

## Thistle Uni-Finish

Introducing Thistle Uni-Finish a premium gypsum based product for re-skimming over a variety of backgrounds without PVA:



- Applied with the same technique as other Thistle finish plasters
- Suction control on high to low suction backgrounds (even when adjacent on the same background)
- High adhesion even on smooth backgrounds with low key
- Thistle Uni-Finish guarantees a quality finish and frees you from the inconvenience of PVA

### Backgrounds:

- Textured finish
- Old skim
- Fillers, roll on skim etc
- Plasterboard
- MR board
- Paint (i.e gloss, emulsion, satin, vinyl, etc)
- Tile adhesive
- Undercoat (i.e. gypsum, sand and cement, undercoats with lime, etc)
- Concrete
- Cement boards
- Glasroc H TILEBACKER

## Thistle Spray Finish

Thistle Spray Finish is a gypsum finishing plaster for use with a worm pump spray machine.



- Provides a smooth, high quality finish in a fraction of the time of traditional plastering methods
- Thistle Spray Finish helps to improve on-site productivity, enabling projects to be handed over earlier

## Thistle Durafinish

Thistle Durafinish is a versatile plaster that is 60% tougher than standard skim plasters; designed for areas that are prone to damage.



- Good adhesion to existing sound wall surfaces without a bonding agent
- Retains good wall appearance for longer in high traffic areas



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# Thistle plaster selector guide

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# Why choose Thistle plasters?



- Smooth seamless surface to walls and ceilings
- Good airtightness for improved acoustic and thermal performance
- Consistent finishing times, regardless of the weather
- Finishing coat achieved in one visit to the wall
- Scuff resistant surface
- Solid base to fix into
- Easy wallpaper stripping
- Peace of mind with the British Gypsum SpecSure® Lifetime Performance Warranty\*

\* Systems comprising of Thistle plasters and accessories are covered by the SpecSure® Lifetime Performance Warranty, reflecting our confidence in their performance.

## Before you start

### 1 You will need

Item	Solid Plastering	Skimming
A clean mixing bucket	✓	✓
A manual or mechanical mixing whisk	✓	✓
Gyproc Bucket Trowel	✓	✓
Gyproc Hawk	✓	✓
Thistle Plaster Finishing Trowel	✓	✓
Thistle solid plastering beads	✓	
Thistle skim coat beads		✓
Thistle ProTape FT50, or Gyproc Joint Tape		✓

### 2 The background should be

- Protected from the weather, with no risk of freezing
- Adequately strong, rigid and stable
- Clean, free of dust and shutter release agents, etc
- Reasonably dry
- Free of salt efflorescence

### 3 Solid plastering

- For pre-treatment refer to selector chart for details
- For corner reinforcement fix beads to all external angles using undercoat plaster
- Thistle Plaster Stop Beads can also be used for defining and reinforcing edges of solid plasterwork
- Apply plaster with firm pressure, building out to approximately 8mm thickness
- Scratch each coat and allow to set before applying the next
- The maximum thickness of undercoat plaster is 25mm. Greater thicknesses will require additional support, such as metal lathing, spaced away from the background if necessary
- Rule the final coat to an even surface and lightly scratch to form a key for finishing coat

### 4 Skim plastering

- For corner reinforcement fix beads to all external angles
- Reinforce all plasterboard joints and internal angles by using Thistle ProTape or Gyproc Joint Tape. Gyproc Joint Tape will provide greater resistance to cracking particularly when board edges are not fully supported
- Apply plaster with firm pressure after the joint treatment has stiffened but not set, to approximately 1mm thickness
- Apply a second coat of plaster whilst the first coat is still wet to bring the total thickness to 2mm
- Trowel to a smooth matt finish as the plaster is stiffening, lubricating with minimal water if required

### 5 Mixing the plaster

- Mixing equipment should be cleaned before use to prevent contamination
- Pour the required amount of water into the mixing bucket (see selector chart for details). Only use clean water and no additives



- Add plaster to the water and mix by hand or a slow speed, high torque mechanical whisk
- Mix to a smooth creamy consistency until lumps have been dispersed. Over-mixing can affect setting times and cause difficulty in achieving a flat finish

### 6 Application

- Check the use-by date on the bags, making sure you use the oldest material first.
- Ensure the room temperature is controlled. Plaster should not be applied to frozen backgrounds or in very hot and dry conditions.
- Sequence the work. Setting time is approximately 90 minutes, but finishing times can be extended in low temperatures by 30 minutes or more.
- Do not mix more than you will be able to use, we suggest a maximum of two bags.

