



HydroFix

Application Guide

Water-repellent, breathable damp-proofing render —
from mixing to painting, step by step on site.

7 STEPS

TROWEL APPLIED

10 kg SET



BEFORE YOU START

Set contents

- HydroFix P – powder component, 10 kg
- HydroFix A – liquid activator, 100 mL

Also required

- Clean tap water – 2.0 L per set
- Low-speed mixer (400 rpm) and mixing bucket
- Steel trowel and straightedge
- Gloves, eye protection, dust mask

Application conditions

Ambient temperature	+5 °C / +30 °C
Mixing ratio	10 kg : 2.0 L water : 100 mL activator
Pot life (+20 °C)	30 minutes
Layer thickness	2 – 2.5 mm
Total thickness	3 – 4 mm (3 mm recommended)
Waiting time between coats	6 – 8 hours
Touch dry	approx. 24 hours
Waiting time before painting	At least 3 days · until visibly dry

THE MOISTURE SOURCE MUST BE STOPPED FIRST

HydroFix interrupts the water reaching the surface, but it does not stop the rise of moisture. Where rising damp is active, a DampStop injection barrier must be installed first. If the source is not stopped, salts accumulate behind the render and the layer blisters within a few months.



APPLICATION STEPS

1

Assess the surface

Determine the damp line and the extent of salt efflorescence. The surface to be renewed must extend at least 50 cm beyond the damaged area.



2

Remove the damaged plaster

Remove blistered paint, loose plaster and salt crust completely. Brush off and dry mouldy areas. The surface must be sound, load-bearing and free from dust, form oil and laitance.

Take the debris away – it is salt-laden.



3

Pre-wet the surface

Lightly pre-wet absorbent mineral surfaces (brick, pumice, aerated concrete, fair-faced concrete, cement render) before application. A dry substrate draws the mixing water out of the mortar; adhesion is lost and the render cracks.

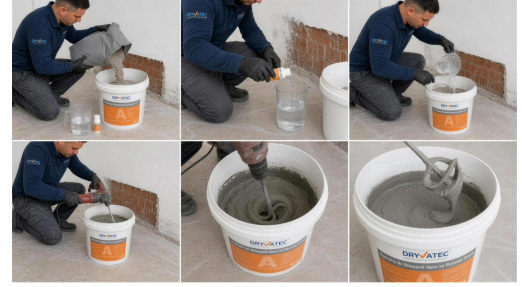
No standing water may remain – damp, not wet.

4

Prepare the mix — the sequence matters

Place 2.0 L of clean water in the bucket. Add the 100 mL HydroFix A activator to the water first and stir until homogeneous. Only then add the 10 kg HydroFix P powder slowly. Mix for 3–4 minutes at low speed (400 rpm), leave to mature for 5 minutes, stir once more for a minute and put into use.

Do not add the activator to the dry powder — it will not disperse evenly through the matrix and water repellency will remain patchy.



5

Apply the first coat

Apply the mortar with a steel trowel, working from the bottom upwards. Do not exceed 2 – 2.5 mm in a single coat. Use the mix within its 30-minute pot life; do not add water to mortar that has begun to set.



6

Draw the second coat perpendicular

Apply the second coat once the first has set, after 6 – 8 hours. Draw it perpendicular to the first (horizontal vertical). Build up to a total thickness of 3 – 4 mm; the recommended system thickness is 3 mm.

Coats drawn in the same direction leave thin spots along the trowel marks.

7

Protect and allow to cure

Protect from impact, water, direct sun and frost for 48 hours. In hot weather keeping the surface damp prevents shrinkage cracking. Touch dry is approximately 24 hours; the waiting time before painting is at least 3 days and until the render is visibly dry.

Do not paint before curing is complete — the paint will blister.



PREPARING THE MIX IN DETAIL

HydroFix is prepared as a single batch using the entire 10 kg set. The ratio of the three components is fixed and must not be changed.



10 kg

HydroFix P
powder component

+



100 mL

HydroFix A
liquid activator

+



2.0 L

clean
tap water

=

3.5 m²

at 3 mm thickness
approx. 5.0 m² at 2 mm

The diagram shows the contents of one batch. The mixing sequence is different and important: water first, then activator, powder last — see the steps above.

