

COMPOUNDS

PRODUCTS AND APPLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Boral Gypsum and USG Corporation have joined forces to become market leaders across Asia, Australasia and the Middle East, transforming the two companies into a world-leading building products business, USG Boral Building Products (USG Boral).

At USG Boral, we believe the best innovations start with a purpose – a focus on why the innovation is needed and who will benefit from it. Our focus is to deliver innovations that help you work smarter, do more and build better. Through an ever-growing portfolio of groundbreaking products backed by unparalleled service, we empower our customers to grow their business, much the same way you build cities and communities the world over. We do so by investing in purposeful innovation, expanding into different markets and constantly searching for new ways to increase performance and productivity.

This commitment to innovation and focus on you, our customer, is inspired by a desire to enable architects, contractors and workers alike to improve the way we live by changing the way buildings are designed and built.

COMPOUNDS

USG Boral manufactures and supplies an extensive range of high-quality and consistent products including joint compounds, adhesives and plasters to suit all types of applications. These range from adhering plasterboard to timber or metal studs, plasterboard jointing to fixing cornices.

For easy reference, we have put the products under the typical applications they were formulated for:

- Joint compounds
- Adhesives & specialty plasters

All USG Boral joint compounds, adhesives and plasters are manufactured to stringent USG Boral product quality specifications and have a shelf life of up to 12 months.



1ST COAT



2ND COAT



FINISHING COAT



HAND & MECHANICAL TOOLS



SANDABLE



X-RAY RESISTANT



PATCHING



BONDING



SPRAY APPLICATION



SKIM COATING



WET AREA



ROLLER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 JOINT COMPOUNDS	4
1.1 BEDDING & BASE JOINT COMPOUNDS	8
1.2 FINISHING JOINT COMPOUNDS	10
1.3 ALL PURPOSE COMPOUNDS	12
1.4 PRIMERS	12
1.5 PATCHING COMPOUNDS	13
1.6 X-RAY	13
2.0 ADHESIVES & SPECIALTY PLASTERS	14
2.1 ADHESIVES & BONDING COMPOUNDS	18
2.2 WET AREA COMPOUNDS	19
2.3 SPECIALTY PLASTERS	20
2.4 SKIM COMPOUNDS	21
3.0 JOINT SYSTEMS	22
3.1 SETTING COMPOUNDS	24
3.2 AIR-DRYING COMPOUNDS	24
3.3 JOINTING TAPES	24
3.4 JOINTING SYSTEM	25
3.5 COVERAGE	25
4.0 LEVELS OF FINISH	26
4.1 LEVEL 3	26
4.2 LEVEL 4	26
4.3 LEVEL 5	26
5.0 FRAMING TOLERANCES	27

1.0 JOINT COMPOUNDS

USG Boral manufactures and supplies an extensive range of high-quality and consistent joint compounds including bedding and base compounds, finishing compounds, cornice adhesives, all-purpose to patching and skim compounds to transform your plasterboard joints, angles and fastener heads into one seamless surface.

USG Boral recommends the use of a 3 coat joint system for all plasterboard joints with high quality paper tape such as SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape. Paper tape must be used in all fire rated applications, wet area applications and where drying type compounds are used for jointing.

BEDDING & BASE COMPOUNDS

USG Boral's range of bedding and base compounds ensures contractors have the right compound for the right application and environmental conditions. For contractors preferring the use of mechanical tools, use longer working time BaseCote™ 90 and Easy Sand™ 90; or if there is a preference for air-drying type joint compounds then consider our SHEETROCK® Taping Joint Compound or RediBase™. The advantage of using air-drying joint compounds, especially under hot and dry conditions is that it reduces the risk of a premature dry-out associated with plaster-based compounds.

