

## MASTER OF PLASTER TECHNICAL SHEETS: VENETIAN PLASTER

### WHY VENETIAN PLASTER?

VENETIAN PLASTER IS A PRODUCT OF THE RENAISSANCE, A TIME WHEN THE PLASTERS WE KNOW OF TODAY DID NOT EXIST. THROUGHOUT HISTORY, PLASTER HAS ALWAYS BEEN COMBINATIONS OF SLAKED LIME, SAND, HORSEHAIR, AND OTHER NATURAL INGREDIENTS MOST TIMES FOUND LOCALLY WITHIN A REGION. DURING THE RENAISSANCE ITALIAN PLASTERERS IN THE AREA SURROUNDING VENICE BEGAN EXPERIMENTING WITH THESE BASIC PLASTER FORMULATIONS. SINCE MARBLE QUARRIES AND CLAY PITS ABOUNDED, THESE WERE THE PRIMARY MATERIALS THE PLASTER MASTERS AND ARTISANS USED TO EXPERIMENT. MARBLES IN A VARIETY OF HUES WERE GROUND INTO FINE PARTICLES AND MIXED WITH CLAYS AND THEN MINERAL PIGMENTS WERE ADDED TO INTENSIFY COLORS. THESE MIXES WERE THEN ADDED TO THE PLASTER FORMULATIONS. THE COMMON SAND USUALLY USED IN PLASTER BEGAN TO BE REPLACED WITH FINELY GROUND MARBLE DUST. THE CLAYS WERE USED TO EXTEND THE LIME AND PRODUCE A HARDER SURFACE, RESULTING IN A HARD LUSTROUS PLASTER IN VARYING HUES. THESE NEW PLASTERS WERE APPLIED TO THE WALLS AND CEILINGS OF THE FINEST BUILDINGS IN AND AROUND VENICE. ALTHOUGH THE FORMULATIONS FOR THE PLASTERS WERE CLOSELY GUARDED SECRETS, THE PLASTERS OF VENICE SPREAD ACROSS ITALY, EUROPE, AND EVENTUALLY BY THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, MADE THEIR WAY TO THE STATES.

MASTER OF PLASTER VENETIAN PLASTER IS A VARIATION OF OUR STANDARD SLAKED-LIME BASED PLASTER THAT COMPRISES OUR RESTORATION PLASTER FORMULATION. THE ADDITION OF PIGMENTS IS ONE OF THE MORE APPARENT CHARACTERISTICS THAT SETS VENETIAN PLASTER APART FROM OTHER PLASTERS. WE USE THE FINEST MARBLE DUST TO CREATE THIS EXCEPTIONAL VENETIAN PLASTER AND ALSO USE AN AGED SLAKED LIME TO CREATE THE SOFTEST MATERIAL POSSIBLE. DESIGNED TO CREATE AN ARRAY OF HUES AND DEPTH OF COLOR VARIATIONS, VENETIAN PLASTER IS ALWAYS A PIGMENTED FORMULATION THAT ALLOWS FOR MAXIMUM ARTISTIC WALL AND CEILING CREATIONS.

### PREPARATION:

MATERIAL SHOULD BE APPLIED TO SURFACES THAT ARE CLEAN AND FREE OF DUST, DIRT, AND OILS. IF MATERIAL IS BEING APPLIED TO NEW SHEETROCK, BLUEBOARD, OR ROCK LATH ALL JOINTS MUST BE TAPED USING SELF ADHESIVE MESH TAPE. IT IS BEST TO FILL TAPERED JOINTS WITH BASECOAT TO LEVEL. MESH TAPE CAN EITHER BE BEDDED IN WET MATERIAL OR APPLIED TO SURFACE AFTER IT HAS DRIED. SINK ALL NAIL OR SCREW HEADS AND COVER WITH A SMALL SQUARE OF MESH TAPE.

IF MATERIAL IS BEING APPLIED TO EXISTING PAINTED PLASTER SURFACES, REMOVE ANY LOOSE OR SPAULING PAINT. SURFACES SHOULD BE CLEAN AND FREE OF DUST, DIRT, AND OILS. TEST FOR CALCIMINE AND REMOVE IF ANY IS FOUND.

