Fresco® Tadelakt

Product Data Sheet

Echoes the Tadelakt plaster made popular in Morocco for its hand applied appearance and water repellant quality, though popularized today for its decorative purposes.

9/17/2026

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 D2486	**Scrub Resistance**	10,000 cycles	Pass
ASTM D3960	**VOC** **This product complies with South Coast AQMD (Rule 1113) VOC emission standards for architectural coatings.		ZERO VOC
ASTM D3273	**Mold/Mildew Resistance**	No growth at 28 days	No growth
ASTM D3363	**Pencil Hardness**	6B – 6H	5H
ASTM D3359	**Adhesion by Tape Test**	No peeling or removal	5A
ASTM D1308	**Chemical Resistance**		High

FEATURES

BENEFITS

Water-based	Safe, non-toxic. Cleans up with water
Integrally Colored	Easy to clean using Magic Eraser type cleaner
Micro Aggregate	Highly durable. Resists surface abrasion
Acrylic Colorant	Resists cracking. Excellent color retention.
Vapor Permeable	Allows substrate to breathe. Resists blistering, cracking
VOC Compliant	Meets South Coast Air Quality (SCAQMD) requirements

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SURFACE PREPARATION

Gypsum wallboard surfaces: Wallboard must be taped and sanded to a Level 4 finish per AWCI standards. Sanded surface must then be prime painted with an undiluted flat, white, latex primer to ensure uniform absorption. Prior to priming, ensure surface is free of dust, dirt, and other bond-inhibiting materials, and that all taping materials are dry.

Concrete 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. Skim, patch, or level surfaces to required tolerance and smoothness with appropriate Fresco leveling materials. Surface must then be prime painted with an undiluted flat, white, latex primer to ensure uniform absorption. Prior to priming, ensure surface is free of dust, dirt, and other bond-inhibiting materials, and that all leveling materials are dry.

Cement board: Cement board surface must be bedded with Fresco Basecoat and appropriate fiberglass mesh at all board joints and damaged board surfaces. Entire board surface then must be skimmed with Fresco Basecoat such that the surface is free from defects, trowel lines, and is leveled to required tolerance and smoothness. Surface must then be prime painted with an undiluted flat, white, latex primer to ensure uniform absorption. Prior to priming, ensure surface is free of dust, dirt, and other bond-inhibiting materials, and that all leveling materials are dry.

MIXING

Using a bath scale or similar, weigh 10#s of wet Fresco material and 7#s of dry Micro-Agg Admix. Into a 5-gallon plastic pail, pour the 10#s of wet Fresco material. Add into the pail, the corresponding amount of Micro-Agg Admix, typically 7#s, unless noted otherwise. Using an electric drill and clean, rust-free paddle, mix well at high rpm, adding up to 10 fluid ounces of clean water for workability. Mix until all the Micro-Agg Admix is fully mixed into the wet Fresco material and there are no lumps. Allow to set for approximately 5 minutes. Remix to a uniform, creamy consistency. Do not exceed maximum amount of water in mix ratio.

APPLICATION

Apply only to sound and clean, dry, properly prepared surfaces. Surface must be primed with the appropriate primer per the surface preparation guidelines above.
Scratch coat: Apply a tight scratch coat on to the surface to a 1/16” thickness, or approximately 1½ times the aggregate size, using a clean steel trowel, in random, non-patterning small circular strokes. Allow to dry 100%. You can use a fan to speed up drying.
Double coat: Apply a double coat on to the surface to a 1/16” thickness, or approximately 1½ times the aggregate size, using a clean steel non-marring trowel, in random, non-patterning strokes. Allow to dry 70-80%, or until when you touch the surface, no material sticks to your finger.
Third coat: Apply a final very tight coat on to the surface, using a clean non-marring steel trowel, in random, non-patterning strokes. For light colors, a plastic venetian style trowel may be necessary if the steel trowel is leaving dark marks on the surface of the plaster. Allow to

dry 70-80%, or until when you touch the surface, no material sticks to your finger.

Polish coat: Using a clean non-marring steel trowel, polish the surface of the plaster in regular strokes, or circular strokes if you prefer. It may help you to keep a rag, dampened with water, with you to help the trowel slide easily across the surface of the plaster by simply dampening the trowel with the rag periodically. For light colors, a plastic venetian style trowel may be necessary if the steel trowel is leaving dark marks on the surface of the plaster. Polish, or hard trowel, the surface of the plaster to the desired finish level.

Sealer: If specified, surface may need to be sealed with Fresco Sealer. If so, do not apply sealer until surface is completely dried. If necessary, it is allowable to use a fan to speed up the drying process. Sealer should be applied with a rag, in circular and figure 8 motions. Do not allow sealer to run down the surface. For maximum protection and effectiveness of the sealer, polish the sealer coat with the same trowel that was used for the polish coat. For additional protection, apply a second sealer coat in the same manner as the first coat.

IMPORTANT: ALWAYS check color of material for proper match. If color does not match, STOP, and call the manufacturer. Always work from a wet edge or architectural break to eliminate cold joints. Minor shade variations may occur from pail to pail. It is recommended that pails be batch mixed or shanked.

Curing/Drying: Requires minimum 72 hours and moderate, dry weather for complete drying. Drying time increases significantly with low temperatures, wet or humid weather, which may cause a non-uniform appearance. 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

160-200 ft² (9-15 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.