DO NOT PREPARE A PARTIAL BATCH

Mixing part of the set requires the ratio of three components to be weighed out on site. Dividing the 100 mL of activator in particular is highly error-prone, and an incorrect dose leads either to insufficient water repellency or to a disturbed setting time. Always mix the entire set.

How to recognise the right consistency

- The consistency is correct when the mortar does not run off the trowel and holds on a vertical surface.
- If it slides off the trowel there is too much water — that batch must not be used; prepare a fresh one.
- If it becomes difficult to spread, the mortar has begun to set; it cannot be recovered by adding water.

Pot life and leftover mortar

- Pot life is 30 minutes at +20 °C and shorter in hot weather.
- Do not add water to mortar that has begun to set. It may appear workable again, but strength and water repellency fall permanently.
- Prepare only as much as can be applied; avoid quantities that cannot be used within 30 minutes.

HOW MUCH MATERIAL IS NEEDED?

LAYER THICKNESS	CONSUMPTION	COVERAGE PER 10 KG SET	USE
2 mm (thin coat)	2.0 kg/m ²	approx. 5.0 m ²	Single coat on even surfaces
3 mm (standard)	3.0 kg/m ²	approx. 3.5 m ²	Recommended system thickness
4 mm (thick coat)	4.0 kg/m ²	approx. 2.5 m ²	Uneven or absorbent surfaces

WORKED EXAMPLE — 12 METRE WALL, 1 METRE HIGH

12 m² of surface · 3 mm standard thickness · 3 kg per square metre · 36 kg in total. With a 10 % allowance, 4 sets of 10 kg should be calculated.

PAINT SELECTION — PART OF THE SYSTEM

HydroFix relies on vapour transmission. If a vapour-tight layer is applied over it, moisture accumulates behind the render, salts crystallise and the layer separates from the surface. The choice of paint is as decisive as the render itself.

SUBSTRATE / WALL TYPE	STATUS	NOTES
Silicate (mineral) paint	● Suitable	Highest vapour permeability; recommended
Silicone emulsion paint	● Suitable	Water-repellent and breathable
Limewash, mineral decorative render	● Suitable	Historic buildings
Mineral-based tile adhesive	● Conditional	Strengthen ventilation in wet rooms
Acrylic / plastic interior paint	● Not suitable	Blocks vapour transmission
Epoxy, PU coating, membrane	● Not suitable	Forms a full barrier; causes blistering
Vinyl wallpaper	● Not suitable	Moisture accumulates behind the render

**POST-APPLICATION CHECKS**

- ☐ No dust comes away when the surface is rubbed by hand.
- ☐ No shrinkage cracking on the surface.
- ☐ Total thickness between 3 and 4 mm.
- ☐ Second coat drawn perpendicular to the first.
- ☐ Water dropped on the surface beads rather than soaking in.
- ☐ Protected from impact, water and frost for 48 hours.
- ☐ At least three days observed and render visibly dry before painting.
- ☐ Only a vapour-permeable paint used.

A TEN-SECOND CHECK ON SITE

After curing, drop a few drops of water onto the surface. If the water beads without soaking in, the application is sound. If it is absorbed rapidly, the mixing ratio or the order of addition of the activator may have been incorrect.

**COMMON MISTAKES**

- Mixing with too much water**
The matrix is diluted, the surface dusts and cracks and water repellency falls. The ratio is 10 kg : 2.0 L.
- Adding the activator to the dry powder**
The most common mistake. The activator must be added to the water first; otherwise it does not disperse evenly through the matrix and water repellency remains patchy.
- Mixing only part of the set**
The ratio of the three components cannot reliably be weighed out on site; dividing the 100 mL of activator in particular is error-prone. Always mix the entire set.
- Exceeding 2.5 mm in a single coat**
Shrinkage cracking and loss of adhesion occur; the thickness must be divided into coats.
- Applying to a dry surface**
An absorbent substrate draws the mixing water out of the mortar; adhesion is lost and the render cracks.
- Applying before the moisture source is stopped**
Salts accumulate behind the render and the layer blisters within a few months.
- Using a plastic-based paint**
Vapour transmission is blocked, moisture accumulates behind the render and the layer separates from the surface.

Need support during the work?

Send us a photograph of the surface and its dimensions and we will work out the material quantity and an application plan together.

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