Plastering
Plastering

Gyproc GypFine Plasters provide the ultimate skimming solutions for today’s high-end finish requirements. They are formulated to suit a wide variety of backgrounds including plasterboard, fibre cement board, gypsum based levelling plasters, sand and cement render, fair faced concrete and precast concrete panels. GypFine Plasters can be hand applied to the wall or ceiling surface from a minimum 1mm thickness to a maximum thickness per coat of 2mm giving a total overall maximum thickness of 4mm. Plaster skimming to plasterboards and cementitious surfaces is a time tested method of providing a smooth, seamless and undulation free surface, ready to receive decorative treatment. Skim plastering gives many of the advantages of a traditional solid plaster finish combined with quick turnaround on site. They offer an enhanced level of surface uniformity and visual finish to walls and ceilings that are decorated with semi-gloss or high-gloss paints and dark colours or as a base for wall paper and other decorative finishes, especially in areas exposed to artificial or critical light.

Key facts

• Achieves Q4 / L5 finish on plasterboard
• Provides uniform surface
• Applied 1mm - 2mm thickness per coat, in single or multiple coat applications, to a maximum total thickness of 4mm
• Hand application using trowel, broad knife or putty scraper
• Free from inherent shrinkage cracking
• Controlled setting times

Applications

Due to the design flexibility of Gyproc systems, they can be tailored to meet the requirements of a wide range of applications.

Sector

✓ Office / commercial  ✓ Education  ✓ High-rise multi-occupancy  ✓ Healthcare  ✓ Retail
✓ Villa residential  ✓ Auditoria  ✓ Sport and leisure  ✓ Apartment buildings  ✓ Industrial
Gyproc GypFine Plaster Range

Skimming products

GypFine Board Skim Plaster
For skimming plasterboard surfaces to Q4/L5 finish

GypFine Multi Skim Plaster
For skimming fibre cement board, gypsum levelling plaster, sand and cement render, precast, fair-faced concrete walls and ceiling surfaces

GypFine Ultra Skim Plaster
For skimming plasterboard, fibre cement board, gypsum levelling plaster, sand and cement render, precast, fair-faced concrete walls and ceiling surfaces to Q4/L5 finish

Product characteristics and Product Index

A high quality, specially formulated, gypsum based skimming plaster, designed to provide a smooth, flat, surface finish on plasterboard partition, fibre cement board, gypsum levelling plaster, sand and cement render, precast, fair-faced concrete walls and ceiling surfaces. White in colour, with excellent coverage, spreadability and hiding properties.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage per bag</th>
<th>Setting time</th>
<th>Water requirement</th>
<th>Mix Ratio</th>
<th>Bag Weight</th>
<th>Pallet Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>m²</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
<td>Litres per bag</td>
<td>L/Kg</td>
<td>Kg</td>
<td>Kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Skim</td>
<td>25m² at 1mm</td>
<td>120mins</td>
<td>7L/10Kg</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1200 (48 Bags)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thickness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>per bag</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi Skim</td>
<td>28m² at 1mm</td>
<td>110mins</td>
<td>7L/10Kg</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1200 (48 Bags)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thickness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>per bag</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultra Skim</td>
<td>35m² at 1mm</td>
<td>180mins</td>
<td>6L/10Kg</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1200 (48 Bags)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thickness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>per bag</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applications

Gyproc GypFine – Board Skim is formulated specifically for use on all pre-jointed plasterboard walls and ceilings, providing a smooth, uniform surface prior to taking a wide range of decorative finishes. Where a high level (Q4/L5) of finish has been specified, GypFine Board Skim provides the perfect surface preparation for semi-gloss, high-gloss and dark coloured paints, wall coverings and those areas where troublesome, visible joints show, due to severe lighting conditions. It is a super fine plaster free from inherent shrinkage and cracking, generally applied by hand, with a working life of approximately 120 mins depending on environmental conditions. Board Skim can be recoated approximately 2hrs after first coat application and can be sanded to a smooth, fine finish using 180-220 grit paper.

