



LimeStrong Artisan plasters are available from select distributors or online at: www.limestrongartisan.com

LimeStrong™ Use Instructions

BASE

LIMESTRONG BASE is formulated from high-quality hydrated lime, pumice pozzolan and crushed marble aggregate. BASE is the coarsest of the LimeStrong Artisan plasters. It was developed to be used as a basecoat foundation for our waterproof tadelakt system. LimeStrong Base can also be used as a rough interior finish coat or as an exterior finish coat, but, unlike our STONE, SAND, and MARBLE grades, *should not* be applied directly to primed drywall or previously painted surfaces.

PACKAGING and COVERAGE

LIMESTRONG BASE is packaged in 50 lb. bags—enough to mix with the 2 gallons (8 liters) of water in a common 5 gallon bucket to make one batch. Coverage per bag is 70-100 square feet for one coat, depending on thickness and substrate.

WATER

For each bag of LimeStrong BASE, you will need 2 gallons (8 liters) of clean water.*

COLORING/TINT

If an integral color is desired, add the measured amount of tint or pigment* to the water and mix well. Immediately mix as described above.

TOOLS and MATERIALS

Clean 5 gallon (20 liter) Bucket	Bucket Scraper
Heavy Duty 1/2" Mixing Drill	Drill Attachment Mixing Paddle
Gloves	Spray Bottle w/ Water
Standard Hawk	Standard Trowel
Finish Tools (Sponge or Wood Float)	

SUITABLE SURFACES (SUBSTRATES)

LIMESTRONG BASE is formulated to be applied only over porous, absorbent substrates. It is *not suitable* to be applied directly to primed drywall or previously painted surfaces.

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

- ★ Tile Mortar / Thin-set Scratch Coat (Tadelakt system—see our LimeStrong Tadelakt guide)
- ★ Stucco Brown Coat (exterior)
- ★ Lime Plaster Scratch and Brown Coats (exterior)
- ★ LimeStrong Artisan Sand first coat (over primed drywall)
- ★ Plaster Bonder (over finished drywall or previously painted substrate, smooth concrete. Plaster-Weld® is a good choice)

MIXING LIMESTRONG BASE

For a full bucket-batch of BASE, add 2 gallons of water (8 liters) to a clean 5 gallon bucket. Add one-third to one-half of BASE to water and mix. Repeat until all plaster has been added, mixing and scraping the sides of the bucket to remove any dry or gummy plaster and blending the entire mixture thoroughly, at least two minutes. Add more water if needed to achieve ideal consistency.

APPLYING LIMESTRONG BASE

Typically, LimeStrong Base should be applied using a double-back technique. Apply one coat to grain height and then immediately “double back” with more plaster, wet on wet. If the BASE is being applied to a deeply absorbent substrate, some degree of pre-wetting (misting) should take place before application. The surface should be just damp but without visible moisture on the surface.

FINISHING

BASE can be finished in several ways. It can be floated with a sponge float or a wood float for a rustic or sandy finish. It can be troweled to a semi-smooth state or hand textured to create a variety of effects. If necessary, a small amount of water can be misted onto the surface during finishing to help achieve the desired result. *If applying BASE as the foundation for a Tadelakt finish, please refer to the LimeStrong Tadelakt Use Instructions.*

SEAL

BASE can be sealed with most commonly available waterproofing sealers used for concrete, stone, tile and stucco. Always test any sealer in a small inconspicuous area before using it on a large surface. Limestrong BASE can also be finished with our soap sealer. This will impart some stain resistance to the finish. Continues: page 1 of 2

*Water and color pigment amount CALCULATORS available online at: limestrongartisan.com/calculators.html

USE-WINDOW FOR MIXED PLASTER

The lime + pumice formulation of LimeStrong plasters creates a mix that is slightly hydraulic. This hydraulic reaction is strongly affected by temperature. Mixed plaster stored in warm or hot conditions will set faster than if stored in cool, above-freezing conditions. The plaster, once mixed with water, will slowly stiffen and become firm. As a general rule, the mixed plaster will be usable for 7 to 10 days. Within that 7-10 day window, remixing may be necessary to return the plaster to an ideal working consistency.

Store mixed LimeStrong in an airtight container and keep from freezing or extreme heat.

LIMESTRONG SOAP FINISH

If Limestrong BASE is being used as a rough finish coat, it can be finished with our soap sealer. This will impart some stain resistance to the finish. LIMESTRONG SOAP FINISH is a true castile olive oil soap. Many feel a soap finish deepens the beauty and enriches the aesthetic of the plaster finish. Refer to our **LimeStrong Soap Finish User Guide** for detailed instructions.

LIMESTRONG LIMEWASH

BASE is an excellent substrate for our limewash product. This can be done interior or exterior. Please refer to our **LimeStrong Limewash User Guide** for instructions on mixing and applying a limewash finish.

Safe Use Precautions

LimeStrong Artisan plasters contains hydrated (slaked) lime, which (because of a high pH) is somewhat caustic. Breathing the powder dust can also cause respiratory irritation.

BE SMART. Protect yourself. In all situations, if irritation develops, seek medical attention.

SKIN: With prolonged contact, lime plaster can irritate and dehydrate skin. Wear protective gloves and a long-sleeved shirt. You can further protect your face, neck, hands and forearms with a barrier cream. Protecting your skin, especially when cuts, scrapes or scratches are present, is always worth the effort. **TREATMENT:** Wash exposed skin thoroughly after handling lime plaster. Keep a bucket of water liberally splashed with white vinegar to neutralize the bite of lime plaster on skin and (at clean-up) tools.

EYES: Please take care to protect your eyes when mixing and applying lime plaster. Precautions must be taken to keep airborne powder out of your eyes. Also avoid rubbing the eyes with unwashed hands that have been in contact with lime plaster (wet or dry). **TREATMENT:** Immediately flush eyes liberally with water for several minutes.

INHALATION: When mixing or sanding lime-based plasters, especially for prolonged periods, wear a particle mask or respirator that covers the nose and mouth.

TREATMENT: If inhaled, move immediately to fresh air.