### APPLICATION:

MASTER OF PLASTER VENETIAN PLASTER IS MEANT TO BE APPLIED IN THREE COATS. FIRST LAYER SHOULD ALWAYS BE A TINTED OR WHITE BASECOAT TO GET A TRUE FLAT, CLEAN SURFACE TO WORK FROM. SECOND LAYER CONSISTS OF A TINTED BASECOAT APPLICATION TO CREATE THE COLOR BASE FROM



TEL: 803.403.5252  
FAX: 803.749.6822  
1030 DRAKE ST.  
COLUMBIA, SC 29209

MASTER OF PLASTER FINISHING SYSTEMS, INC.  
[WWW.MASTEROFPLASTER.COM](http://WWW.MASTEROFPLASTER.COM)  
[INFO@MASTEROFPLASTER.COM](mailto:INFO@MASTEROFPLASTER.COM)  
[PLASTERI.WORDPRESS.COM](http://PLASTERI.WORDPRESS.COM)

WHICH TO WORK. THE THIRD LAYER CONSISTS OF THE TINTED FINISHCOAT AND MAY BE FOLLOWED UP WITH SUBSEQUENT LAYERS OF THE EXACT SAME COLOR OR VARIATIONS AND ALTERING COLORS TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED LOOK. MANY TIMES NATURAL SEALANTS, TINTED WAXES, AND MICA DUST WILL BE ADDED AS A FOURTH STEP TO CREATE EVEN GREATER INTRIGUE AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION.

USE DIRECTLY FROM CONTAINER. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ADD WATER. MATERIAL IS BEST APPLIED USING A HAWK AND STANDARD 3" X 10" STAINLESS STEEL FINISHING TROWEL. MASTER OF PLASTER VENETIAN BASE IS SELF-LEVELING. APPLY THE BASECOAT TO ALL SURFACES IN A SOMEWHAT THIN LAYER APPLICATION. AS THE MATERIAL STARTS TO SET (APPROX. 15 TO 20 MINUTES) GO BACK OVER THE WORK AND TROWEL AS SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE (SOME RIDGES AND TROWEL MARKS WILL REMAIN). ALLOW THE BASE LAYER TO SET 4 – 5 HOURS, OVERNIGHT IS BEST.

ALTERNATE OPTION FOR APPLICATION:

THE SECOND BASECOAT IS A COMBINATION OF TWO COLORS. TAKE EQUAL AMOUNTS FROM EACH CONTAINER AND PLACE ON THE HAWK. DO NOT MIX ON THE HAWK. USING THE FINISHING TROWEL, TAKE BOTH COLORS FROM THE HAWK AND BLEND THEM ON THE WALL BY APPLYING THE MATERIAL TO THE SURFACE. AS MATERIAL STARTS TO SET (APPROX. 10 – 15 MINUTES) USING A SMALL SPRAY BOTTLE (PLANT MISTER) LIGHTLY SPRAY THE AREA AND SMOOTH. WITH VENETIAN PLASTER YOU MAY NOT WANT TO SMOOTH OUT THE SECOND BASECOAT COMPLETELY. LEAVING SOME OF THE TROWEL MARKS AND BLEMISHES WILL ADD INTEREST WHEN THE FINISH IS APPLIED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU PRACTICE ON A SMALL PIECE OF SPARE MATERIAL BEFORE APPLYING TO THE WALL OR CEILING. THE MORE FIGURING LEFT IN THE SECOND BASECOAT, THE BUSIER AND MORE INTRICATE THE FINISH WILL APPEAR.

SINCE MASTER OF PLASTER FEATHERS OUT AND BLENDS EASILY, IT IS POSSIBLE TO WORK SMALLER AREAS RATHER THAN HAVING TO DO ONE LARGE AREA AT A TIME. JUST KEEP THE EDGES WET AND SEPARATE AREAS WILL BLEND TOGETHER. MASTER OF PLASTER IS A VERY FORGIVING SYSTEM. IF AN AREA GETS TOO DRY, OR YOU DID NOT ACHIEVE A SMOOTH TROWEL FINISH, JUST RE-WET AND TROWEL UNTIL THE DESIRED EFFECT IS ACHIEVED. ALLOW THE MATERIAL TO SET 4 – 5 HOURS, OVERNIGHT IS RECOMMENDED.

AFTER THE SECOND BASECOAT HAS DRIED, APPLY THE FINISH IN A RATHER THIN FASHION. AGAIN WORKING IN SMALLER AREAS (4 – 5 SQUARE FEET) KEEP WORKING THE FINISH REMOVING ALL OF THE TROWEL MARKS AND BLEMISHES, AND MOVE ON TO THE NEXT AREA. AS ONE AREA STARTS TO DRY LIGHTLY SPRAY WITH A SPRAY BOTTLE AND RE-TROWEL. AS YOU RE-TROWEL THE FINISH WILL BEGIN TO SMOOTH AND SHINE AND BURNISH. IT IS POSSIBLE TO WORK FROM A LOW LUSTER ALL THE WAY UP TO A MIRROR FINISH THROUGH CONTINUOUS TROWELING. THE HEAT THAT IS GENERATED FROM THE PRESSURE BEING APPLIED WITH THE STEEL TROWEL IS WHAT BURNISHES AND CREATES THIS MIRROR-LIKE FINISH. A HIGH LEVEL GLOSS THAT IS REMINISCENT OF MIRROR WILL THROW OFF REFLECTIONS AND LIGHT ONCE COMPLETED WHEREAS A LOW LEVEL LUSTER THAT IS MORE REMINISCENT OF GLASS WILL BE SMOOTH AND FLAT AND NOT NEARLY AS REFLECTIVE.

