approx
1 bag
per 10m²

Plaster accessories



Thistle Thin-Coat Angle Bead

Length 2400, 3000mm

Quantities¹

As required



Thistle Thin-Coat Plaster Stop Bead

Length 2400, 3000mm
3mm thickness

As required

| Plaster accessories | Quantities [†] |
|---|-------------------------------|
|  <p>Thistle ProTape FT50 For reinforcing plasterboard joints. Dimensions 50mm x 90m</p> | 150m per 100m ² |
|  <p>Thistle ProTape FT100 For reinforcing plasterboard joints. Dimensions 100mm x 45m</p> | 150m per 100m ² |
|  <p>Gyproc Joint Tape For reinforcing plasterboard joints and internal angles. Roll length 150m</p> | As required |
|  <p>ThistleBond-it For pre-treatment of MR grade board surfaces. Tub contents 10 litre</p> | 45m ² per tub |

[†] Quantities are approximate and for guidance only, no allowance has been made for waste.

NB Plasters and plaster accessories - see Section 12 – Products, 'Plaster and plaster accessories', or Gyproc Tools catalogue for full listing.

Construction tips

- Ensure the background is prepared properly, e.g. board fixed the correct way round (skim onto the front face of plasterboard and the smooth face of Glasroc F MULTIBOARD), and reasonably clean and dry

- Select the right plaster system for the background, normally:
 - Thistle Board Finish for plasterboards and Glasroc F MULTIBOARD
 - Thistle Multi-Finish where the job also involves finishing undercoats
 - Thistle Uni-Finish for re-skimming over a wide range of backgrounds with no need for pre-treatment with PVA
 - Thistle Durafinish for improved resistance to accidental damage
 - Thistle Spray Finish for spray or hand application (see **SITE BOOK** supplement – ‘Plaster skimming - Machine applied’)
 - ThistleBond-it for skimming of moisture resistant boards and some very smooth backgrounds such as cast in-situ concrete
 - For the best quality plasterboard finishing, use Thistle Bonding Coat (5 - 8mm) with a 2mm application of Thistle Multi-Finish - see **Section 9 – Plaster systems**

- Sequence the work - approximate setting time is 90 minutes, but finishing times can be extended in low temperatures by 30 minutes or more

- Check use-by dates and use oldest material first

- Ensure environmental factors are suitable:
 - Plaster should not be applied to frozen backgrounds
 - When using Thistle Durafinish or Thistle Uni-Finish, ambient and background temperature must be maintained above 5°C until fully dry to obtain the full performance
 - In very hot / dry conditions take precautions to avoid rapid loss of water
 - Finished plasterwork is suitable for locations where the temperature does not exceed 49°C
 - Avoid excessively polishing the surface

Installation



Mixing

- The plasters are pre-mixed. Add only clean water prepare them for use. **Do not** use any additives.
- Thistle plasters should be mixed by adding to clean water in clean mixing equipment. Contamination from previous mixes adversely affects the setting time and strength. Fresh contamination has more effect than old, so equipment should be washed just after mixing.



- Thistle plasters are suitable for mixing by hand or mechanical whisk of a slow speed, high torque type. A range of suitable mixers and paddles is available in the Gyproc Tools range. While mechanical mixing speeds the process up, there is no need to continue mixing after dispersing lumps and achieving the right consistency – over-mixing wastes time and energy, can affect setting times, lead to deterioration in workability and create difficulty in achieving a flat finish.



Application to board backgrounds

- Thistle Thin-Coat Angle Bead is fixed to the plasterboard angle by embedding in the finish plaster. Before this plaster sets, any surplus should be wiped from the corner, as scraping it away later may damage the zinc coating. If the bead is fixed to the board 'dry' the adhesion may be reduced because it is difficult to squeeze plaster between the bead and the plasterboard.



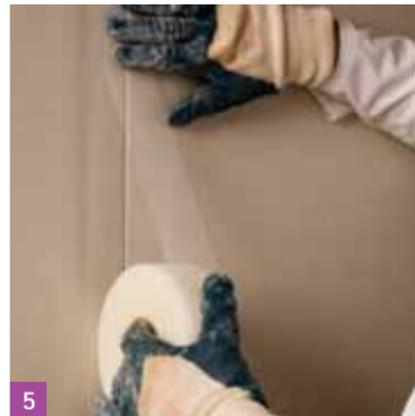
Reinforcing joints with Gyproc Joint Tape

- Pre-fill any gaps between boards exceeding 3mm.

- Reinforce joints and internal angles using Gyproc Joint Tape. Spread plaster along each joint, press Gyproc Joint Tape firmly into the plaster and immediately cover with a further application.

NB Leave sufficient plaster under the tape to ensure good adhesion and ensure that the joint treatment is free from air bubbles.

NB Crease Gyproc Joint Tape along centre line before application to internal corners.



Reinforcing joints with Thistle ProTape

- If preferred, flat joints can be reinforced with Thistle ProTape FT100 or Thistle ProTape FT50 glass fibre mesh tape.

NB Glass fibre mesh tape is not a direct substitute for Gyproc Joint Tape in resistance to cracking, particularly in systems where the board edges are not fully supported. Since Thistle ProTape FT50 is self-adhesive, pre-filling is not normally required.



- Position the tape and spread plaster along each joint. To minimise the risk of cracking, it is important to ensure that plaster is pushed through the tape well into any gap between boards.



- Apply plaster to board surface and joints with firm pressure after the joint treatment has stiffened but not set. Build out to 2mm thickness in two applications, wet-on-wet and trowel to a smooth matt finish. Use water sparingly and only in the latter stages of trowelling.

NB Guidance on good site practice is given in *EN13914-2 Design Considerations and Essential Principles for Internal Plastering*.



Decoration

- Ensure that the plasterwork is thoroughly dry before final decorating.
- A coat of permeable paint can be applied in the interim.
- Plaster surfaces can be decorated with most proprietary paint finishes and will accept the majority of wall covering adhesives. For guidance on tiling, see 10 – Tiling.

NB Always follow the manufacturers' recommendations in respect of applied decorative treatments.