



Superior Exteriors

BLUEBOARD FIBRE CEMENT (FC) SHEETING

Substrate preparation and RSA Coating Systems product application information

RSA strongly recommend the use of our full System Specifications Over FC Substrates. We DO NOT recommend mixing and matching different products from other manufacturers as part of a coating system – as they have not been tested for adhesion or cohesion with RSA products.

SEVEN STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL COATING SYSTEM OVER FC SHEETING

- 1 Undertake masking and preparation as detailed in this document.
- 2 Check that the substrate installation is correct, paying particular attention to nailing/fixing patterns, ensuring sheet joints are butted tight or are installed as per sheet manufacturer's instructions, and that control/movement/expansion joints are correctly placed. Note: These joints must be carried through the coating system. For detailed information refer to the sheet manufacturer's instructions.
- 3 Install RSA approved, UV resistant PVC corner beads and trims. Bed on 2.5 or 3.5mm (triangle pattern) corner beads and trims using RSA Set and Prep and suitable straight edges, shimmy's or levels in accordance with Set and Prep instructions. Allow a minimum 2-4 hours drying time or leave until firm, prior to the application of subsequent coats.
- 4 For application systems with less than 2mm of Acrylic Coating use RSA Patch Coarse as per detailed Application Guidelines. For application systems with a minimum of 2mm of Acrylic Coating use RSA Set and Prep multipurpose adhesive as per detailed Application Guidelines.
- 5 Prime the surface as per the RSA Systems Specification or Level of Finish chosen.
- 6 Apply RSA Flexirender and/or the RSA Acrylic Texture Coating as per RSA System Specification or Level of Finish Over FC Sheeting chosen. Either:
 - a Systems with less than 2mm of RSA Flexirender or Acrylic Roll-on or Trowel-on Textures or Protective Coatings, or;

- b Systems with Flexirender as a base coat and acrylic texture at a minimum of 2mm or more.

- 7 Apply two coats of RSA Rapid Shield Matt. Prior to the application of RSA Protective Coatings, ensure the substrate and previous coatings contain less than 15% Wood Moisture Equivalent (WME). Please refer to detailed application information in this document.

COLOURS

Only select and apply light colours that achieve a LRV (Light Reflectance Value) > than 40% over fibre cement substrates.

We **DO NOT** recommend the selection or application of mid range to dark colours, refer page 5 for detailed information on colour limitations.

Notes: Control/expansion/movement joints in all substrates must be carried through the trowel-on coating system to a minimum width of 10mm. All RSA acrylic products are technically suitable for application over FC sheeting, however it should be noted that low build finishes without a good base coat of RSA Flexirender do not have the same ability to reduce the effects of critical glancing/sidelight on the FC joints as more superior systems do. Where a single coat acrylic coating is preferred, we recommend finishing FC Sheeting with Trowel-On Travertine to reduce the effects. For more detailed information on system options over FC Sheeting please refer to RSA System Specifications and [RSA Levels of Finish over FC Sheeting](#).

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PREPARATION

Cleaning: Ensure all surfaces to be coated are sound, clean, dry, free from dust, oil, release agents, loose material, efflorescence and/or other contaminants. Brush down the FC surface with a soft broom, prior to the application of any products. We recommend wearing a suitable mask whilst brooming down the surface.

Masking: For all surfaces not to be coated (windows, doors, roofs, finished floors etc) we recommend masking, covering or otherwise protecting the surface prior to any application. **Note:** For masking, we recommend only the use of high quality long life masking products.

Cleaning During Application: Should any product get onto surfaces that are not to be coated, clean the surface immediately with clean water. It is the applicator's responsibility to use the correct cleaning technique and product(s) for each surface and to ensure the product is removed without damaging the surface. **Note:** The clean up process must be carried out during each stage of the application of product/s.

SUBSTRATE CHECK

Ensure the substrate meets Australian Standards and have been installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction manual and good building practices, paying particular attention to the positioning of control joints, sheet joint placement and fixing patterns. Ensure all sheet joints (other than control/expansion etc joints) are butted together. The success and integrity of the coating system is dependant on the quality and correct installation of the substrate. For detailed information please refer to the sheet manufacturer's instruction manual.

CORNER BEADS AND TRIMS

For detailed installation information, refer to the RSA [Set and Prep Multipurpose Adhesive Application Guidelines](#), as well as the [Set and Prep Data Sheet](#).

We recommend that when applying Set and Prep over fibre cement sheeting as an adhesive for pvc beads RSA Multprime should be applied to the surface to be coated to prevent flash drying and ensure maximum adhesion.

RSA approved, triangle winged UV resistant PVC 2.5 or 3.5mm corner beads and trims must be bedded on using RSA Set and Prep, straightened up with shimmy s or similar straight edges.

