

## Product Data Sheet PDS1

### Polished Plaster P01, P20, P30, P66

#### 1 Product Description

Armourcoat polished plaster is a natural mineral material composed of hydrated lime, crushed marble and cement combined with special additives to control working characteristics.

Although essentially the same composition, the four base colours (P01, P20, P30 & P66) are made up from different proportions of white, yellow, red and green crushed marble powders.

This means a range of natural stone coloured finishes can be achieved without the addition of any pigment.

Armourcoat polished plaster is a versatile material and can be used to create a wide range of surface finish effects including Smooth, Pitted, Dragged, Travertine and many others.

#### 2 Properties

- Natural mineral material.
- Contains no VOC's.
- Powder product unaffected by frost.
- Pot life 4-6 hours.
- Wide range of finishes achievable.
- Wide range of colours available.
- Good workability in a wide range of site conditions.
- Good water vapour permeability.
- Completely non-combustible as supplied or when applied.

#### 3 Health and Safety

Armourcoat polished plaster is a powdered product and a dust mask should always be worn when mixing or handling the product. The product contains hydrated lime and cement that will act as an irritant. Wear protective clothing, gloves and eye protection, and if contact occurs wash immediately with soap and water.

#### 4 Suitable Substrates

Armourcoat polished plaster can be applied to any backing that is firm and true and will not crack however, in our experience the best substrates to work onto are taped and jointed plasterboard and freshly plastered walls that are fully dry.

Never attempt to apply Armourcoat polished plaster over wallpaper or lining paper and great care should be taken on surfaces that are already decorated.

Armourcoat polished plaster can be applied to existing, painted surfaces provided the paint is well adhered to the wall.

A flat or true substrate is vital to achieve high quality results as any bumps or imperfections may show up in the finished surface.

Whilst Armourcoat polished plaster will bond adequately to MDF, great care should be taken when using it as a substrate as it will tend to crack along any joints. MDF may also swell and warp. Armourcoat have full specification sheets for all types of substrate.

#### 5 Mixing Instructions

Always wear a dust mask or respirator when mixing Armourcoat polished plaster. Armourcoat polished plaster is packed in 18 kg sacks as a dry premix.

Pigments are packed into small plastic screw top bottles and are combined with the plaster at the point of mixing.

- Pour the content of the pigment pot into the 30 litre mixing drum. Fill the pigment container with water and flush out any left over pigment.
- The total water requirement for an 18 kg drum is 7.2 – 7.5 litres of water.
- If the finish is textured, pour in the 6 kg of marble granules supplied.
- Mix the pigment and water gently with the mixing paddle before adding the 18kg unit of plaster.
- Pour the plaster gently into the water / pigment mix and mix gently at first allowing the air to bubble out of the mix. Then increase the mixing speed of the drill and mix to a thick creamy lump free consistency.
- Leave the material to stand for 5-10 minutes and then mix once again before applying to the wall.

High pigment loading and excessive mixing can lead to entrapment of micro-fine air bubbles in the material which will reduce its density and hardness, and in extreme cases lead to blistering and delamination of the product.

When large quantities of pigment are being mixed with the material, it is advisable to mix the plaster with plain water to a thick consistency before adding the pigment. This will significantly reduce the level of air entrapment. See Advice Sheet AS4.

#### 6 Application Instructions

- Mix and apply Keycoat (K124 or K149) over a layer of K40 primer.
- Scrape over the dry Keycoat to remove any small lumps or trowel lines, paying special attention at the corners or the interface with other surfaces.
- Apply the plaster in a small area at a time (~ 1 m<sup>2</sup>), working the material into the Keycoat and trowel in all directions.