FINISHING COMPOUNDS

USG Boral's range of ready-mix finishing compounds are air-drying type compounds suitable for final coating plasterboard and FIBEROCK® joints. The range is based on contractors' sanding hardness preferences ranging from moderate sanding hardness of FinalCote®, easy sanding of LiteFinish™, to light sanding of UltraLightweight and Total Lite™ finishing compounds. Under mechanical sanding, it is preferable to use a higher sanding hardness finishing compound such as FinalCote® or LiteFinish™.

ALL PURPOSE & PATCHING

USG Boral All Purpose Premix and SHEETROCK® Easy Sand™ 5 & 20 setting type patching compounds are suitable for use as all three coats in the USG Boral 3 coat jointing system. SHEETROCK® Easy Sand™ 5 or 20 is suitable for quick patch ups, maintenance jobs or small renovation work.



		Bedding & Base				Finishing Compounds		Finishing Compounds			Primer	All Purpose	Patching	X-RAY	
		Easy Sand™ 45 Easy Sand™ 90	BaseCote™ 45 BaseCote™ 60 BaseCote™ 90	Taping Joint Compound	RediBase™ (Premix Base)	Ultra Lightweight	Total Lite™	LiteFinish™	FinalCote®	TopCote 550®	Tuff-Hide™ Primer- Surfacer	All Purpose Premix	Easy Sand™ 5 Easy Sand™ 20	GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound Note 4	
JOINTING	IST COAT	✓	✓	✓ Note 3	✓ Note 3							✓ Note 3	✓	✓ Note 3	
	2ND COAT	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
	FINISHING COAT					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
	PRIMER COAT										1 COAT = Skim + Primer				
SYSTEMS	MECHANICAL TOOLS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Spray/May be rolled on	✓		✓	
	FIRE RATED - Note 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
	WET AREA	✓ Note 2	✓ Note 2	✓ Note 2	✓ Note 2										
	CURING TYPE	Setting/Powder	Setting/Powder	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	Setting/Powder	Air-Drying/ Ready Mix	
	WORKING TIMES	ES45 = 30mins ES90 = 60mins	45, 60 or 90 mins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 or 20 mins	Air-Drying / Powder	
	PRODUCT SIZE	16kg bag	20kg bag 10kg available for BC45	22kg carton	18kg pail	17kg pail	21kg pail	18kg pail	20kg pail	20kg pail	18.9L / 30kg pail	18kg pail	8.1kg bag	25kg bag	
	SCRAPE BACK	Easy to scrape	Scrape while green	-	Easy to scrape	-	-	-	-	-	-	Easy to scrape	Easy to scrape	Easy to scrape	
	SANDING		-	-	-	-	Very light sanding	Very light sanding	Light sanding	Easy sanding	Easy to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	-
							180-220 grit	180-220 grit	180-220 grit	180 grit	150-180 grit	150-180 grit	150-180 grit	150-180 grit	
	COMPOUND TYPE	Powder	Powder	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Ready Mix	Powder	Powder	
COLOUR	White	Off-White	White	Off-White	Pale Yellow	Light Yellow	Light Yellow	Light Yellow	Off-White	Off-White	Matt White	Off-White	White	Brown	

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Note 1 - Fire Rated
Paper tape must be used in fire-rated applications. (e.g SHEETROCK® Brand Paper Joint Tape).

Note 2 - Wet Area
USG Boral base compounds can be used if a waterproofing membrane installed by a specialist contractor and complying with the requirements of AS4858 Wet Area Membranes is applied over the whole face of Wet Area walls. Paper tape must be used in wet area applications. (e.g SHEETROCK® Brand Paper Joint Tape).

Note 3
Paper tape must be used with air-drying type compounds when jointing. (e.g SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape).

Note 4 - X Ray
GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound is specifically designed to give lead equivalent joints on walls and ceilings when using GIB X-Block® Plasterboard. GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound must be applied to all joints including inner layer joints of 2 or more layer systems. Paper tape must be used for jointing and at least 2 coats of GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound should be applied to prevent penetration of X-Rays at Joints. Joints can be finished with any of the USG Boral premium finishing compounds. GIB X-Block Jointing Compound is an air-drying type compound so ensure each coat has thoroughly dried before applying the next coat.