Gyproc GypFine – Multi Skim is formulated specifically for use on surfaces such as fibre cement board, sand and cement renders, pre-cast and fair faced concrete along with gypsum based levelling compounds. GypFine Multi Skim provides the perfect surface preparation for semi-gloss, high-gloss and dark coloured paints, wall coverings and those areas where troublesome, visible undulations and hollows show, due to severe lighting conditions. A super fine plaster free from inherent shrinkage and cracking, generally applied by hand, with a working life of approximately 100 mins depending on environmental conditions. Multi Skim can be recoated approximately 1 ½ - 2hrs hours after initial coat application and can be sanded to a smooth, fine finish using 180-220 grit paper.

Gyproc GypFine – Ultra Skim is an all purpose, premium gypsum plaster specially formulated for use on multiple surfaces such as plasterboard, fibre cement board, pre-levelled cementitious and gypsum based substrates. GypFine – Ultra Skim provides the convenience of an all in one, primer free, skimming plaster. Ideal for situations where superior smoothness and durability is required to achieve Q4/L5 finishes, for surfaces where there is severe lighting and where semi-gloss, high-gloss, and dark coloured paints or fine textured wall papers have been specified.
Skimming to Plasterboard backgrounds

Board finishing should be completed as soon as possible after the boards have been fixed. Plasterboard partitions and ceilings should be jointed prior to application of GypFine BoardSkim. (See page 199 for details on plasterboard jointing) Board Skim is applied with even pressure, using horizontal or vertical trowel strokes, built out to the required thickness in one or two applications, depending on site conditions and trowelled to a smooth finish.

Skimming to Cementitious backgrounds

Finishing to cementitious surfaces should be completed only once the cementitious basecoat material has cured and is sufficiently dried. Multi Skim is applied with even pressure, using horizontal or vertical trowel strokes, built out to the required thickness in two applications depending on site conditions and trowelled to a smooth finish.

Moisture resistant grade boards

Skim plastering is not normally specified to Gyproc Moisture Resistant and MR grade boards. These types of board are intended for use in environments of higher than normal humidity for which no gypsum plaster is designed to be suitable. Where moisture resistant board options are used in shell and core construction to provide temporary resistance to high moisture conditions, they can be skimmed at a later date after the building envelope has been made weather-tight and the board surface treated with a suitable PVA bonding agent.

Decoration

Gypsum based plasterwork must always be thoroughly dry before decorating. It is recommended that a suitable primer be applied to wall and ceiling surfaces, before applying paint or final decorative coats. Plaster surfaces can be painted with most proprietary paint finishes and provides an excellent base for wallpaper, accepting the majority of wall covering adhesives. The manufacturers’ recommendations in respect of applied decorative treatments should always be followed.

Wall coverings

Gyproc GypFine Plasters provide an excellent base for receiving a wide range of wall coverings, removing unsightly undulations and imperfections which can affect the final covering finish. A suitable Primer / Sealer should be applied in a single coat to the plastered surface prior to applying the wall covering, thereby making steam-stripping at a later date a simple operation. The use of specialist adhesives, for example with cloth backed or solid vinyl wall coverings, may result in damage to the plasterboard surface during subsequent stripping. If the use of such adhesives is necessary, consideration should be given to cross-lining with lining paper before applying the wall covering. As with all wall and ceiling areas, high sheen gloss finishes will highlight variations of the surface, particularly with shallow angle lighting. GypFine plasters help minimise the effects of critical light and surface variations. The use of low sheen or matt finishes will minimise this risk. For the correct specification in respect of any applied decorative material, reference should be made to the manufacturer of that material.
Tiling
Tiles up to 20kg/m² can be applied directly to Gyproc GypFine Plasters, except where the system includes a bonding agent. As the total weight of tiles and plaster applied over a bonding agent is limited to 20kg/m², consideration should be given to tiling directly to the background. If plastering to provide a background for tiles, avoid polishing the surface. Polished plaster surfaces should be roughened and a suitable primer used.

Specialist training
The Saint-Gobain Gyproc Technical Academy offers comprehensive off-site training at our dedicated training centre, based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and at site across the region by arrangement. For more information visit www.gyproc.ae/gyproc-site-training

Design

Planning - key factors
When applying finish coats in high temperatures above 40°C provision should be made for slightly shorter setting and drying times by slightly dampening the wall to reduce suction. GypFine Board Skim, GypFine Multi Skim and GypFine Ultra Skim have similar setting times. Working characteristics vary slightly. A minimum thickness of 1mm should be applied for optimum performance to be achieved. Ambient and background temperatures must be maintained above 5°C until fully dry.

