APPLICATION GUIDE

TerraGen™ Adhesive

Multipurpose lime-based mortar · from substrate to full cure

EDITION 30.09.2026 USE WITH THE TDS OF TERRAGEN ADHESIVE, PRIMERS AND PROTECTIVE COATING

01 THE SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

One ready-to-use lime mortar for many jobs: **tile** on walls and floors, **EIFS boards**, repairs, a **base coat** or an exposed **natural stone finish** – on drywall and in wet areas too. Always a keying coat plus an even second coat, **0.04–0.20 in (1–5 mm)** in total; it hardens by absorbing CO_2 over 30 days.

01 PREPARE — Substrate
Sound, clean, dry. Prime per table 02.

→ **24 h** IF PRIMED

02 KEYING COAT — TerraGen Adhesive
Rough coat by hand. **Do not dilute.**

→ **4–6 h** RECOAT

03 2ND COAT + FINISH — TerraGen Adhesive
Even, **0.04–0.20 in** in total. Comb, brush or stone finish.

→ **7 d** IF SEALED

04 PROTECT — PU Water-Repellent
Wet areas, exposed surface only.

→ **30 d**

05 CURE — Carbonation
No load for 7 d. **No rain for 4 days**.

02 WHAT TO DO ON EACH SUBSTRATE

SUBSTRATE	PREPARATION	PRIMER
Brick, concrete block (CMU), stone masonry	Sound and clean; if very dry, dampen – never soak	Not needed
Concrete walls or slabs, stucco, plaster	Cured, dry and dust-free	Not needed
Drywall, fiber cement, prefabricated panels	Joints finished; dry and dust-free	Not needed
Friable or dusty mineral substrate	Brush down all loose material	**MinerGen**
Wall with salt deposits (efflorescence)	Brush off salt crusts; never vinegar or acid	**Neutralysalt Primer**
Non-porous: glazed tile, glass, existing paint	Clean and degrease; remove loose paint	**Primer Contac**
Different substrates meeting	Embed reinforcing mesh	Mesh
Mold, algae or fungi	Clean thoroughly with a suitable product	Per substrate

Mask first: woodwork, glass and stone. Fix the cause of cracks, rising damp or leaks first. **Floor tile, showers and EIFS:** also follow the project specification and the EIFS manufacturer's requirements. Anything not covered here: Technical Department.

03 COVERAGE AND WAIT TIMES PER COAT

COAT	PRODUCT	PREPARATION	COVERAGE / COAT	WAIT
PRIMER	**MinerGen**	Ready to use · 2–3 passes, 1 h apart	**530–650 ft²/gal**	24 h
	Neutralysalt Primer	Undiluted · 1–2 coats wet-on-wet	**1,020–1,220 ft²/gal**	24 h
	Primer Contac	Undiluted · 1 coat	**325–365 ft²/gal**	24 h
KEYING	**TerraGen Adhesive**	Stir; do not dilute · rough coat	**0.15–0.20 lb/ft² per mm**	4–6 h
2ND COAT	**TerraGen Adhesive**	Even · to 0.04–0.20 in in total	**0.15–0.20 lb/ft² per mm**	7 d before load
PROTECT	**TerraGen PU Water-Repellent**	2 coats · wet areas, exposed surface	**0.7–1.0 oz/ft²**	6–24 h

PER 37.5 LB (17 KG) PAIL	0.04 IN · 1 MM	0.08 IN · 2 MM	0.12 IN · 3 MM	0.16 IN · 4 MM	0.20 IN · 5 MM
Area covered, sq ft	**183–244**	**91–122**	**61–81**	**46–61**	**37–49**
Area covered, m²	17.0–22.7	8.5–11.3	5.7–7.6	4.3–5.7	3.4–4.5

Times at 77 °F (25 °C) and 60% RH; cold or damp conditions extend them. Coverage 0.75–1 kg/m² per mm of total thickness, without waste; there is no set thickness per job, so test on site. Example: tile on a 100 ft² wall over a 0.12 in (3 mm) bed ≈ 46–61 lb, two pails.

04 STEP BY STEP

1. **Check the substrate:** sound, dry, clean, free of dust, salts and loose material. Do not soak it; dampen only if very dry. Mask woodwork, glass and stone.
2. **Gloves and safety goggles:** contains lime (pH > 11), corrosive — H314, causes severe skin burns and eye damage. FFP2/N95 dust mask when sanding. Eye splashes: rinse with water for at least 15 min and get medical help. See the SDS.
3. **Prime** where table 02 says so, and embed reinforcing mesh where different substrates meet. **WAIT 24 H**
4. **Stir the pail** with a drill mixer until smooth. Ready to use: no water, no dilution, no other products.
5. **Keying coat:** by hand with a steel trowel, a rough coat that grips the substrate. In heat or wind, dampen the substrate first. **RECOAT 4–6 H**
6. **Second coat:** even, until the required thickness is reached — 0.04–0.20 in (1–5 mm) in total.
7. **Finish for the job: bond** — comb with a notched trowel (up to 0.4 in / 10 mm) and set tile or EIFS boards into the fresh mortar; **base coat** — brush or sand to key the finishing mortar; **stone finish** — spread evenly, then sand with 800-grit paper. **STONE: SAND AT 24 H**
8. **Let it cure:** it hardens by absorbing CO_2 — do not add water to harden it; in heat or wind, mist it for 48 h. No rain for 4 days, no load for 7 days. Wet areas: after 7 days, seal the exposed surface with TerraGen PU Water-Repellent. **FULL CURE 30 D**

05 CONDITIONS & TOOLS

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Air and surface **41 °F to 86 °F** (5–30 °C)
- No direct sun or sun-heated substrates
- Heat or wind: dampen first, mist for **48 h**
- No rain on the surface for **4 days**
- Times given at **77 °F and 60% RH**

TOOLS

- Drill mixer
- Steel trowel · notched trowel (up to 0.4 in / 10 mm)
- Brush or 800-grit sandpaper, per finish · reinforcing mesh
- Gloves, safety goggles · FFP2/N95 dust mask for sanding
- Clean tools with **warm water** right after use

06 COMMON MISTAKES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

Tile or boards come loose
Dusty, friable or non-porous substrate left unprimed, or tile set on mortar already drying. Prime per table 02; set into fresh mortar.

Cracking as it dries
Too thick (over 0.20 in / 5 mm) or dried too fast by sun, wind or heat. Stay within 1–5 mm; in heat, dampen first and mist for 48 h.

Soft, weak surface
Water added to the paste. It comes ready to use: never dilute it. It hardens by absorbing CO_2, not with water.

Cracks where materials meet
No reinforcing mesh between different substrates. Embed it where they meet.

White bloom (efflorescence)
Salts in the wall, or rain in the first 4 days. Brush off the salts and apply Neutralysalt Primer — never vinegar or acid — and keep the surface dry for 4 days.

Marks or wear in wet areas
Exposed mortar in a shower, bathroom or kitchen left unprotected. Seal with TerraGen PU Water-Repellent after 7 days; it reduces breathability.

07 AFTER APPLICATION

- **Service and cleaning:** at least 7 days of drying before loading tile, EIFS boards or floors; no cleaning or scrubbing for 30 days
- **Wet areas:** keep the exposed surface sealed with TerraGen PU Water-Repellent; it reduces the breathability of the finish
- **Leftover product:** pail closed, cool, frost-free and out of the sun: 18-month shelf life. Never down the drain

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