MASTER OF PLASTER OFFERS A COLOR PALETTE OF TEN STANDARD COLORS INSPIRED FROM THE COLORS OF EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES. HOWEVER, MOP VENETIAN PLASTER CAN BE CREATED IN ALL SHADES OF THE COLOR SPECTRUM IN VARYING HUES. MOST PROJECTS REQUIRE A UNIQUE AND SPECIFIC COLOR COMBINATION SO WE WILL MATCH ANY SHERWIN WILLIAMS COLOR THROUGH OUR UNIVERSAL TINTING SYSTEM. BEAR IN MIND THE BEAUTY OF VENETIAN PLASTER IS ITS MOTTLED APPEARANCE AND VARIATION OF COLOR. ALL OF OUR STANDARD COLORS AND CUSTOM COLOR MIXES ARE FORMULATED TO EXACT SPECIFICATIONS SO CONSISTENCY OF COLORS IS ASSURED. HOWEVER, DIFFERENCES IN THE TECHNIQUES OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICATORS WILL CAUSE DIFFERENCES IN THE FINAL APPEARANCE OF THE FINISHED PRODUCT.

IT IS ADVISED THAT WHEN UNDERTAKING VENETIAN PLASTER FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT THE SAME PERSON APPLY ALL THREE COATS IN ANY GIVEN APPLICATION. DO NOT STOP IN THE MIDDLE OF A WALL OR CEILING



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1030 DRAKE ST.  
COLUMBIA, SC 29209

MASTER OF PLASTER FINISHING SYSTEMS, INC.  
[WWW.MASTEROFPLASTER.COM](http://WWW.MASTEROFPLASTER.COM)  
[INFO@MASTEROFPLASTER.COM](mailto:INFO@MASTEROFPLASTER.COM)  
[PLASTERI.WORDPRESS.COM](http://PLASTERI.WORDPRESS.COM)

AND TRY TO RESUME AT A LATER TIME. IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON IS GOING TO WORK IN AN AREA, THEY SHOULD WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER AND ESTABLISH SIMILAR TROWELING TECHNIQUES. TWO PEOPLE SHOULD NOT WORK ON THE SAME AREA UNTIL THEY HAVE LEARNED EACH OTHERS TROWELING TECHNIQUES.

WE ARE HAPPY TO CUSTOM MIX ANY COLOR YOU WISH HOWEVER WE DO ENCOURAGE YOU TO EXPERIMENT WITH MIXING COLORS ON YOUR OWN AS IT GREATLY ADDS TO THE CREATIVE PROCESS AND THE ARTISTIC LEVEL THAT IS ACCOMPLISHED.

ALTHOUGH MASTER OF PLASTER HAS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF LIME IN IT, YOU CAN STILL TINT THE MATERIAL USING YOUR OWN UNIVERSAL TINTS. MOST PAINT STORES THAT MIX AND TINT THEIR OWN PAINT WILL MOST TIMES SELL THE PIGMENTS AT A NOMINAL COST. PAINT TO PLASTER IS A 1 -1 RATIO, THUS CLARIFY WHETHER YOU ARE WORKING WITH A 1-GALLON AMOUNT OR 5-GALLON AMOUNT. IF A NEARLY MONOCHROMATIC FINISH WITH ONLY SLIGHT MOTTLING IS DESIRED THEN JUST ONE COLOR IN THE SECOND LAYER OF BASECOAT SHOULD BE USED. MAKE SURE TO WORK ALL OF THE TROWEL MARKS OUT, MAKING THE SURFACE FLAT AND CLEAN TO ACCEPT THE FINISHCOAT. THE FINISHCOAT IS TO BE ONLY A FEW SHADES LIGHTER THAN THE BASECOAT OR AN EXACT MATCH IN TERMS OF HUE AND COLORATION TO THE UNDERLYING BASECOAT.

WHEN MIXING YOUR OWN COLORS WITH MASTER OF PLASTER USE A HALF INCH ELECTRIC DRILL AND PADDLE MIXER. AFTER MIXING, THE MATERIAL WILL BE LOOSE AND IF LET TO SIT FOR 12 OR MORE HOURS THE MATERIAL WILL THICKEN BACK UP TO A CONSISTENCY THAT IS EASIER TO WORK ON THE WALL.