RSA PATCHES, PRIMERS AND ACRYLIC PRODUCTS

Note: If the mixing process is not followed the products may:

- Be difficult to apply.
 - Be difficult to float and finish.
 - Be inconsistent in colour and texture.
 - Not reach full strength and integrity.
- 1** Mix by vigorously stirring with a suitable mechanical mixer (drill and paddle) all non-coloured and tinted products for a minimum of one minute. **It is critical to colour consistency that each pail be mixed for the same amount of time – one minute each.**

APPLICATION OF PATCH COARSE FOR REINFORCING FC SHEET JOINTS

For Systems Less Than 2mm of Acrylic Coating

Step 1

RSA Patch Coarse must be mixed using a mechanical mixer (drill and paddle) adding and stirring in a cement slurry consisting of water and 1.5kg of cement powder per 15 litres of patching compound only once the cement is fully mixed with water should it be poured and mixed into the patching compound. **Note:** Do not mix more cement with Patch Coarse than can be used within 30 minutes.

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- 1 Using a steel trowel or broad knife, run in Patch Coarse to fill the recessed FC joints and immediately bed in RSA approved 160gms/m² alkaline resistant mesh.
- 2 When the first coat is touch dry (approx. four hours), apply a second coat of Patch Coarse (to approximately a small trowel width), entirely concealing the mesh and feathering out the edges. Allow a minimum of two hours drying time prior to the application of RSA Flexirender or Acrylic Texture Products.

Note: RSA do not recommend the use of adhesive mesh tape due to its lack of strength and tear resistance. **Experience with sticking the mesh tape directly onto the board has shown that the coating system will fail.**

Note: Patch Coarse cannot be sanded. Patch Coarse can be over-coated with RSA Patch Smooth or RSA Patch Fine feathered out from the patched joint and these products can be sanded for a smoother finish if required.

Step 2

Prime Surface with RSA Multiprime. If RSA Acrylic Roll-on Textures or Protective Coatings are to be applied directly to FC Sheeting as a finished system RSA Multiprime should be tinted to the colour of the finishing product.

Step 3

Apply RSA Roll-On or Trowel-on Acrylic Textures, RSA Flexirender or RSA Protective Coatings as per Product Data Sheets and Application Guidelines.

Step 4

Apply two coats of an RSA Protective Coating such as RSA Rapid Shield Matt over RSA Trowel-On Acrylic Texture or RSA Flexirender. RSA Protective Coatings can also be applied over RSA Roll-On Textures for further protection of the substrate and integrity, durability and longevity of the system as a whole. Trowel-On is generally applied by steel trowel to the thickness of the largest stone size. The final pass of the steel

trowel must be horizontal. Finish Trowel-On with a polystyrene striker float ensuring the Travertine/Vertical Scratch is running plumb. For a premium finish, lightly run over (downward motion only) the finish with a plastic float when the Trowel-On is starting to firm up.

APPLICATION OF PATCH COARSE FOR REINFORCING FC SHEET JOINTS

For Systems With A Minimum 2mm Or Greater Coating

Step 1

Application as a RSA Set and Prep over FC Sheeting joints

- 1 Apply RSA Set and Prep by either trowel or spatula.
- 2 Whilst material is wet bed in 50mm 160gsm alkaline resistant, non adhesive mesh into coated joint.
- 3 Immediately flush joint with second coat of Set and Prep.
- 4 Where a smoother finish is required, allow the first coat of Set and Prep to thoroughly dry and apply RSA patch fine or Patch Smooth with the addition of 10% GP Cement as the second coat and feather out a trowel width each side of joint.

Step 2

Optional Prime surface with RSA Multiprime for greater adhesion, evening of irregularities of substrate suction and greater control of the application and drying process

Step 3

Apply base coat of RSA Flexirender by steel trowel to a minimum of 1mm as per the [Flexirender Product Data Sheet](#). When the Flexirender starts to firm up float with either a plastic or polystyrene float

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Step 4

Apply a second coat of RSA Flexirender or 1 or more coats of a chosen RSA Acrylic Trowel-on Texture Product to a minimum of 1mm thickness and finish according to Product Data Sheet guidelines.

Step 5

Apply two coats of an RSA Protective Coating such as RSA Rapid Shield Matt over RSA Trowel-On Acrylic Texture or RSA Flexirender.

APPLICATION OF RSA FLEXIRENDER AND TROWEL ON TEXTURES - HAND TROWEL AND MACHINE SPRAY APPLICATION

RSA Flexirender and Trowel-On Textures are ideal for all hand trowel and spray applications and are designed to be easy to apply, float and finish. **Note:** It is important to consult with the spray machine manufacturer to ensure it is suitable for the application of RSA sand and stone enhanced products.

PLANNING AND TIMING are the keys to high quality, seamless finishes.

