

**NEW**

*THISTLE*



Convenience  
plaster guide

**No job too small**





## The Convenience Range



### Thistle Undercoat Plaster

A base coat used to build up a suitable thickness of plaster before skim finishing with Thistle Finishing Plaster.

Suitable for use on a wide range of internal backgrounds, including brick, blockwork and most smooth or low-suction backgrounds.

Available in 7.5kg, 12.5kg and 20kg bags.

### Thistle Finishing Plaster

A finish coat that can be applied to a wide range of internal backgrounds, including Thistle Undercoat Plaster, plasterboard and sand and cement renders.

A fine plaster which dries to a smooth surface ready for decorating.

Can also be used for repairing damaged areas of plaster and plasterboard.

Available in 2.5kg, 7.5kg, 12.5kg and 20kg bags.



### Thistle One Coat Plaster

A versatile undercoat and finish in one, suitable for a range of internal surfaces, including brick, blockwork, plasterboard and concrete.

Can be built up in stages (approx. 8mm) up to 25mm thickness.

Provides a white matt finish for easy decoration.

Available in 2.5kg, 7.5kg, 12.5kg and 20kg bags.

## Just select the plaster you need

Use this table to help you choose the correct plaster for the background you're working on. The figures indicate the recommended coat thickness in millimetres.

When making repairs, build up the level to that of the surrounding surface, in a series of thin coats, not exceeding the recommended maximum thickness.

Normal thickness of Thistle Undercoat Plaster is 11mm to walls and not exceeding 8mm to ceilings, plus 2mm of Thistle Finishing Plaster.

### Plaster selector guide

	Thistle Undercoat Plaster	Thistle Finishing Plaster	Thistle One Coat Plaster
Common bricks	11mm		11mm
Engineering brick (raked joint)	11mm		11mm
Medium density block	11mm		11mm
Dense block	11mm*		11mm*
Plasterboard	8mm*	2mm*	8mm*
Cast in situ/precast concrete	11mm		11mm
Flat, smooth concrete		2mm*	
Damp undercoat plaster (e.g. finished same day)		2mm	
Dry undercoat plaster (e.g. finished after leaving overnight)		2mm†	

\* ThistleBond-it bonding agent may be required, needed on moisture resistant plasterboards.  
† Dampen background first.

### Thistle DIY Plastering Kits

All-in-one plastering kits, available in 5kg and 7.5kg sizes, including the tools you need for a professional finish. Both conveniently contained within its own mixing bucket, complete with water marks to ensure the perfect mix. And should the job be larger than planned, simply top up with additional bags of Thistle One Coat Plaster.



The 5kg Thistle DIY Plastering Kit contains a filling knife, plaster smoother, sheet of sandpaper, mixing bucket and 5kg of Thistle One Coat Plaster.

The 7.5kg Thistle DIY Plastering Kit contains a trowel, plaster smoother, sheet of sandpaper, mixing bucket and 7.5kg of Thistle One Coat Plaster.

# Thistle make it so much easier

## Preparation & mixing

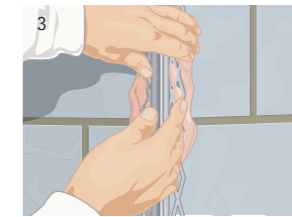


A good job needs sound preparation. Begin by brushing down the surface to be plastered to remove any dust and loose material. Next, to ensure good adhesion, dampen the surface just before plastering.

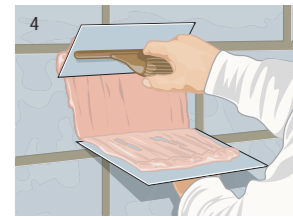


Mixing must only be carried out using a clean bucket and tools. Sprinkle plaster into clean cold water and mix until thick and creamy.

## 2-coat plastering

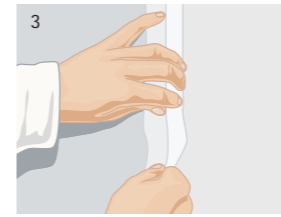


Use Thistle Angle Bead for a professional finish on external corners, using dabs of plaster to fix in place and ensuring the bead is vertically plumb before allowing to dry.