## COVERAGE:

BASECOAT: 155 – 175 SQ. FT. PER 5 GALLON PAIL.

FINISHCOAT: 485 – 540 SQ. FT. PER 5 GALLON PAIL.

MASTER OF PLASTER IS MEANT TO BE APPLIED IN THIN COATS OF APPLICATION. TWO COATS OF BASECOAT AND ONE COAT OF FINISH SHOULD NOT BE MUCH THICKER THAN A CREDIT CARD WIDTH. IF APPLIED IN EXTREMELY THIN LAYERS THEN THE HIGHER COVERAGE WILL BE ACHIEVED. SINCE *MASTER OF PLASTER* IS APPLIED SO THIN THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT LOSING DETAIL ON CORNICES AND CASEWORK.

## DRYING TIME:

FOR BEST RESULTS, 4 TO 6 HOURS DRYING TIME AT TEMPERATURES ABOVE 50 DEGREES IS RECOMMENDED BETWEEN COATS. IT IS BEST TO ALLOW UP TO A FULL DAY'S DRYING TIME BUT THE TIMING DEPENDS UPON HUMIDITY LEVELS AND TEMPERATURES. A HOT, DRY HEAT WILL SPEED UP THE DRYING TIME WHILE A COLD, DAMP ENVIRONMENT WILL SLOW DOWN THE PROCESS. ALWAYS INSPECT THE ENTIRE WALL TO BE SURE OF COMPLETE HARDENING.

## SEALANTS:

MANY TIMES A SEALANT WILL BE USED OVER TOP OF THE FINAL VENETIAN PLASTER WALL IF THE WALL IS IN AN AREA EXPOSED TO CONTINUOUS WATER (A BATHROOM SHOWER WALL OR A KITCHEN SINK BACKDROP) OR FOR FURTHER SHEEN AND GLOSS. A SEALANT IS NOT NECESSARY AND IS NOT



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RECOMMENDED HOWEVER IF YOU CHOOSE TO GO THIS ROUTE WE SUGGEST AN ALL NATURAL WAX SUCH AS A BEESWAX WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED IN EITHER A WAX OR LIQUID FORM. FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURER, USING A CLOTH OR BRUSH TOWEL TO BUFF THE WALL/CEILING WITH THE WAX USING SMALL CIRCULAR MOTIONS TO ACHIEVE A UNIFORM APPLICATION.

### CLEAN UP:

WASH TOOLS WITH WATER. WIPE DRY TO PREVENT RUSTING.

### STORAGE:

KEEP CONTAINERS TIGHTLY CLOSED. AFTER MATERIAL HAS BEEN REMOVED, REPLACE COVER. TO PRESERVE REMAINING MATERIAL AT THE END OF A PROJECT SCRAPE SIDES OF BUCKET AND COVER WITH A THIN LAYER OF WATER. THE UNUSED MATERIAL WILL KEEP FOR UP TO TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THESE PRACTICES.

SHELF LIFE OF UNOPENED MATERIAL IS 3 YEARS. DO NOT STORE OUTSIDE. KEEP OUT OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT. PROTECT FROM FREEZING.

### CAUTION:

MASTER OF PLASTER WAS DESIGNED **NOT** TO BE SANDED. THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS MICA. LONG TERM BREATHING OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF MICA DUST MAY CAUSE LUNG DISEASE. DO NOT SAND. USE OF SAFETY GLASSES IS RECOMMENDED. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

### LIABILITY:

WE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SUSTAINED, NOR FOR ANY LOSS CAUSED BY APPLICATION OF THESE GOODS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS OR FOR OTHER THAN INTENDED USE. OUR LIABILITY IS EXPRESSLY LIMITED TO REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE GOODS.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPLICATION ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THE SELECTION OF OUR PRODUCTS AND DO NOT ESTABLISH A DETERMINED RELATIONSHIP. IN PARTICULAR, THEY DO NOT RELEASE THOSE BOTH PURCHASING AND APPLYING THE MATERIALS FROM THE DUTY OF ESTABLISHING FOR THEMSELVES, WITH DUE CARE, THE SUITABILITY OF OUR PRODUCTS FOR THE INTENDED APPLICATION. STANDARD BUILDING INDUSTRY PRACTICES MUST ALWAYS BE COMPLIED WITH. MASTER OF PLASTER RETAINS THE RIGHT TO ADJUST AND MODIFY THE PRODUCTS OR THEIR APPLICATION.



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