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# Product Data Sheet PDS125: Armourcoat PPX Basecoat

## 1 Product description

Armourcoat PPX Basecoat is a limestone cement render that provides a high quality base for Armourcoat PPX Topcoat external render. Armourcoat PPX Basecoat uses hydrophobic polymer technology for enhanced performance on a variety of substrates. It is normally applied at a thickness of 4 - 6 mm with a maximum thickness of 8mm.

It is ideal as a base render for Armourcoat PPX Topcoat and can also be used as a base render for other Armourcoat Polished Plasters for areas prone to moisture. In most situations it is recommended that it is used in conjunction with Armourcoat R160 or R330 Panzer Alkali Resistant Reinforcing Mesh.

## 2 Properties

- polymer modified external limestone render basecoat
- low maintenance durable weatherproof coating
- high polymer technology offers good strength and performance
- incorporates 50% limestone
- contains no VOCs

## 3 Health and Safety

PPX Basecoat is a powdered product and a dust mask should always be worn when mixing or handling the product. The product contains hydrated lime and cement that can act as an irritant. Wear protective clothing specifically gloves and eye protection. If contact occurs wash affected areas immediately with soap and water.

## 4 Suitable substrates

Armourcoat PPX Basecoat can be used directly over cement board, for substrates such as brickwork, blockwork, masonry or stone. Armourcoat recommend an application of a sand cement render, which the PPX Basecoat can then be applied to once fully cured. Armourcoat offers no advice on the construction of such substrates.

Armourcoat PPX can also be applied over Rockwool External Wall DD Slab insulation board and when specified this makes up part of the Armourcoat PPX system. Please refer to Armourcoat **PDS130 PPX EWI System** details on use of Rockwool External Wall DD Slab board insulation board as part of the Armourcoat PPX system.

The application of Armourcoat Primer is recommended onto most substrates to even out the suction between the brick or blocks and the mortar joints or on high suction backgrounds to reduce the absorbency of the substrate.

## 5 Mixing and application instructions

Armourcoat PPX Basecoat requires only the addition of 5 - 6 litres of clean water per 18kg and 5 minutes mixing time. Pour 5-6 litres of water into the mixing container and add the Armourcoat PPX Basecoat material. Mix immediately using a plaster mixing drill (Bosch GRW11E is recommended) for 2 - 3 minutes or until there are no lumps in the material. Leave for 2 - 3 minutes and then remix the material immediately prior to application.

- if a reinforcing mesh is being incorporated into the material first apply a layer of material to approximately 4 - 6 mm. Whilst it is wet bed the mesh into the surface and apply a further layer of 2mm over the surface and rule off flat.
- use the rule to achieve a flat overall surface but do not worry about small surface imperfections at this stage
- leave the surface for about 30 - 60 minutes depending upon prevailing conditions and once it firms up rub up the surface

with a wet sponge float. Do not use excessive amounts of water as this can affect the integrity of the material. Use just enough water to soften the top surface and achieve a consistent sandy texture.

- after 5 - 10 minutes pass a trowel lightly over the surface to push the grains into the surface.
- if no reinforcing mesh is required the Armourcoat PPX Basecoat is normally applied in a single coat as a backing for Armourcoat PPX Topcoat external render finishes. Apply to the required thickness and rule off to a flat finish and leave to firm up slightly. Leave the surface for about 30 - 60 minutes and then rub up the surface with a wet sponge float. Do not use excessive amounts of water as this can affect the integrity of the material. Use just enough water to soften the top surface and achieve a consistent sandy texture.

**PPX external renders are designed to give a durable weatherproof coating and a natural finish. To maximise the benefits of PPX the following points may be considered in designing a render finish:**

- water should be prevented from continually running down the surface
- a generous overhang or eave should be designed together with sufficient drips at all sills and copings. Do not allow downpipes, sills and scaffolding to throw water onto the surface of the render
- ensure that all copings and sills have sufficient drips to prevent any runs down the facade. This includes a drip cut under all mortar joints between copings
- angles may be formed using PVC angle and stop beads
- render expansion joints must follow structural movement breaks. For other expansion joints refer to BS EN 13914:2005
- to prevent the appearance of lime bloom do not render in cold damp weather
- Armourcoat PPX renders must not be applied to frozen or thawing substrates and should not be applied in temperatures below 5°C. If the coating must be applied in adverse weather conditions it is essential to protect both the working area and finish before and after application
- areas between day work beads should be applied without a break. All areas of the building should be protected from rainwater for at least 24 hours after application of Armourcoat PPX
- in hot climates the finished basecoat should be wet down at 4 - 6 hour intervals to avoid rapid water loss and allow adequate curing of the hydraulic lime and cement

## 6 Test data

Compressive Strength: CS II

Capillary Water Absorption < 0.5kg/m<sup>2</sup> 24hrs

Thermal Conductivity: P=50% - 0.27 & P=90% - 0.3

## 7 Coverage rates

Armourcoat PPX Basecoat is supplied in 20kg bags covering approximately 2.5m<sup>2</sup>

Coverage: approximately 1.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup> per mm of coat thickness

Require: 7 - 9kg/m<sup>2</sup> One 20kg bag covers 2 - 2.5m<sup>2</sup>

## 8 Storage

Store in good dry conditions between 5 - 35 °C. The shelf life of Armourcoat PPX Basecoat in full unopened pallets and under correct storage conditions is 12 months from date of manufacture.

In humid environments any loose bags should be wrapped in plastic or placed in a sealed bag to maintain a 12 month shelf life. Protect from frost and direct sunlight.

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