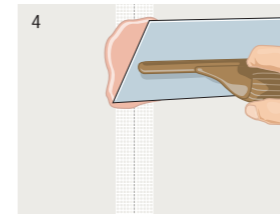
Apply Thistle Undercoat Plaster to a thickness of approx. 11mm on masonry and between 5-8mm on plasterboards, using a firm upward stroke.

## Skimming onto plasterboard



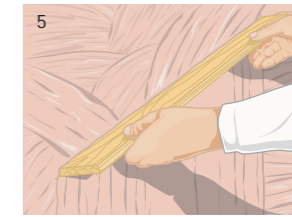
Use Gyproc Corner Tape to reinforce external corners. Apply plaster along both sides of the corner and bed the tape firmly into the plaster.

For internal corners, again apply plaster to both sides of the corner, then taking Gyproc Joint Tape, crease down the centre fold and bed the tape firmly into the plaster.



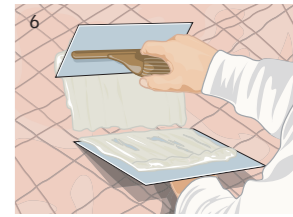
For flat joints between plasterboards reinforce with Thistle ProTape. This self-adhesive fibre tape can be applied with no pre-filling.

Alternatively Gyproc Joint Tape can be firmly bedded into plaster on flat joints.

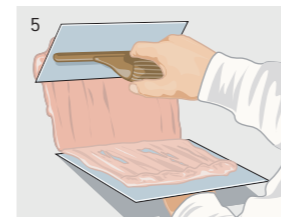


Level the plaster with a straight edge, working from bottom to top then side to side, filling and re-leveling any hollows that appear.

Prior to setting, ensure the surface is adequately scored to provide a 'key' to help adhesion of the finishing plaster.



After 2-3 hours, when the undercoat plaster should be set but not dry, apply Thistle Finishing Plaster to a thickness of 1mm. Then immediately add a second coat to a total thickness of 2mm.



Apply Thistle Finishing Plaster to a thickness of 1mm over the plasterboard and all the taped joints, then immediately add a second coat to give an overall thickness of 2mm.



Once the Finishing Plaster starts to harden, dampen lightly with clean water and polish over with a trowel for a smooth flat finish.



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### Plastering note:

Although the steps above show how to plaster new walls, other jobs such as patching and repairs can be achieved using some or all of the same techniques.

**THISTLE**  
PLASTER PRODUCTS

## Frequently asked questions

**Q.** What is the best way to mix plaster?

**A.** Always add clean water to the bucket first, this will help prevent lumps forming. Then add the plaster into the water and either mix by hand or using a mechanical mixer (being careful not to over work), getting the plaster to a smooth creamy consistency.

**Q.** My plaster sets too quickly, what can I do to prolong the working time?

**A.** The most common cause of plaster setting too quickly is through contamination. Ensure all tools, including the bucket are thoroughly cleaned and only use clean water when mixing. Also check how long the plaster bag has been opened, as this can reduce setting time.

**Q.** I want to use Thistle One Coat Plaster rather than an undercoat and finish, are there any changes to the application method given overleaf?

**A.** Follow the two-coat plastering method, applying Thistle One Coat Plaster up to the recommended thickness. When the plaster has sufficiently stiffened, further ruling with the straight edge will be required to achieve a flat surface. Then scour the surface lightly with a sponge float or sponge and a light application of water (if necessary) to raise the fat to the surface, trowel smooth. Before the plaster sets a final trowel is required.

**Q.** How do I avoid cracking around my joints?

**A.** To minimise the risk of cracking, it is important to ensure that plaster is pushed through the tape well into any gaps between the boards. Gyproc Joint Tape provides superior crack resistance than fibre tape on flat joints.

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## Glossary

### Key

The roughness of a surface which enables plaster to make a mechanical bond. Typically a wood or plastic float containing panel pins to a protrusion of 1-2mm will be suitable to create a key.

### Straight Edge

Wood or metal edge, used to level out plaster.

### Thistle Angle Bead

A metal angle used to reinforce external corners.

### Set

When the plaster is firm to the touch but is not dry.

### Fat

Small grains that are brought to the surface using Thistle One Coat Plaster, these are then trowelled back into the plaster to achieve a smooth surface.

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