- When applying RSA Acrylic Render, Trowel-On and Protective Coatings, it is important to know your limitations, including the amount of square metres you can apply and finish without unsightly joint or lap marks. This will be dependent on many factors such as substrate porosity, climate, accessibility, crew size, application experience and so on. We therefore recommend that the working time of product/s be assessed for each project prior to application. This can be done by timing workability on a sample board or on small, less visible areas of the project. In the warmer months, work in the shade and/or work during cooler times of the day if possible. This will increase working time, allow easier application and assist in achieving a seamless finish.

- It is imperative to maintain a wet edge whilst applying RSA acrylic based products and protective coatings. Finish complete surface areas without stopping. Application can be stopped at corners, moldings, expansion joints, or if necessary, advise the client of the need to form dummy joints (rather than risking unsightly joint or lap marks). When recommencing application from stop points, care must be taken to avoid the product overlapping previously completed work.
- Application spread rates and dry film thickness as detailed below and on product data sheets must be adhered to, to achieve technical integrity and longevity of the products and coating system.

DRYING

Drying of acrylic products is affected by air temperature, wind, exposure to direct sunlight, humidity and substrate porosity. Therefore, when exposed to direct sunlight (at 34°C, 30% humidity in medium to strong winds) a 1mm trowel-on product could be expected to dry (and be shower proof) in as little as two hours. When applying the same 1mm Trowel-On (at 6°C, 60% humidity during still, overcast conditions), the product could take up to 24 hours to become shower proof.

For thorough drying of acrylic products, allow approximately 24 hours (at 25°C and 55% relative humidity) per millimetre of applied acrylic finish. Refer to the relevant product data sheets for more information.

Note: Drying times are subject to substrate porosity, climatic conditions and applied thickness of product & application techniques.

OVER-COATING

Prior to the application of RSA coatings such as RSA Rapid Shield Matt, the Flexirender, Roll-On or Trowel-On acrylic textures, as well as the substrate must contain less than 15% WME or the protective coating could blister and peel.

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CLEAN UP

Clean all equipment immediately with water.

LIMITATIONS

When applied, the products cannot be expected to overcome poor building design, hide poorly aligned substrates or completely eliminate the effects of critical/glancing/sidelight on the FC joints. The products will not remedy poor quality substrate installations. RSA Flexirender, textures and protective coatings are not a substitute for good solid plastering/painting trade practices. It is the plasterer's/painters responsibility to assess each project to determine 'best practice'. **If in doubt, phone 07 3412 8111.**

COLOUR LIMITATIONS

We DO NOT recommend the selection or application of mid range to dark colours where the LRV is less than 40% due to the heat draw and heat absorption into the fibre cement sheet. This in turn, makes the sheeting expand and contract to the extent where the coating system will crack and degrade. RSA cannot guarantee projects where light colours have not been selected.

Note: Whilst RSA Trowel-on Textures can be tinted to assist with protective coatings applications and full depth of colour, RSA recommend that all RSA Trowel-on Textures * and RSA Flexirender be over coated with RSA Rapid Shield Matt tinted to the desired colour. (*Does not include RSA Bling System.)

PRECAUTIONS

Thoroughly check all tinted products such as RSA Protective Coatings and Roll-On Texture Coatings by:

- 1 Confirming all pails are the same colour as signed off sample. If in doubt, dry down a swatch from each drum to check. If not correct call your RSA outlet.
 - 2 RSA will not accept responsibility for incorrect colour once the product has been applied to the wall.
 - 3 Ensuring that there is enough product on-site to complete the whole project.
 - 4 Boxing or batching all drums together.
 - 5 Ensuring client signs off on the colour prior to application.
- Products should only be applied by tradespeople skilled in the application of renders, trowel-on renders, textures and/or impact paints.
 - RSA products should only be applied when weather conditions allow.
 - Control/expansion/movement joints in all substrate must be carried through the trowel-on coating system to a minimum width of 10mm.
 - Protect freshly applied products from high winds, freezing and temperatures below 5°C for 48 hours after application. Protect products from rain for up to 48 hours after application.
 - RSA products should only be applied within a temperature range of 5-35°C.

DISCLAIMER: The information relating to the application of the above products is given in good faith based on our current knowledge and experience of the product when properly stored, handled and applied. We cannot guarantee the product will be suitable, effective or safe when used for any purpose other than the stated uses. To the extent that it is lawful, we exclude warranties implied by law and limit our liability to the cost of replacing the product. We accept no liability for loss or injury caused by improper use, incompetent preparation, inexpert or negligent application, or ordinary wear and tear.

All information is correct at the time of printing, however due to our policy of continuing product improvement, we reserve the right to change specifications and literature without written notice. It is the responsibility of those using this information to ensure that it is correct and up to date prior to applying or specifying any of the abovementioned products.