### 7 Decoration and tiling

- Thistle plasters can be decorated with most paint finishes and wall coverings by following the manufacturers' recommendations
- Impermeable finishes, such as tiles, should only be applied when background and plaster are dry. Take care with Thistle Hardwall and Thistle Tough Coat which can appear surface dry before they are fully dry
- Tiles up to 20kg/m<sup>2</sup> can be applied directly to Thistle finish coats. If a bonding agent is used the limit is reduced to 12kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- Tiles should not be applied directly to Thistle undercoats, with the exception of Thistle Dri-Coat
- When tiling onto finish plasters, avoid polishing the surface. Where the surface is polished, roughen and apply a suitable primer



# Plaster Selector Guide

THISTLE

## Undercoat solid plaster

## Skim finish plaster

### Specialist plasters



**Thistle Dri-Coat**  
Cement based plaster for replastering after a damp proof course.



**Thistle X-Ray**  
For use in medical and dental installations.

### Two coat



**Thistle Hardwall<sup>1</sup>**  
High impact resistance for most masonry backgrounds. Can be spray applied.



**Thistle Tough Coat<sup>1</sup>**  
High coverage for most masonry backgrounds. Can be spray applied.



**Thistle Browning**  
For solid backgrounds with adequate key.



**Thistle Bonding Coat**  
For smooth and low suction backgrounds.

### One coat



**Thistle Universal One Coat<sup>1</sup>**  
For hand or spray application to most backgrounds.

### Suction Control



#### Thistle GypPrime

Suction control primer used to reduce suction on very dry backgrounds. Use diluted (up to five parts water to one part Thistle GypPrime) or undiluted if severe suction control is required. Plaster is applied after Thistle GypPrime has soaked into the background.

Use Thistle GypPrime where you see this symbol

### Bonding Agent



#### ThistleBond-it

Bonding agent for smooth low suction backgrounds. Apply undiluted, in one coat. Plaster when dry.

Use ThistleBond-it where you see this symbol

What is the background surface?													
← suction →													
Aircrete blocks	Common bricks	Medium-density blocks	Dense blocks	Engineering bricks with raked joints	Plasterboard and Glasroc F MULTIBOARD	Cast in situ and pre-cast concrete	Painted / tiled surfaces	Metal lathing	Thickness applied - Walls	Thickness applied - Ceilings	Coverage per bag (at 11mm)	Water requirement (litres per bag)	Dry set weight (at 11mm)
			NOT ON SMOOTH LOW-SUCTION BLOCKS					WHEN BRIDGING COLUMNS AND LINTELS	11mm	8mm	3.0m <sup>2</sup>	15	9.3kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			NOT ON SMOOTH LOW-SUCTION BLOCKS					WHEN BRIDGING COLUMNS AND LINTELS	11mm	8mm	3.5m <sup>2</sup>	17.5	8.5kg/m <sup>2</sup>
	USE  IN EXTREME CASES								11mm	8mm	3.5m <sup>2</sup>	17.5	8.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			USE  ON SMOOTH LOW-SUCTION BLOCKS		USE  ON MR BOARDS	USE	USE		11mm	8mm	2.75m <sup>2</sup>	14	12.1kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			USE  ON SMOOTH LOW-SUCTION BLOCKS		USE  ON MR BOARDS	USE	USE		13mm	10mm	2.25m <sup>2</sup> at 13mm	15	15kg/m <sup>2</sup> at 13mm

### Skim coat



**Thistle Uni-Finish<sup>3</sup>**  
Premium finish coat plaster that requires no prior preparation with PVA on the majority of backgrounds.



**Thistle Multi-Finish**  
A versatile plaster for skim finishing undercoats and plasterboards.



**Thistle Board Finish**  
For low to medium suction backgrounds, especially plasterboard.



**Thistle Durafinish**  
A versatile plaster that is 60% tougher than standard skim plasters.



**Thistle Spray Finish**  
Gypsum finish plaster for spray or hand application.

#### Setting times

Thistle undercoat plasters - 1½ to 2 hours.  
Thistle finish plasters - 1½ to 1¾ hours.

<sup>1</sup> When spray applied the coverage is 10% less

<sup>2</sup> Including Thistle Dri-Coat

<sup>3</sup> Thistle Uni-Finish - problem backgrounds  
Certain paint finishes: Thistle Uni-Finish is tested for use on common interior decorative paints. There are certain coatings that Thistle Uni-Finish will not adhere to, these include exterior grade paints, anti-graffiti and self-cleaning paints.  
Textured finishes: British Gypsum cannot guarantee the bond between the painted

What is the background surface?									
← suction →									
Dry undercoats	Damp undercoats	Plasterboard	Flat, smooth concrete	Waterproofed cement-based undercoats <sup>2</sup>	Thickness applied	Coverage per bag (at 2mm)	Water requirement (litres per bag)	Dry set weight (at 2mm thickness)	
					2mm	10m <sup>2</sup>	12	3.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
		USE  ON MR BOARDS	USE		2mm	10m <sup>2</sup>	11.5	3.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
		USE  ON MR BOARDS	USE		2mm	10m <sup>2</sup>	11.5	3.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
USE	USE				2mm	10m <sup>2</sup>	12	3.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>	
		USE  ON MR BOARDS	USE		2mm	11m <sup>2</sup>	12	2.4kg/m <sup>2</sup>	

Minimum temperature to be maintained until dry is 2°C for Thistle Board Finish, Thistle Multi-Finish and Thistle Spray Finish. The temperature for Thistle Durafinish and Thistle Uni-Finish is 5°C.

textured finish and the substrate, or Thistle Uni-Finish applied to unpainted textured finishes.

Sand & cement / lime backgrounds: Some sand & cement / lime backgrounds have extremely high suction, especially in buildings built before 1930. Pre-treatment with Thistle GypPrime is recommended before re-plastering these backgrounds.

Crumbling backgrounds: Thistle Uni-Finish will provide limited consolidation of slightly crumbling backgrounds but will not solve the problems of flaking or loose backgrounds.