

Hemcoat™ Hemp Lime Plaster Method Sheet

1.0 MIXING

1.1 Small Drum Mixer

- Mix 1 bucket of water and 2 buckets of Tradichanvre.
- Leave the mixer turning for around 2 minutes (until the dust has dispersed)
- Gradually add 3 buckets of hemp allowing the mixer to turn for about 5 minutes.
- Add additional water if required, however the longer the mixer turns the softer the mix becomes.
- Empty the mixer and refill, leaving the mix to rest in order to achieve a smoother consistency.
- For a larger drum mixer increase the above proportions and extend the mixing time if required.

1.2 Pan Mixer

- The pan mixer must be tilted slightly in order for the mix to combine effectively.
- Mix 9 buckets (about 120 litres) of water and 4 bags of Tradichanvre, leaving the mixer to turn for approximately 2 to 3 minutes (until the dust has dispersed)
- Add 1 bale of hemp and leave the mixer to turn for a further 5 to 8 minutes.
- Add additional water if required, however the longer the mixer turns the softer the mix becomes.

1.3 Dosages/Proportioning

Pan Mixer (tilted)	Small Drum Mixer
9 buckets of water	1 bucket of water
4 bags of Tradichanvre	2 buckets of Tradichanvre
1 bale of Chanvribat hemp	3 buckets of Chanvribat hemp

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2.0 Application

- Apply the plaster two (or more) continuous coats; the first at about 15mm (the final coat/coats being thicker to achieve the required thickness)
- The first coat adheres more effectively if kept softer/wetter.
- Use a “throw and place” technique and flatten with the trowel where needed onto the whole of the wall.
- When the first coat has been applied, start with the second coat; mark reference points or screeds for the final thickness.
- Regularly flatten the Hemcoat™ plaster to level it off and control the thickness (it is easier to add more than to remove it)
- Straighten with a straight edge following the screeds / vertical strips and leave to dry.
- When firm, rub with a float by making slow circular movements to finish the levelling off and to fill in the small holes
- When the rubbing down has been completed, the smoothing can start.
- If the surface is not dry enough, wait until it is firmer. This may be the following day.
- For a fine trowelled finish, pass the trowel over 2 or 3 times.
- For a textured finish, use a sponge after the trowel:
 - Pass a clean wet sponge over after the initial smoothing.
 - The aim of using the sponge is to lift and remove the fat (cream) which appears on the surface without tearing the hemp plaster
 - If the hemp tears:
 - a) Either the sponge is too hard;
 - b) Or you are pressing too hard
 - c) Or the surface is not hard enough
 - Remember to keep the sponge clean. Regularly wash out the sponge and empty the water in which you are rinsing the sponge.

Note:

- *Conditions may vary and walls may have different absorption rates.*
- *There are seasonal working variations – in summer it may be possible to apply and finish in the same day. In winter this can take 2 days.*
- *You should not plaster if the temperature is below 5°C or above 30°C.*
- *If you are starting work in the summer, you will need to wet the wall down before you start plastering.*
- *A large drum mixer is recommended to save time and to obtain a good mix.*
- *The binder ratio can be varied up to 15% to suit the requirements of the plasterer/background.*

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