

Technical information on Dry Dash Renders

Coverage

The coverage of our Dry Dash finishes can only be estimated as the size and type of aggregates is important. We suggest that it would take 12kgs of aggregate per M² and 14kgs of sand per M² of wall.

Packaging

Dry Dashing stones and sand are available in 1 tonne bulk sacks and in 25Kg bags.

Application

Conventional plastering method – dry dash finish – to standard block wall.

Undercoat (scratch coat) mix 1.3 cement. clean plastering sand, with plasticiser, apply to a maximum depth of 15mm and comb surface to maximum 5mm depth.

Receiving coat (butter coat), 1.4 cement (grey or white depending on finish). chosen coloured sand. Apply to maximum 10-12mm depth, smooth with a straight edge to receive the dash stone.

The washed dash should be applied with a scoop direct to the wall ensuring an even distribution to give a uniform appearance. The aggregate should be lightly tamped into the receiving coat with a wooden/plastic float to ensure a good bond is obtained.

Trouble Shooting

Uneven trowelling and application of chippings can cause patchy appearance on walls. Waterproofing agent is recommended to help prevent differences in suction rates, resulting in difficulties in embedding the chippings evenly to the mortar. This results in the chippings being more pronounced in some areas that others leaving an irregular finish. The aggregate should be applied in a damp but not soaked state as this helps with the adhesion to the render. Care should be taken to ensure that the moisture content of both the aggregate and the render is consistent as differences caused by atmospheric conditions can create problems

Care should be taken to obtain a wide and even spread in order to distribute the aggregate. Particular attention should be taken around scaffolding to avoid shadowing.

Irwins do not recommend the re-use of aggregate that has been collected up following the first application. This is likely to have mortar stains on it, which if applied can result in a patchy finish.

Bags of aggregate should be decanted onto a clean surface before application. Fines usually fall to the bottom during the bagging process, if they then mixed on the ground it will help eliminate patchiness which can be caused by an uneven distribution of the fines.