Fresco® Crack Defense Basecoat

Product Data Sheet

A crack defense, cement-based plaster basecoat for use with existing substrates

9/14/2026

TECHNICAL DATA

TEST METHOD	REPORT	TEST CRITERIA	TEST RESULTS
ASTM E84	**Surface Burning**	< 25 Flame Spread < 450 Smoke Developed	0 Class A 2.4 Class A
ASTM D3273	**Mold/Mildew Resistance**	No growth at 28 days	No growth
ASTM D3359	**Adhesion by Tape Test**	No peeling or removal	5A

FEATURES

BENEFITS

High Impact Strength	Resists substrate impact for optimal finish performance
Water-based	Safe, non-toxic. Cleans up with water
Acrylic-based	Won't crack. High impact resistance. Excellent adhesion
Vapor Permeable	Allows substrate to breathe. Resists blistering
VOC Compliant	Meets South Coast Air Quality (SCAQMD) requirements

SURFACE PREPARATION

Concrete, cement board, EIFS and masonry surfaces: Surface must be clean, dry, free of dust, dirt and other bond-inhibiting materials, including efflorescence, form oil and other foreign materials. All loose or damaged material must be properly removed Prior to application, ensure surface is free of dust, dirt, and other bond-inhibiting materials, and that all leveling materials are dry.

MIXING

Into a clean mixing pail, pour 5 to 6.5 quarts (4.7 to 6.2 L) of clean, potable water per 50 lb. (23 kg) pail of base coat. Using an electric drill and clean, rust-free paddle, mix well at high rpm until fully mixed and there are no lumps. Allow to set for approximately 5 minutes. Remix to a uniform, creamy consistency. Adjust with water to achieve desired consistency.

Fresco® Crack Defense Basecoat

Product Data Sheet

A crack defense, cement-based plaster basecoat for use with existing substrates

9/14/2026

APPLICATION

Apply only to sound and clean, dry, properly prepared surfaces per the surface preparation guidelines above.
Apply to the substrate to the desired thickness using a clean steel trowel. Recommended minimum thickness is 1/16". Allow to dry 100%.

Curing/Drying: Requires minimum 72 hours and moderate, dry weather for complete drying. Drying time increases significantly with low temperatures, wet or humid weather. Avoid installation during cool, damp ambient weather conditions. Apply in a trial area first to be sure of desired results.

Clean Up: Clean tools and equipment with water immediately after use. Dried material can only be removed mechanically.

LIMITATIONS

Use only when surface and ambient temperatures are above 50°F (10°C) and below 100°F (38°C) during application and drying period.

COVERAGE

40-200 ft² (4-19 m²) per 5-gallon pail (19 L). Coverage will vary depending on application technique and surface conditions.

SHELF LIFE

24 months, if properly sealed and stored.

STORAGE

Protect from extreme heat (100°F/38°C), freezing and direct sunlight.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Product is water based.
- Wash hands with water thoroughly after handling.
- Wear protective gloves, protective eyewear, and protective clothing.
- Causes skin and eye irritation.
- Immediately flush eyes with clean water until contaminant is gone. Immediately wash skin with plenty of soap and water until skin is free of contaminant.
- Get medical attention if needed.
- If swallowed, get immediate medical help.