

EcoRight LIME WASH

1. Identification

1.1 Introduction

EcoRight Lime Wash is an early form of paint manufactured from slaked quicklime, traditionally used for centuries as a decorative finish. Most lime wash has the consistency of skimmed milk however **EcoRight Lime Wash** has been specially formulated for a richer, creamier consistency.

EcoRight Lime Wash is calcium hydroxide suspended in water. As the water evaporates the calcium hydroxide readily combines with carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, a process known as carbonisation. As carbonisation takes place the lime wash hardens and develops its colour and bonds to the substrate.

EcoRight Lime Wash is suitable for historic or listed properties and many old buildings requiring a protective decorative finish.

1.2 Authority

Materials used conform to the following standard:
BS EN 459-1:2015

1.3 General Advantages

EcoRight Lime Wash is a traditional building product that offers several benefits:

- Ideal for the repair and redecoration of historic buildings being a breathable paint.
- Can be used externally and internally.
- Can be used as a plain white or coloured lime wash through the addition of pigments.

2. Description

2.1 Manufacture

EcoRight Lime Wash is manufactured in batches that are subject to regular quality control procedures. Following production, the lime putty is left to continue slaking until all the quicklime has become hydrated.

2.2 Lime wash application

EcoRight Lime Wash is applied to sympathetically porous background such as sand-stone, lime plaster, clay bricks or lime render.

Any organic growth should be treated with a suitable biocide in accordance with the manufacturer guidelines and dead material brushed off. The background should be washed to remove dust and grime then allowed to dry to a damp state.

Even if the surface is considered clean it should be dampened, similarly with brick work and mortar joints. This is best achieved using a sprayer, leaving for a few hours for the water to fully soak in. With especially dry surfaces it is recommended to spray the day before the application of lime wash.

This preparation will prevent the lime wash drying too quickly and cracking, thereby ensuring a good bond with the surface.

Lime wash should be applied to the substrate with a lime wash brush using horizontal, vertical and diagonal strokes, ensuring that the lime wash is applied thinly, evenly and is burnished into the surface.

Overly heavy coats will dry cracked and uneven. Should this occur, wash off with hot water and a stiff brush and reapply correctly.

Lime wash, coloured or otherwise, is semi translucent when first applied. The lime wash will harden and the colour will fix as the carbonisation occurs. Each coat should be allowed to dry before applying the subsequent one

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Lime wash can be thinned, if required, by adding clean, potable water however care must be taken with pigmented lime wash to ensure the exact same quantities of water are added for each application.

Lime wash being used on new harling work should be applied as soon as the harling is capable of taking the abrading action of the brush without loss of surface material.

Containers of lime wash should be constantly stirred prior and during application to ensure even distribution of lime and pigment.

During the drying out period, protect from strong winds, rain and direct sunlight.

After use, brushes should be washed with clean running water.

2.3 Additives

When used externally, the durability of lime wash can be improved by the addition of;

- Casein, a phosphoprotein derived from animal milk, typically from cows, acts as a water repellent and prevents the build-up of dust on the surface.
- Tallow, refined animal fat from sheep, pigs or cows, will have a similar affect.
- Linseed oil, pressed from ripe seeds from the flax plant, added at 1% by volume, will improve binding and water shedding.

2.4 Performance / coverage

On a flat, porous surface 15 litres will cover approximately 75 square metres on a single coat.

Harling has a much larger surface area and coverage will be therefore less.

EcoRight Lime Wash should be applied at about 20 square metres per hour.

3. Site work

EcoRight Lime Wash is delivered to site in 15 litre tubs. A full pallet contains 33 tubs.

EcoRight Lime Wash should be treated carefully as it is a highly caustic alkali. Appropriate personal protection should be worn at all times when handling and applying lime wash.

EcoRight Lime Wash matures and improves with age if kept in sealed containers. It should be protected from heat and frost. Properly stored lime wash should not deteriorate in any way regardless of length of time stored.

4. Health and Safety

Lime wash is classified as an irritant and is alkaline in nature (see Health and Safety Datasheet for more details).

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