

Preparation of Interior/Exterior Block and Plaster

Refer to COTEC Exterior products brochure for recommended paint systems

Substrate Information	Preparation	Sealing
<p>Cement based substrates such as concrete blocks, plasters and poured or pre cast concrete are generally easy to paint and the coatings last well.</p> <p>However the right type of paint must be applied as the surface of these cement based products, particularly when new, is highly alkaline and will react with some paints and over time this will cause premature failure and flaking of the coating.</p> <p>It is advisable to leave the concrete or plaster to age for as long as possible before painting. This allows the lime that comes to the surface to react with carbon dioxide in the air and forms limestone.</p> <p>Current paints on the market based on Acrylic resins are film forming membranes and as such do not allow water to easily pass through. If water does get behind the coating it will slowly build up pressure and form a blister that subsequently breaks and this leads to further cracking and flaking of the coating.</p> <p>Do not attempt to paint over an area that is showing signs of remaining wet, the coating will surely fail.</p> <p>Find the cause of the dampness and fix this first.</p>	<p>Repaint</p> <p>Remove any loose or flaking paint.</p> <p>Treat any moss or mould growth.</p> <p>Efflorescence must be treated and removed prior to painting.</p> <p>Repair any damaged areas with a suitable modified cement plaster.</p> <p>Allow to fully cure.</p> <p>Surfaces must be clean, dry and dust free.</p> <p>New</p> <p>Remove any laitance or efflorescence by wire brushing or grinding, or concrete etch solution.</p> <p>Precast and formed concrete may have release agents on the surface so wash with solvent.</p> <p>Very smooth or highly trowelled surfaces should be acid etched to open up the surface and ensure good adhesion.</p> <p>Thoroughly wash off and allow to dry completely.</p>	<p>Cement based products and plasters made using lime tend to allow this to be carried to the surface by moisture, this then reacts with Carbon Dioxide from the air forming the white staining that can become obvious quickly after painting. We recommend that these surfaces are either sealed prior to painting with COTEC Limestop or treated with COTEC LC (Liquid Concrete) that 'mops up' un reacted cement and densifies the surface.</p>