1.1

BEDDING & BASE JOINT COMPOUNDS - CHEMICALLY SETTING



1.1.1 SHEETROCK® EASY SAND™ 45/90

SHEETROCK® Easy Sand™ is a lightweight setting compound suitable for taping and second coating internal plasterboard joints, angles and spotting fastener heads.

Ideal for heavy fills, Easy Sand™ provides low shrinkage and superior bond to paper tape. It is available in 30 and 60 minute working times.

Use SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape or equivalent to achieve high strength joint.

ADVANTAGES

- Lightweight formula - approx. 20% lighter than BaseCote™
- Easy application - light creamy gauge suitable for mechanical tool applications
- Low shrinkage
- High bond strength

Easy Sand™ Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	ES45 - 30 min ES90 - 60 min
Compound Type	Setting/Powder
Packaging	16kg bag
VOC	N/A



1.1.2 BASECOTE™ 45/60/90

BaseCote™ is a plaster-based, setting-type compound formulated for bedding of plasterboard joints, angles and spotting fastener heads.

It is suitable for taping and second coating over SHEETROCK® and FIBEROCK® surfaces and coating externals due to low shrinkage. Available in consistent 45, 60, and 90 minute working times.

Use SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape or equivalent to achieve high strength joint.

ADVANTAGES

- Consistent working times
- Mixes easily to a smooth and creamy gauge
- Excellent consistency in working times means BaseCote™ is suitable for mechanical applications
- Easy scrape back
- Excellent joint filling with superior adhesion, high strength and low shrinkage

BaseCote™ Specifications

Colour	Off-White
Working time	Available in 45, 60 and 90 min
Compound Type	Setting/Powder
Packaging	20kg bag, 10kg bag (BC45).
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

1.1

BEDDING & BASE JOINT COMPOUNDS - AIR DRYING



1.1.3 REDIBASE™

RediBase™ is a premixed, drying type base compound formulated for use in hot and dry environments. The use of drying type compounds in hot and dry conditions reduces the risk of premature dry out associated with plaster-based compounds.

Paper tape must be used in the recommended 3 coat joint system such as using SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape or equivalent.

ADVANTAGES

- Drying type compound specially formulated for use in hot and dry environments
- Premixed and ready to use
- Time saving - minimal mixing and cleaning of tools
- Particularly suitable for sites with limited water access

RediBase™ Specifications

Colour	Off-White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	18kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



1.1.4 SHEETROCK® TAPING JOINT COMPOUND

SHEETROCK® Taping Joint Compound is designed for embedding paper tapes and providing excellent paper tape adhesion. Blended to a creamy and smooth consistency, Taping Joint Compound provides excellent slip and workability making it suitable for use by hand or mechanical tools.

SHEETROCK® Taping Joint Compound is recommended for use in environments where conditions are hot and dry, water access is limited or where mechanical taping tools are used.

Paper tape must be used in the recommended 3 coat joint system such as using SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape or equivalent.

ADVANTAGES

- Available in a ready-mixed formulation
- Provides excellent slip for fast application; as a result, joint finishing is fast, easy, and smooth
- Provides excellent adhesion and superior bond for embedding paper joint tape

Taping Joint Compound Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	22kg carton
VOC	N/A

1.2 FINISHING JOINT COMPOUNDS - LIGHT TO EASY SANDING



1.2.1 SHEETROCK® ULTRALIGHTWEIGHT

SHEETROCK® UltraLightweight finishing compound is a lightweight, yellow tinted air-drying type compound specifically designed with the finishing contractor in mind. This compound allows greater control and accuracy with less fatigue at the end of the day. It is designed to be used in conjunction with Easy Sand™ or BaseCote™ jointing compounds.