- Leave the first layer until it is no longer tacky, and the surface feels firm to the touch. This may take from 30 – 90 minutes depending upon site temperature and humidity.
- Take a small quantity of material onto the trowel and work it into the first layer. Repeat this process progressively over the wall, occasionally dropping back onto the areas already patterned, to trowel down smooth.
- Once the entire wall has been patterned, clean off the trowel and work over the surface with the trowel at about 45 degrees to remove any excess fatty material and fill any imperfections in the surface.
- Trowel over the wall every 15 – 20 minutes until the surface is smooth and polished.
- Leave the surface to dry for 2-3 days.
- Apply wax as required.

Armourcoat polished plaster is a natural mineral material and if left in its natural state will allow the substrate to breathe.

If protection against dirt and spillage is required, it can be waxed with Armourcoat White Wax or Aquawax. See product data sheets for White Wax or Aquawax.

**7. Test Data**

**Tests were carried out on samples of Smooth polished plaster, which had been treated with Armourcoat White Wax as per application instructions.**

**7.1 Pencil Hardness**

Samples were tested in accordance with ASTM D 3363 using a set of Berol turquoise hardness pencils.

Sample	
Pencil hardness	5H+

**7.2 Shore D Hardness**

A test panel of polished plaster X 0081 was tested for hardness using an Elcometer 3120 Shore Durometer D. An average of 5 readings was taken. Tests were carried out at 23°C and 35% RH.

Sample	X 0081
Shore D Hardness	60

**7.3 Scrub Resistance**

The following performance test was performed by an American laboratory and consequently, the results are quoted to American Standard Modified ASTM D 2486 – 79.

10 grams of scrub medium and 5 grams of water were applied to the brush. The test was halted after 10,000 cycles. **After 10,000 cycles the polished plaster had not worn through to the undercoat.**

**The lab considers that for a wall coating, ARMOURCOAT polished plaster is exceptionally hard.**

**7.4 Compressive Strength**

Armourcoat polished plaster 28N/mm<sup>2</sup>

**7.5 Impact Test**

Samples were tested using the Gardner Impact Resistance Test in accordance with ASTM D 2794. The test procedure utilised a 4lb weight in a 36” guide tube with a 0.5” diameter hemispherical indenter.

Sample	
Forward Impact	2 inch - pounds

Please note that the material is very hard and failure is usually due to the deformation of the substrate which in this case was a medium density particle board.

**7.6 VOC Testing**

A sample of Armourcoat polished plaster was tested for VOC following procedures outlined in ASTM D3960 “Standard Practise for Determining Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Content of Paints and Related Coatings.”

Sample	VOC (grams/litre)	VOC (Lbs/Gal)
Armourcoat polished plaster	0	0

**Testing was carried out by an Accredited American testing laboratory.**

## 7.7 Fire Test Results

### 7.7.1 British Fire Test Results

BS 476: Part 6: 1989

Fire propagation index,1	0.3
Subindex,i1	0.1
Subindex,i2	0.0
Subindex,i3	0.2

BS476: Part7: 1997

Class 1 surface spread of flame.

**ARMOURCOAT polished plaster complies with requirements for CLASS 0 AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH a12(B) of Approved Document B, 'Fire Safety', to the Building Regulations 1991.**

### 7.7.2 American Fire Test Results

Test carried out in accordance with the procedure outlined in ASTM E84 – 98, "Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials"

Fire Spread Index	10
Smoke Spread Index	10
<b>Flame Spread Classification</b>	<b>Class 1</b>

## 8 Coverage Rates

Armourcoat polished plaster is supplied in 18 kg bags.  
 Coverage rates: ~ 1.8 – 2 kg/m<sup>2</sup> applied in 2 coats.  
 See customer material requirements and coverage guide for full details on all finishes.

## 9 Storage

Polished plaster has a 12 month shelf life under good storage conditions.

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**Armourcoat Limited**  
 Morewood Close London Road  
 Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2HU United Kingdom  
 Tel: +44 (0)1732 460 668 Fax +44 (0)1732 450 930  
 Email: technical@armourcoat.co.uk

web: [www.armourcoat.com](http://www.armourcoat.com)