



BEST PRACTICE GUIDE

Plastering and Rendering Woodwool Construction Slabs

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Health & Safety Information

Fibrelime cannot accept any liability for incorrect use or application of Fibrelime. Recommended 'best practice' should be followed at all times. If in doubt, please call us on Tel: 01760 337994 07761119394 for advice or assistance. Detailed Health and Safety Data sheets are available to download from the "Technical Stuff" section of the website under Safety Data.

Fibrelime description:

Fibrelime is a traditional based plaster with improved fibres which extends the wet storage life and durability of the finished plaster. The advantages are improved adhesion, flexibility, ease of application and resistance to shrink, crack and shear damage. These properties have the advantage of greatly reducing the risk of lime plaster failure. Fibrelime enables a range of finishes from smooth to textured. As a lime putty product Fibrelime has full breathability.

Fibrelime can only be used as a onecoat system, do not attempt more. Can also be used as a flexible mortar, but requires repointing in aggregate lime for appearance if it is seen.

Coverage: Approximately 30kg of wet Fibrelime is required to cover 1 meter square of woodwool at 13.5mm, to a finished dry thickness of 12mm. Over trowelling should be avoided as Fibrelime will continue to be pressed in the pockets resulting in unnecessary usage.

Preparation before Application:



It is essential that Fibrelime is mixed very well by hand, or preferably mechanically, this will ensure that the ingredients are properly blended and that the plaster is suitably 'fat' which results in a more workable material. Failure to carry out remixing will affect the performance and ease of application.

- Do not add or remove water from the premix.
- Do not apply Fibrelime in extremes of temperatures.
- Do not damp down slabs before applying Fibrelime.
- Do not apply as more than one coat.
- Do not include admixtures without consulting Fibrelime Technical first.

- Where breathability is desired finish with a good quality breathable potassium silicate paint such as Keim (see related products at www.fibrelime.com)
- Do refer to the Health and Safety data.

Internally:



Fibrelime should be applied directly to the slabs without damping down. The thickness, is usually between 6 and 12mm (check with your Specifier). Allow for a reduction of thickness on the dried plaster of between 5-10%. Weather conditions and temperature will dictate the initial setting times from a few hours for an initial set, to a day or longer in colder and damper environments.

Allow some moisture to leave the plaster before attempting to trowel a finish, this may require more than one trowel phase but, as with most plasters, do not over-trowel as this can lead to separation. Weather conditions and temperature will dictate the initial setting times from a few hours for an initial set, to a day or longer in colder and damper environments. In dry conditions carbonation control may be necessary by spraying water from an atomiser.

Externally:



Externally Fibrelime should be applied directly to the slabs without damping down; apply between 12 and 15mm depending on conditions of exposure. Check with your Specifier to refer to the 'Wind Driven Indices' (BRE) for your area. In exposed conditions fibreglass grade 4 10mm reinforcing mesh may be desirable in the mid way point of the render (see Related Products www.fibrelime.com). Keep Fibrelime as a wet one coat system to avoid separation. Allow for a reduction of thickness on the dried render of between 5-10%.

Allow some moisture to leave the plaster before attempting to trowel a finish, this may require more than one trowel phase but, as with most plasters, do not over-trowel as this can lead to separation. Weather conditions and temperature will dictate the initial setting times from a few hours for an initial set, to a day or longer in colder and damper environments. In dry conditions carbonation control may be necessary by spraying water from an atomiser.

Reinforcing Mesh:

Sometimes a reinforcing mesh may be desirable or specified (see related products page) Use 10mm Grade 4 fibreglass reinforcing mesh. Follow the guidance on the website <http://www.sas-europe.com/brands/promesh/> this mesh is particularly useful in high impact areas, with mixed substrates and where historic materials require retention but are less stable. Nylon insulation washers with stainless fixings can sometimes be useful to mechanically fix the mesh into a more reliable structure (Take advice from your Specifier when working on less stable substrates or structures as Fibrelime Ltd will not take responsibility for failure in these situations).

Aftercare:



Lime plasters need damping down to control the carbonation of the lime however, Fibrelime does not have the same degree of reliance on this, but it is good practice to moisture control it under dry conditions in order to get the best from the product.

Any cracking that might appear should be very limited and can be filled with more Fibrelime. Take care to wash off any powdery residue from the filling or from the aftercare stages before painting.

Fibrelime will tolerate cold temperatures during the setting period, but it is always good practice to cover the work to protect it against frost action.

Painting:



Fibrelime can be painted with a full range of quality modern and traditional paints. Where breathability is desired use a mineral paint such as Potassium Silicate (see Related Products page on www.fibrelime.com). Check first with your paint supplier that the paint you are using is compatible with lime plaster and applicable to the task. Before applying the paint ensure that the plaster is suitably moist or completely dry, depending on the paint manufacturers' recommendations. Follow the paint manufacturers' instructions.

Leave the applied plaster at least 28 days to set (longer in damp conditions) before painting. Sanding down Fibrelime will cause the surface to fluff slightly.

Maintenance:



Fibrelime finished plaster requires minimal maintenance, simply damp the plaster and fill any impact damage or movement cracks, with more Fibrelime, clean down all powdery residues and repaint.

Storage:

Fibrelime, as a wet lime putty premix, will in theory store indefinitely, however as the ingredients will continue to separate in the tub and re-mixing or Fibrelime stored for more than 2 months becomes increasingly challenging. We recommend that it is used as fresh as possible or mixed regularly if stored.

Do not store in extremes of temperatures.

General:

Do not use in any extreme conditions of temperature, humidity or background moisture, or in any other extreme or unusual conditions.

Do not use admixtures of any kind without first consulting with Technical at Fibrelime Ltd

Tel. 01760 337994 or 07761119394.

Do not add water to the premix as this will compromise the plaster's strength.

Do not drain water from the premix.

Fibrelime contains Calcium hydroxide (lime putty) and as such will degrade organic materials if subjected to prolonged exposure to uncarbonated lime.

Wet Fibrelime may have a bleach affect on some fabrics.

Detailed Health and Safety Data sheets are available to download from www.fibrelime.com.

Recommended Reading:

1.Stafford Holmes and Michael Wingate, 2001, Building with Lime, Intermediate Technology.

2.English Heritage, 2012, Practical Building Conservation Revised, Volume III: Mortars, Renders and Plasters, Ashgate Publishing.

3.SPAB Information Sheets 4 and 9 www.spab.org.uk/publicationsthe-bookshop

This information is given to the best of our knowledge. However, this shall not constitute a guarantee for any specific product features and shall not establish a legally valid contractual relationship. This document does not dispense the user from knowing and applying all rules and practices related to his activity and must not be considered exhaustive. It does not exonerate the user from other obligations to be respected, supplementary or prescribed, outside the content of this document for which he remains solely responsible. No liability taken for misuse or failures outside our control and no liability for consequential loss howsoever arising.

Date of publication: 27/11/2019, revision V15