SHEETROCK® UltraLightweight is up to 25% lighter than TopCote 550® and is one of the easiest sanding finishing compounds in our range.

ADVANTAGES

- Suitable for use as a second and finishing coat
- Excellent application slip and workability by hand or mechanical tools
- Low shrinkage
- Easy to sand
- Excellent surface for painting

UltraLightweight Specifications

Colour	Light Yellow
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	17kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



1.2.2 SHEETROCK® TOTAL LITE™

SHEETROCK® Total Lite finishing compound is a yellow tinted, lightweight air-drying compound specifically formulated to provide superior workability, including slick application, good open time, excellent coverage and easy sanding. It is suitable for use in conjunction with Easy Sand™ or BaseCote™ jointing compounds.

ADVANTAGES

- Suitable for use as a second and finishing coat
- Creamy compound with excellent body structure
- Excellent workability including better slip and pull
- Excellent coverage
- Low shrinkage
- Easy sanding
- Excellent surface for painting

Total Lite™ Specifications

Colour	Light Yellow
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	21kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



1.2.3 LITEFINISH™

LiteFinish™ finishing compound is a yellow tinted, lightweight, premixed, air-drying compound formulated to deliver excellent consistency, easy application for increased productivity, low shrinkage and good hiding power.

A creamy compound that maintains its body structure, it is suitable for hand tool and mechanical application.

For ease of sanding, LiteFinish™ would sit in the middle of our finishing compounds range.

ADVANTAGES

- Creamy finishing compound suitable for second and finishing coats
- Easy application by hand or with mechanical tools
- Excellent hiding
- Very easy to sand by hand or with mechanical sanding tools
- Smooth finish, excellent surface for painting

LiteFinish™ Specifications

Colour	Yellow
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	18kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

1.2 FINISHING JOINT COMPOUNDS - EASY TO MODERATE SANDING



1.2.4 FINALCOTE®

FinalCote® finishing compound is a premixed, air-drying compound developed for use as the ideal finishing coat for all plasterboard joints, angles and fastener heads. Designed to be used in conjunction with any of our base or all-purpose compounds, FinalCote® is an easier sanding product than our TopCote 550®.

ADVANTAGES

- Semi-lightweight finishing compound
- Easy application by hand or with mechanical tools
- Very easy to sand by hand or with mechanical sanding tools
- Smooth finish, excellent surface for painting

FinalCote® Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	20kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



1.2.5 TOPCOTE 550®

TopCote 550® is an economical finishing compound suitable for contractors who prefer a harder sanding finishing compound ideal for mechanical sanding. It has been developed for use as a finishing coat over plasterboard joints, angles and fastener heads and can be used in conjunction with any USG Boral base or all-purpose compounds.

TopCote 550® is the hardest sanding finishing compound in our range.

ADVANTAGES

- Economical grade, standard weight finishing compound
- Easy application by hand or with mechanical tools
- Excellent for mechanical tool sanding
- Smooth finish, excellent surface for painting

TopCote 550® Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	20kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

1.3 ALL PURPOSE COMPOUNDS



1.3.1 ALL PURPOSE PREMIX

All Purpose Premix compound (formerly LiteCote™) is an economical, air-drying, lightweight compound suitable for all three coat applications or as a finishing coat for all plasterboard joints, angles and fastener heads.

Paper tape must be used in the recommended 3 coat joint system such as using SHEETROCK® Paper Joint Tape or equivalent.