Levels of Plasterboard finish
(Euro gypsum / UEEP and ASTM C840)
Key factors in determining the level of finish required:
• Area of the work being done.
• The type and angle of surface illumination (both natural and artificial light).
• The orientation of plasterboard panels during installation.
• The type of paint or wall covering being used.
• Method of application.

Preparation
Background
• All backgrounds should be dry, free of dust, grit and contaminants such as oil and releasing agents.
• When applying GypFine plasters no priming prior to application is required. In high suction areas due to extreme heat conditions, dampening or wetting of the substrate can be carried out to assist in adhesion.
• For remedial works such as skimming painted surfaces, the surface should be roughened and a suitable PVA based bonding agent applied prior to application.
• Good site practice should be followed, as outlined in BS EN 13914 - 2

Plaster thickness
In general, normal thicknesses using GypFine skimming plasters are 1mm – 2mm to pre-levelled walls and ceilings. Thicknesses of up to 4mm can be achieved by applying multiple coats of no more than 2mm, per coat.

Mixing
GypFine plasters should be mixed by adding to clean water and using clean mixing equipment. Refer to Product characteristics - page 210 for mixing ratios. Contamination from previous mixes can adversely affect the setting time and strength. Fresh contamination has more effect than old, so equipment should be washed immediately after mixing rather than just before.

Performance

Reaction to fire
Gypsum binders and gypsum plasters are classified in class A1 (no contribution to fire), in accordance with EN 13501-1 without testing when they contain 1% by weight or volume (whichever is greater) of organic materials.

Durability
GypFine Skimming plasters attain high strength during the drying process and do not suffer from inherent shrinkage cracking.
### Levels of Finish (Plasterboard Surfaces)

#### EURO GYPSUM / UEEP (Q1 - Q4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of finishing</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q2</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level finishing</strong></td>
<td>Jointed surface</td>
<td>Smooth surface for normal visual requirements</td>
<td>Smooth surface for higher visual requirements</td>
<td>Smooth surface for high visual requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aesthetic requirements</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Enhanced - some shading still possible</td>
<td>High end - minimised appearance of marks and traces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application</strong></td>
<td>Joints taped and filled</td>
<td>Joints filled - to achieve continuous transition to the board surface. Sanded</td>
<td>Joints filled (Q2), full surface sharp coat filling paper pores</td>
<td>Joints filled (Q2), full surface skim minimum 1mm thickness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finish surface suitability</strong></td>
<td>Functional applications i.e. Fire resistance and sound insulation</td>
<td>Matt, medium and coarse paints (particle size &gt;1mm) or medium to coarse structured wall coverings</td>
<td>Matt and Fine structured paints (particle size &lt;1mm) or fin structured wall coverings</td>
<td>Smooth, glossy wall coverings i.e., vinyl wall paper, medium gloss paints and specialist deco finishes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### ASTM C840 (L0 - L5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of finishing</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Joint sealed</td>
<td>Joints sealed excess compound removed</td>
<td>Smooth surface no ridges or tool marks</td>
<td>Smooth surface no ridges or tool marks</td>
<td>High level of visual requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Tape set with joint filler</td>
<td>As L1, with thin covering of joint filler</td>
<td>As L2 with additional 2nd coat of joint compound</td>
<td>As L3 with additional 3rd coat of joint compound</td>
<td>As L4 plus additional thin skim applied to entire surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface Finish</strong></td>
<td>Temporary construction</td>
<td>Concealed applications i.e. fire resistance and sound insulations</td>
<td>Surface appearance of little concern i.e. tile backing</td>
<td>Medium/ heavy texture finishes or heavy grade wall coverings</td>
<td>Flat paints, light textures and light wall coverings</td>
<td>Recommended where paint is specified or where severe lighting conditions occur</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Q1 - Q4
Drywall Jointing and Finishing - Surface Quality Level Classifications
UEEP/EURO GYPSUM

L0 - L5
Recommended Levels of Board Finish
GA - 214 - 10E