



High Bond Veneer Mortar

Manufacturer

HERBCRETE, LLC

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(844) CORE-MIX (267-3649) or (702) 906-0260

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

HERB-CRETE™ High Bond Veneer Mortar is a mix of essential minerals. It is blended with Portland cement and sand to make a mortar designed to provide a scratch coat and a bond coat for attaching masonry veneers and stone veneers.

USES

HERB-CRETE High Bond Veneer Mortar is an ideal choice for:

- Manufactured stone veneer
- Natural stone
- Thin Brick

LIMITATIONS

Do not apply less than 3/8 of an inch in thickness.

Do not apply to surfaces that are sealed.

Do not apply to smooth surfaces that have not been bead-blasted or shot-blasted.

Do not use with thin marble.

Do not apply to stones larger the maximum size described in the stone veneer manufacturer's application specifications.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

Only apply at temperatures of 40 degrees F (5 degrees C) and above.

Avoid application when there is risk of frost within 24 hours after application. Take proper precautions on extremely hot or windy weather days. Do not submerge product.

TECHNICAL DATA

COVERAGE:

At applied thickness of 1/2"

Packaging

50# 10.5 ft.²

80# 17 ft.²

2000# 420 ft.²

3000# 630 ft.²

Technical Data

Compressive Strength (psi)

3 day @ 1,500 psi

7 day @ 2,300 psi

28 day @ 3,200 psi

Shear-bond Strength (psi)

3 day @ 60 psi

7 day @ 130 psi

Technical Support

For additional information and for technical questions, contact HERB-CRETE at:

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GENERAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

An acceptable substrate (stucco scratch coat, SCIP, tilt wall, poured concrete, concrete block, etc.) needs to be prepared and moistened. The back of each piece of veneer should be buttered with firm trowel pressure, and then applied to the prepared substrate. It should be held for a second or two so the suction of the mortar will hold it in place.

MATERIALS LIST



High Bond Veneer Mortar



Water

MIXING INSTRUCTIONS:

bag size	lbs. of water	gal. of water
50#	6.4	.75
80#	10.3	1.25
2000#	257	31
3000#	386	46

Mix using a horizontal shaft paddle type mixer. These mixers are designed for mixing mortar and stucco. Vertical shaft paddle type mixers also work well as long as the discharge valve remains watertight during the mixing process. There are people who use rotating drum mixers (concrete mixers). Such mixers are designed to work with large aggregate. If they are used, the water-cement ratio usually has to be a little higher, and this reduces the bond strength.

Add 90% of the water to a mechanical mixer. With the mixer turning, slowly add the contents of one bag. Add additional water as needed so the mixer does not stall. After mixing for 3 minutes, adjust the water content to get the desired consistency. Mix 2 more minutes.

After the first batch has been mixed, the initial water content can be adjusted to the total amount of water used for the first batch.

Batches consisting of more than one bag can be made.

*Add an appropriate number of bags or volume of veneer mortar to the mixer. Paddle mixers are designed to be filled to 5/8th of the water volume of the mixer tub. That is just covering the shaft. Filling beyond the design capacity of a mixer is one of the main causes of a poorly mixed product.

Water requirements will vary based on temperature and humidity, and on slight variations in the gradation of the sand.

The man with the trowel is the best judge of the amount of water that should be added. We have found that the best bond strength is achieved when the wall and the stone have been pre-moistened and the mud is mixed so a one-inch layer of mud will hang onto a trowel when the trowel has been inverted.

COMPROMISES

The more water added, the lower the compressive strength and the higher the flexural bond strength until you reach a point where the suction of the mortar does not hold the veneer where you placed it.



APPLICATION - BONDING COAT

To bond the veneer to the wall, butter the back of the veneer with at least 1/2 inch of veneer bonding mortar and press it into the prepared substrate so that mortar squeezes out on all sides. If you are looking for a grouted look, use a little more veneer bonding mortar. Hold for a moment and release. Ideally, the water content should be such that you hold the veneer in place for two seconds and the suction then holds it securely. After you release the veneer, it should not be moved or touched. If it must be moved, remove it, remove all of the veneer bonding mortar, and start over.

Work clean, but do not try to clean the veneer as you go. That will break bonds. Wait until the veneer bonding mortar has set, and then use a brush to clean the surface.

ACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES

- Follow standards for manufactured stone veneer installation. Following are normally acceptable substrates for veneer:
- Stucco Scratch Coat—containing SpiderLath or 2.5 pounds per square yard, or heavier, expanded metal lath. The lath must be attached to the frame of the building according to code.
- SCIP—structural concrete insulated panels are an ideal substrate for masonry and stucco veneers.
- CMU—direct-applied as long as a good bond can be established. Note: Many CMU are manufactured with a water repellent incorporated into the units. If this is the case, lath must be applied and a scratch coat must be added.
- Pre-Cast/Tilt Wall—curing compounds are used in the manufacturing process that can interfere with bonding. The surface may be prepared by bead-blasting or sand blasting, to create a good bonding surface.
- ICF—anchor the lath securely to the concrete core of the wall and apply a scratch coat.

CURING

All cementitious products need to be cured, not just HERB-CRETE products.

The basic curing process is simple: After the first coat has been scratched and is stiff enough so that it will not be eroded with the moisture that is applied, moisten it often enough so that it does not dry out and dehydrate before it has had an opportunity to cure. The easy way to determine whether you are successful is to observe the color of the first coat. If it remains the rich color of freshly applied mortar, it has plenty of moisture. If the color fades and what had been a rich color becomes a pale color, the mortar has dried out. This stops the chemical hydration of the mortar.

While many people use a hose to wet down a wall, it can lead to erosion of the mortar. Herb prefers to use a Hudson-type sprayer and add just enough water to keep the surface moist.

This curing process should be maintained for about 48 hours. Remember, you are not trying to add water to the mortar. You are trying to maintain surface conditions so the mortar does not dehydrate, by periodically lightly misting or by hanging polyethylene plastic in front of wall.

Weather conditions may affect drying; high heat, sunlight, and wind may be detrimental to proper curing. Minimize application during harsh conditions. Initial set should be achieved in fewer than eight hours.

CLEANUP

Except veneer faces, immediately remove product from surfaces not intended to receive mortar with damp sponge, tools, and equipment prior to material set. Use clean water.

Working clean is better than having to clean up. If mortar gets on face of veneer, wait until the bonding mortar has cured for several days and then brush it off. Cleaning as you go may break the bond between the bonding mortar and the unit.



MAINTENANCE

HERB-CRETE veneer mix does not require routine maintenance, but the veneer may need to be treated with a silane or siloxane water repellent every five years. Check with your veneer supplier.

STORAGE

Store product in a dry, covered location on pallets. Do not expose to weather elements or allow to get wet or moist. Do not stack pallets.

SHELF LIFE

12 months if stored in original packaging, away from moisture.

PRECAUTIONS

In case of contact with eyes, wash immediately with water and consult a physician. Wear appropriate goggles. Keep away from children.

WARRANTY

HERBCRETE, LLC, warrants this product when used according to manufacturer's directions. Warranty covers refund of the purchase price or replacement of product at manufacturer's/seller's option. HERB-CRETE is not liable for installation costs or cost of labor.