

Lime Green: Roman Stucco Classic Finish

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Roman Stucco is a traditional, elegant render for commonly used on Georgian and Victorian town houses. Made with an original Roman Cement, our Roman Stucco can be used to mimic stone and create formal classical stucco style facades. Ideal for rusticated or ashlar lined facades, columns and cornices and other highly decorative styles.

Description

For use on external masonry walls and backgrounds which have been suitably prepared (see below). Stuccos were used in place of lime render on formal town houses and buildings throughout the 18th and 19th centuries as they gave the ability to create complex shapes and textures rapidly while still maintaining good breathability and elasticity. Fast setting allows work to be finished rapidly and thick layers to be built out.

Colour

Various from light grey / ochre to dark colours. Roman Stucco in common with all Roman Cements can develop a rusty patina as it weather. See colour chart for more details.

Textures

The product is supplied in one texture which can be varied by the plasterer; see the information below. Fine, closed in finishes are possible, as are rustic textured finishes. Skilled plasterers can also mimic stone-like surfaces.

Performance

Roman Stucco Classic Finish is extensively tested in the lab and real world.

- Final Compressive Strength is 2 to 5 N/mm²
- Vapour Permeability (μ) is 8 to 12 depending on the degree it is smoothed in during plastering.

Packaging

Packed in 20kg valve sacks, 40 per pallet.

Storage

Store in a dry, draft free area free from any damp. Shelf life is 6 months. Use bags within 2 days once open.

Coverage

Each bag will cover approximately 3m² at 5mm thick. Allow for 1.6kg of dry powder per mm of thickness over 1m².

Mixing

Add between 5 and 6 litres of clean water per 20kg sack and mix until a smooth creamy consistency is reached. Water and materials should be stored and used between 5°C and 25°C.

Preparation & Application

Backgrounds should be porous, clean and dust free before starting. Apply using a hawk and trowel or suitable spray machine. The required thickness and method will vary depending on the background. Stucco is fast setting and work will normally be broken up with ashlar lining or pre-planned daywork joints. Roman Stucco Finish Coat should be applied to the damp undercoat while it is still “green”, there is no need for long drying times between coats. For old, dry backgrounds a primer will help control suction.

- **Brick or stone masonry:** should first have a coat of Roman Stucco Undercoat applied (and an appropriate primer / splatterdash before that if required on cast concrete or waterproofed masonry etc). Ensure the undercoat has a light key and apply the Classic Finish while it is still ‘green’, typically within 1 to 3 days. The undercoat must be level and flat, do not use finish to build out or level inconsistencies. Apply the finish approximately 5mm thick.
- **Old roman cement stuccos :** remove any paint or other residues. Old stuccos are often crazed in the surface but if it is well bonded and the cracks are not live it may be reskimmed. The paint and old finish coats can be removed with an appropriate surface restoration grinder (e.g. Festool). Once the old background is stripped back prime it with Silc8 MPL1 primer the day beforehand.
- **Running in situ:** apply over Roman Stucco undercoat working green-on-green to build out.
- **Woodwool:** lightly damp with a mist of clean water. Apply a pass of approximately 5mm, then push in 910 Mesh in vertical strips with a 10% overlap. Apply a second pass of a further 5mm straight away, or within 24 hours. Do not allow the first pass to dry before applying the second.

Finishing

Different appearances are possible with the use of different techniques by the applicator, depending on the desired finish.

- The smoothest finish requires the most work, and the finish must not be polished hard. Apply the Roman Stucco Classic Finish on the wall and straight edge then leave it to pull in and firm up. Once it is firm enough, work over the surface with a very wet orange sponge float, bringing up the fat. Shortly after close the surface back in with a flexible plastic trowel.
- For a lightly textured finish, apply as above but use a wood float or polyurethane float to finish.
- For a rustic finish, apply as above and straighten off. Allow to pull in before lightly working over with a damp sponge to create a textured finish. A circular action will create a very rustic patina and a more methodical straight, repetitive sweep with the sponge will look more uniform.
- For a stone-like appearance, allow the coat to pull in before lightly sponging in straight sweeps left to right, bringing up the texture to a heavy gritty finish. Allow to harden a little further before using a float to create a tight grained finish with a flat surface.

Product Data

- For the coarsest finish spray or cast the coat on and leave it as is. It may also be partly closed in lightly with a trowel over the top.

Further Coats

When running or creating incredibly fine details a coat of Roman Stucco VF may be applied approximately 1mm thick or less, for a very crisp finish.

If painting, allow the Roman Stucco to dry. Consult the paint manufacturer for drying time, but typically it would be around 1 week per 5mm of render.

Aftercare

Apply in temperatures above 3°C and below 25°C, keeping the stucco damp while it cures. Do not force dry or allow strong sun or wind to rapidly dry it. Instead allow the stucco to slowly dry out over 3 to 10 days.

Cleaning & Disposal

Clean tools with plenty of water. Dry powder should be vacuumed up using a machine with appropriate filters. Wear PPE and wash off skin immediately – see the SDS for further details.

The product is covered by the regulations on hazardous waste. Dispose of contents/container to an approved waste disposal plant.

EWC Code

16 03 03* Inorganic wastes containing dangerous substances.

16 03 04 Inorganic wastes other than those mentioned in 16 03 03.

Composition

Made with Roman Cement from 19th century kilns, air lime, sands, citric acid retarder.

Disclaimer

Information is based on our latest knowledge and testing under controlled conditions. Variations on site due to different materials, building methods and designs, weather etc. may affect the outcome.