



Natural Lime Pointing Mortar

For Traditional Brickwork, Stonework, Brick Slips & Stone Cladding

Product Description

This is a factory produced mortar, made with NHL3.5, for building and pointing.

Mix Ratio, Binder & Aggregate

2 parts NHL3.5 to 5 parts sand by volume. The aggregate is a 2mm down washed silica sand. This product does not contain Portland Cement.

Usage Notes

Ensure that any bricks blocks or stone are of suitable strength for compatibility with this mortar.

This product is suitable for internal and external use.

This product is not suitable for use as a render or plaster.

Do not use this product if the temperature is above 30°C, below 5°C. As this is a lime mortar it takes longer to achieve frost resistance than cement mortars, we would recommend contacting us for further information if planning works during frosty periods.

Coverage

After mixing, a 25kg bag will produce approximately 15 litres of mortar. A Tonne bag will produce approximately 600L of mortar

When used for pointing, a 25Kg bag will yield between 1.25m² and 1.75m² depending on joint width and depth. As general guidance we recommend aiming for a depth of double the average joint width; on 10mm brickwork this would be 20mm depth of pointing. An on-site sample panel will give you the best measure of quantity for your specific project.

Colour and Texture

This mortar is blended to give a Natural, Portland Or Bathstone colour depending on the option chosen. After finishing the mortar will give a light cream fine sandy texture. Please see our other products for alternative colours available.

As this product is made from a natural sand there can be some change in product colour over time; whilst these changes are generally quite small, we still recommend each elevation is pointed with a single batch of mortar.

Masonry Preparation

Surfaces must be cleaned of dust, dirt, mould, lichen and any other contaminate before application of the mortar.

Surfaces should be dampened before repointing. This is for suction control to prevent rapid drying.

For higher suction masonry units the mortar should be run wetter rather than the units dipped in water.

Mixing Guidance

Most types of mixers are suitable for use with this mortar including but not limited to; freefall mixers, forced action mixers, roll pan mixers and plasterer's whisks. We do not recommend mixing this by hand.

Always use full bag quantities when mixing with this mortar, do not use part bags. Add 75% of the water requirement into the mixer, then the dry mortar, and allow to mix until the water is thoroughly distributed to a crumbly soil damp consistency; after this slowly add more water to bring the mortar to a usable consistency. Water requirement will vary depending on the consistency required on site; typically it will vary from 4L to 4.6L per 25Kg bag. Lime mortars must be used stiffer than cement mortars.

In a freefall drum mixers such as common belle type mixers mix for at least 5 minutes but no more than 10 minutes. Using a plasterer's whisk mix for at least a minute, and no more than 4 minutes. It is possible to overmix this mortar.

You will find that this mortar will stiffen slightly after approximately 20-30 minutes, this is a common feature of lime mortars called quenching. You can knock the mortar back up, and if necessary, add a little more water. After this the mortar will be a little more fatty and easier to use.

Once water has been added, this mortar has an open time of at least 16 hours. Longer in colder weather.

Usage and Finishing

Lime mortars are suitable for most masonry units in common use. For particularly low suction materials such as engineering bricks, you may find they swim a little more, and can slow the stiffening and set time of the mortar.

On high suction backgrounds or hot/windy days the wall should be dampened multiple times before starting works, and you should be prepared to keep re-wetting the wall throughout the day.

Pointing – The mortar should be pushed into the prepared and dampened joint to completely fill from the back to front. Once suitably stiffened the mortar should be pushed back into the joint to take up any shrinkage. After further stiffening the mortar should have the face beaten with a stiff bristled churn brush to open up the texture and compact the mortar completely into the joint; ensure any edges to the joint are closed up tight against the masonry during this process.

Building – This mortar is suitable for laying blocks, bricks and stone. It is not possible to cover them all in a short document like this. However some general guidance would be to use the mortar stiffer than cement mortars, and run the consistency wetter where unit suction is higher.

Aftercare

Lime mortars develop strength much slower than cement mortars so you will need to protect any fresh works from direct sunlight and drying winds. Any hung protection like sheeting should be kept away from the surface of the wall to prevent the wind from allowing the sheet to hit the fresh mortar and smear fresh mortar over the wall.

The mortar should be kept damp for a minimum of a week after application to aid in strength development; in particularly hot, cold or windy weather this should be extended to at least two weeks. For winter working please contact us for further guidance.

Packaging

This mortar is supplied in 25Kg bags; whilst they are polythene lined they are not waterproof and should be kept dry before use. These layers can be separated and recycled after use.

Also available in IBC's for bulk handling; again this is not a waterproof container.

Storage

This product should be stored in dry conditions, in unopened bags and off the ground such as on a pallet with a liner. Always protect bags from water and damp.

Use within 6 months of manufacturing date (provided on each bag).

Health and Safety

RISK PHRASES: R36 / R37 / R38 / R43

- Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- Contact with wet mortar may cause irritation, dermatitis and/or burns.
- Contact between lime powder and body fluid (sweat, eye fluid etc.) may cause skin burns and respiratory irritation, dermatitis or burns.

SAFETY PHRASES: S2 / S24/25 / S26 / S37

- Avoid eye and skin contact by wearing suitable eye protection, protective clothing and gloves.
- Avoid breathing dust.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- On contact with skin and/or eyes, rinse immediately with clean water and seek medical attention.

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