ADVANTAGES

- Semi-lightweight all-purpose or finishing compound
- May be used for all 3 coats or as a finishing coat
- Excellent workability, easy application by hand or with mechanical tools
- Minimal mixing and cleaning of tools
- Can be sanded by hand or with mechanical sanding tools
- Excellent surface for painting

All Purpose Premix Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time or longer in adverse climatic conditions
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	18kg re-sealable pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

1.4 PRIMERS



1.3.2 SHEETROCK® TUFF-HIDE™ LEVEL 5 PRIMER-SURFACER

USG Boral SHEETROCK® Tuff-Hide™ Level 5 Primer Surfacers is a dual-purpose vinyl, acrylic latex-based coating designed especially for interior application over new plasterboard including SHEETROCK® and FIBEROCK® surfaces. Prior to Tuff-Hide™ application, the default minimum surface finish would be Level 4 as per AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings – applications and finishing. Tuff-Hide™ may be tinted with up to 15ml per litre of universal colorants, and is recommended for use under deep tone paint colours. Paint after overnight drying. It is strongly recommended to apply a good quality sealer followed by a minimum of two coats of quality paint in accordance with the paint manufacturer's recommendations. For normal applications, standard paints can be used over Tuff-Hide™. For areas requiring greater durability and toughness, waterborne enamel is recommended as the finishing coat.

Formulated primarily for plasterboard application, Tuff-Hide™ can also be applied to other surfaces such as concrete, plaster, fibre cement, dressed timber and MDF.

ADVANTAGES

- In a single spray application it provides the same results achieved using a typical two-step process of skim coating surfaces with joint compound, followed by a coat of primer to provide a high quality finish
- Ideal for critical light areas and dark toned paints
- Can be sanded for a smoother finish
- Spray application preferred, however may be roller applied for smaller jobs
- Installed cost savings versus traditional separate applications of a skim coat and prime coat

Tuff-Hide™ Level 5 Specifications

Colour	Matt White
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	18.9L/30kg re-sealable pail
VOC	N/A

1.5 PATCHING COMPOUNDS



1.5.1 EASY SAND™ 5/20

SHEETROCK® Easy Sand™ 5 and 20 patching/joint compounds are chemically setting type compounds suitable for plasterboard interiors that permit same-day joint finishing and, typically, next-day decoration. Easy Sand™ 5 and 20 are both suitable for all three coat applications with easy sand for fast, smooth finishing.

SHEETROCK® Easy Sand™ 5 has a working time of approximately 8-12 minutes for patching applications requiring faster setting. Choose Easy Sand™ 20 for a longer working time of approximately 25 minutes.

ADVANTAGES

- Quick set
- Mixes easily to a creamy gauge
- Low shrinkage
- Can be polished when near set
- Lightly sand when dry to achieve a smooth finish
- Can be coated by USG Boral finishing compounds

Easy Sand™ 5/20 Specifications

Colour	White
Working time	Easy Sand™ 5 (8-12 min) Easy Sand™ 20 (25 min)
Compound Type	Setting/Powder
Packaging	8.1kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

1.6 X-RAY



1.6.1 X-BLOCK® JOINT COMPOUND

GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound is specifically formulated for use with GIB X-Block® plasterboard to give lead equivalent joints on interior walls and ceilings.

It is a powdered air-drying compound suitable for bedding of X-Block® plasterboard joints, angles, spotting fastener heads and filling in gaps to provide a uniform X-ray radiation barrier. Paper tape must be used for all jointing.

ADVANTAGES

- Eliminates the use of lead strips in backing joints
- Provides lead equivalent joints on internal walls and ceilings
- High strength joint with paper tape
- Compatible with USG Boral finishing compounds
- Identifiable by brown colour

GIB X-Block® Jointing Compound Specifications

Colour	Brown
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time
Compound Type	Air-Drying/Ready Mix
Packaging	25kg bag
VOC	N/A



2.0 ADHESIVES & SPECIALTY PLASTERS

USG Boral offers a range of plaster-based adhesives suitable for installing cornices, bonding plasterboard to masonry surfaces and for back-blocking ceiling and wall joints.

USG Boral also supplies a water-based stud adhesive for bonding plasterboard to timber and metal studs.

