



USG SHEETROCK® BRAND FIRST COAT™ PRIMER

Addresses drywall decorating problems by minimizing surface texture variations

- Minimizes joint banding and photographing
- Dries to a white finish in under 30 minutes
- Designed for fast, economical application
- Applies with brush, roller, airless or conventional spray

DESCRIPTION

Decorating problems (commonly referred to by such names as “joint banding” or “photographing”) are usually caused by differences between the porosities and surface textures of gypsum panel face paper or concrete and the finished joint compound, and are magnified by the use of gloss paints. When viewed in direct, natural lighting under these conditions, the joints and fasteners in decorated walls and ceilings may be visible.

Unlike traditional primer/sealer products, USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer has been formulated specifically to equalize both porosity and surface texture differences and provide greater uniformity of the finish coat. In contrast to a sealer, USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer does not provide a film that seals the substrate surface. Instead, it minimizes porosity differences by providing a base that equalizes the absorption rate variations between the drywall face paper and the finished joint compound when painted. USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer also provides the proper type and amount of pigments and fillers (lacking in many conventional primers and sealers) to equalize surface texture differences. This product is not intended as a final coating—it should be overpainted when dry. This versatile primer can be intermixed with wall and ceiling spray textures to enhance hardness, bond and whiteness. Surface priming recommendations on texture bag still apply.

LIMITATIONS

1. Allow USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer to dry and then apply a quality wall size before applying wallpaper or vinyl wallcovering.
2. During storage protect material from temperature extremes, moisture and free water. Protect from freezing. USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer ages naturally during storage, so failure to rotate stock may produce performance problems.
3. Not intended as a final coating; should be overpainted when dry.

DIRECTIONS

SURFACE PREPARATION

Surfaces must be dry, clean, sound and free of oil, grease and efflorescence. Glossy surfaces must be dulled. Prime metal with a good rust-inhibitive primer. Fill or level concrete with USG Sheetrock® Brand Durabond® or Easy Sand™ Joint Compound, or USG Sheetrock® Brand Cover Coat® Compound. Treat drywall joints and nailheads with a USG joint compound.

MIXING

Stir gently. Do not thin for brush or roller application. For spray application, if necessary, add water in half-pint increments up to a maximum 1 qt. of water per gallon.

Note: Overthinning may cause poor adhesion, lack of hide and unequal suction when dry. May be tinted.

ADDING TO WALL AND CEILING TEXTURES

If slightly better spray properties, wet hide, improved bond, whiteness and surface hardness are desired, USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer may be added to wet-mixed USG ceiling and wall texture products at a rate of up to 1 gal. per 32, 40 and 50 lb. bag of texture. Reduce water quantity to account for addition of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer based on 1:1 replacement basis. Surface priming recommendations on texture bag still apply.

WALL & CEILING APPLICATIONS

Apply a full coverage coat. Material dries to touch in under 30 min. under 75°F/50% R.H. conditions. Maintain minimum air, product mix and surface temperature of 55°F (13°C) during application and until surface is dry. Brush, roller or airless spray gun may be used. If surface is not ideal, backrolling of airless spray applications may be beneficial.

Brush—Use a high quality, professional paint brush.

Roller—For best results, use a high-quality roller with 1/8" to 1/4" nap on smooth and semismooth surfaces. For any surface, maximum nap length should not exceed 1/2".

Airless spray gun—As a general guideline, use professional equipment that meets or exceeds the following when spraying through 50 ft. of 1/4" i.d. airless spray hose: output at least 3/4 gal. per minute; pressure at least 2,700 psi; and accommodates a spray tip of 0.0219 at 2,000 psi.

Note: Adjust pressure and material feed rate so a full coverage coat can be achieved by overlapping preceding application with 1/4 to 1/2 of fan width at a distance of 18" from surface. Pressure and material feed rates will vary with hose diameter, height or distance pumped, and paint consistency. USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer contains a high level of select pigments and fillers like conventional latex flat paints. Clogging at the spray gun tip may result when these paints are used in spray equipment previously used to spray PVA sealers which contain high levels of resin. The use of clean or new hoses is recommended to avoid this problem when spraying USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer.

CLEANUP

Clean equipment with warm, soapy water.

ACHIEVING A "SAND FINISH" TEXTURE

By adding a fine perlite aggregate to USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer, a sandlike finish texture can be achieved. Use USG Sheetrock® Brand Sand Finish Paint Additive or similar product. To begin application, after the surface has been properly prepared for decorating with paint, apply a prime coat of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer and let dry. Slowly stir in 4 lbs. of USG Sheetrock® Brand Sand Finish Paint Additive (or similar fine perlite aggregate) per 5 gal. of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer. Mix until the sand additive is uniformly dispersed. Apply paint using brush or roller. If desired, a sponge, whisk broom, or other tools may be used to further modify the texture. Surface may be painted after overnight drying; in slow drying conditions, verify that the surface has dried. Follow directions of paint manufacturer. Unpainted surfaces are not washable or scrubbable.

PRODUCT DATA

Color: White—may be tinted

Binder: Vinyl acrylic

Dilution (water): For spray application only, up to 1 qt./gal. (946 mL/3.7 L)

pH: 9.0 to 9.9

VOC content: 47 g/L

Weight Solids: 54-56%

Volume Solids: 41-43%

Drying Time: Dries to touch in under 30 min. under 75°F/50% R.H. conditions. Drying time is dependent on temperature, humidity and film thickness.

Coverage: 180-200 sq. ft./gal. (4.3-4.8 m²/L) @ 3-5 mils wet; 0.7-1.2 mils dry

Storage: Close container after each use. Store in dry place at moderate temperatures. Protect from freezing. Up to 12-month shelf life under good storage conditions. Rotate stock on a first-in, first-out basis.

Packaging: 1 gal. and 5 gal. pails

SUBMITTAL APPROVALS

Job Name	
Contractor	Date

PRODUCT INFORMATION

See usg.com for the most up-to-date product information.

CAUTION

Spray or dust may cause irritation to eyes, skin, nose, throat and upper respiratory tract. Use only in a well-ventilated area, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator. Wear eye protection. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If on skin: Wash with plenty of water. If swallowed and/or irritation persists, call a physician. Prolonged and/or repeated breathing of respirable mica dust may cause lung disease (pneumoconiosis). Keep containers closed when not in use. For more information call Product Safety: 800-507-8899 or see the SDS at usg.com.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

TRADEMARKS

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NOTE

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your USG Company sales office or representative for information.

NOTICE

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SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installing all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read Safety Data Sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

800 USG.4YOU
800 (874-4968)
usg.com

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