

Rendering in Extremes of Weather

Simple Render & Texture Coat Weather Rules:

Freshly applied render, texture and paint coatings should always be protected from extremes in temperature, direct rain and rapid drying conditions. If any of these conditions are expected during application and / or curing of the coating then do not apply them.

In normal conditions it is advisable to allow Euromix® Render to cure for 3 to 5 days, depending on the weather and the thickness applied. In wet weather, where the walls retain high levels of moisture or where they are continually exposed to rain, it may be necessary to extend this curing period to 12 to 14 days.

Applying finish coats over render that has not been allowed to properly cure can result in unsightly blotchiness, pitting and even delamination of the finish coat. In extreme circumstances finishing over un-cured base render may even result in failure of the base render.

Texture coatings should only be applied in temperatures between 10 and 26 °C - and never in extreme conditions (high wind, very dry or very high humidity).

Applying texture coatings to wet / damp substrates will almost always result in some form of coating failure - and remember; never apply Primer over damp substrates!

Texturing over wet or damp substrates will most often result in some form of failure, including possible discolouration and / or colour variation, delamination and peeling!

Low Temperature:

Do not work with render, acrylic texture or paint coatings when frost is present or likely to be experienced during the curing period. Do not apply these coatings on frosted substrates or in temperatures below 5°C or if low temperature can be expected during the drying and curing period.

In cold weather or, if frost is forecast, stop work in time to allow the material to set sufficiently, to prevent frost damage. The drying conditions will vary according to wind, temperature and humidity and several hours may be required.

In frosty weather, where minimum temperature conditions cannot be met, work should only proceed when suitable protection is provided and the temperature raised.



Wet Weather:

Do not work during rainfall, if rainfall is anticipated during the initial cure or allow rain to strike newly applied material, particularly if strong colours in textured products are being used.

Do not render onto saturated backgrounds as this can impair bond strength and cause unsightly lime bloom to occur.

The absorption properties of the background are critical and if there is doubt as to the amount of water in the substrate, tests should be carried out on trial areas to determine the effect on render and finish coats. Backgrounds are more likely to give problems and contain an excessive amount of water where work has been stopped for a period due to inclement weather.

As is common with all cement based materials, inclement weather or long periods of dampness will encourage the phenomenon of efflorescence in Euromix Renders.

Rain not the only problem:

Where you have been able to apply texture to dry substrates and rain is imminent remember to shield the coating from moisture getting onto the finished surface and stop moisture getting into the substrate as well - for at least 24 hours! Exposure to rain is not the only issue - run-off from roofs, drainage or wind driven moisture can also cause coating failure!

Obviously extra attention should be paid to areas close to the ground and at the bottom of walls – substrates in these areas are often more saturated than other areas – they may require longer to dry.

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Hot Conditions:

Hot weather usually results in rapid drying conditions that affect newly applied coatings, causing acrylic based materials to dry unevenly (impacting on strength and colour consistency) and cement based materials to 'pick up' or stiffen much quicker than normal (also reducing strength and promoting cracking). Warm, dry conditions with stiff breezes can equally provide rapid drying conditions.

In hot weather, application of both renders and finishes should be carried out in the shade following the sun around the building.

During periods of sustained hot and dry weather, the substrate may need cooling with an even mist spray of clean water before application to avoid retained heat affecting freshly applied mortar. Note this should be done in a controlled manner, so as to avoid saturating the substrate as this can induce cracking. This advice is particularly relevant when rendering onto aerated autoclaved blocks.

Cement based products need to retain water for sufficient time to enable the cement to hydrate fully in order to reach full strength. Rapid drying conditions may therefore leave render materials weak.

During hot, rapid drying weather newly finished cement based render materials may need to be actively cured by spraying with a light spray of clean water two or three times a day for two or three days after application. This is particularly relevant when working internally with these products

In common with all cement based mixes, renders will not achieve full strength for approximately 28 days. During this period the finished work is more vulnerable to damage. Once applied, the colour of render will soften over a period of months to reach its natural hue.

Providing Protection against Wet Weather:

Cement based materials especially, must be protected during their initial setting to prevent damage by rain borne water. This can be done using tarpaulins, close mesh netting, polythene or other suitable material. Coloured finishes can be discoloured by pigment being washed out of the uncured material.

Newly applied renders and finishes must be protected against damage from water discharges from overflows, unfinished rainwater outlets or other points by providing appropriate temporary arrangements to direct water discharge away from materials.

Artificial enclosures round scaffolding can be formed using tarpaulins, close mesh netting, polythene or other suitable material to overcome adverse weather conditions. Care must be taken to ensure that flapping sheets blowing in the wind do not damage the unset material.

If artificial heat sources are used to maintain minimum temperatures, care should be taken to ensure that steady temperatures are achieved and that hot/cold spots do not occur on the wall surface. The temperature range within the enclosure should be minimum 4°C, maximum 10°C.

Ensure that scaffold lifts are clean at all times. Heavy rain can splash surface dirt on to finished surfaces, permanently staining them.

The information contained in this guide is typical and does not constitute a full specification, as conditions and specific requirements will vary from project to project.

All purchasers and intending users of the products covered in this document must, prior to use, assess and control the risks arising from use of the products, as they relate to their project.

It is recommended that the products covered in this document be applied by building contractors and trades people with the appropriate skill, knowledge and experience to carry out those works, as may be necessary to meet the requirements of the project.