



INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLASTERING

Instructions for the correct application of plaster and colored finishes on walls and ceilings realized with Isotex blocks and panelling.

The plaster must only be applied on dry surfaces. Therefore, avoid application on walls that are wet from rain or frost, or from improper curing. Do not apply the plaster at temperatures below 4°C, since the significant slowing of hardening makes it difficult to check when it is right to apply the finish. The week before applying plaster, close any gaps caused by incorrect laying with mortar in order to **avoid notable thicknesses of plaster** which might result in areas of crazing. The walls should be adequately levelled and squared during installation as the application of thicknesses of plaster to straighten and square off walling is inconceivable and ineffective. A thickness of greater than 2 cm may lead to the formation of crazing and cracks. Where more than 2 cm of plaster thickness is necessary, it is essential that the plaster is applied in two coats, with maturation of the first coat of at least 28 days.

Given these important premises, pre-mixed or traditional plaster can be applied, taking into account that, since the plaster has the function of protecting the wall from weather and wear, it should have a thickness as uniform as possible of approximately 15 mm, bearing in mind that a less or greater thickness can facilitate the formation of crazing and cracks. Over the last few years, insulation is becoming ever more efficient which makes it all the more important to consider inserting a suitable netting, in **alkali-resistant fibre glass with CE marking**, positioned half way through the plaster; that being 7-8 mm from the support.

Any application of fine mortar or similar must always be made after a coat of adhesive on the hardened plaster, following, on average, an interval of 3-4 weeks. Naturally, this time interval will vary according to weather and climatic conditions. This type of finish (for exteriors), which for its success must be made with a base coat (15 mm.) fully matured in order to avoid the formation of shrinkage cracks, is not recommended by Isotex Srl, given the enormous difficulty in verifying that the right conditions and timings of applications are met.

The solution recommended by Isotex, given positive experience gained since 1995 on various construction sites and the increased use of thermally high performing blocks, which subject the plaster to increased stress, is to apply to the plaster base coat (15 mm), levelled with a straight edge and matured for 4-6 weeks, a thick color finish.

This solution does not require fine mortar or similar. Remember that when you apply the base coat and level it with a straight edge, make sure that the result is as consistent and solid as possible, in order to avoid chalking. For interiors, Isotex recommends a 4-5 day interval between the plaster base and the fine mortar or similar, so that there is a good thorough maturation of the plaster before application of the mortar itself.

Consider the particularities of the S39 panelling, which for thermal reasons has joints but not concrete between the panels. In correspondence with these joints micro-cracks may form and therefore, to avoid this, it is recommended to use a plasterboard finish. For **intermediate floors (S20-S25-S30)**, if a plaster finish with a thickness of 15mm (no less) is chosen, the recommendation is to "embed" half way through the thickness, a reinforcing net in alkali-resistant fibre with CE marking. Then wait 4/5 days, depending on the season, before applying the finish and 4/6 weeks before painting. Please note that, Isotex Srl, due to the fact that it is unable to physically monitor on a day to day basis compliance with these recommendations, the quality of materials used (plaster and colored finishes) and timings between applications, disclaims any responsibility