For specialty plasters, USG Boral offers a range of enhanced formula products ideal for applications from plaster craft replications, casting of moulds for dental and ceramic products, to skim compounds designed to provide a tough smooth surface over masonry.



Plaster-Based Adhesive				Acrylic Adhesive	Skim Compounds		Specialty Plasters			
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Cornice Adhesive 45
Cornice Adhesive 60



Back-Blocking Adhesive



Masonry Adhesive



PremiumBond™ Stud Adhesive



HardFinish & HardFinish WA



Diamond® Veneer Finish



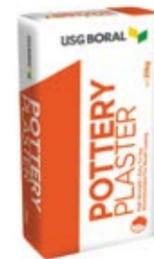
Casting Plaster



Ceraplast™



Dental Plaster



Pottery Plaster

APPLICATION	SUITABLE FOR	For bonding paper-faced and plaster cornices to plasterboard surfaces and reinforcing cornice joints.	Applying and adhering back blocks on ceiling and wall joints.	Bonding plasterboard sheets to masonry surfaces.	Bonding plasterboard to timber and metal framing	Skim coat plaster designed for use with lime to achieve a hard white surface on internal walls and ceilings.	Skim coat interior wall and ceiling surfaces to achieve a white smooth or textured finish.	Production of plaster craft replications. Medium hardness suitable for carving and turning.	Fine specialist plaster used to produce working or slipmoulds for ceramic products and sanitary wares.	Flashing and mounting dental models.	Fine specialist plaster used in slip moulds for ceramic pieces, plaster models and craft replicas.
	BONDING	✓	✓	✓	✓						
	PATCHING	✓									
	SKIM COAT					✓	✓				
	PLASTER MOULDS							✓	✓	✓	✓
	COMPOUND TYPE	Setting	Setting	Setting	Air-Drying	Setting	Setting	Setting	Setting	Setting	Setting
	WORKING TIMES	40 or 60 mins	120 mins	65 mins	–	35 mins or 70 mins (WA)	55 mins	25 mins	20 mins	5 mins	10 mins
	PRODUCT SIZE	20kg bag 10kg available for CA45	20kg bag	20kg bag	5.2kg/4L pail	20kg bag	22kg bag	20kg bag	20kg bag	20kg bag	20kg bag

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2.1 ADHESIVES & BONDING COMPOUNDS



2.1.1 BACK-BLOCKING ADHESIVE

Back-Blocking Adhesive is a plaster-based setting type compound specially formulated for back-blocking ceiling joints or wall joints. Back-blocking is a mandatory fixing practice described in AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings - application and finishing. Back-blocking reinforces plasterboard joints and minimises cracking and peaking resulting from building movement.

ADVANTAGES

- Long working time
- Mixes easily to a creamy, lump-free gauge
- Excellent wet tack
- Excellent adhesion and water retention
- Yellow pigmented

Back-Blocking Adhesive Specification

Colour	Yellow
Working time	Approx 120 min
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



2.1.2 CORNICE ADHESIVE 45/60

Cornice Adhesive is a plaster-based adhesive formulated for bonding paperfaced and plaster cornices to plasterboard surfaces and reinforcing joints in cornices. It can also be used for bonding other plaster decorative products, bonding back-blocks to plasterboard joints, laminating plasterboard sheets and caulking gaps in fire-rated wall constructions.

ADVANTAGES

- Mixes easily to a creamy, lump-free gauge
- Excellent wet tack
- High adhesion and high strength
- Readily accelerated for polishing of cornice joints

Cornice Adhesive Specification

Colour	White
Working time	Available in 45 and 60 min working times
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag, 10kg bag (CA45)
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



2.1.3 MASONRY ADHESIVE

Masonry Adhesive is a plaster-based adhesive formulated to bond plasterboard sheets to masonry, brick or concrete walls. Masonry Adhesive has high bond strength, offers a long setting time and is suitable for bonding to difficult surfaces.

ADVANTAGES

- Mixes easily to a creamy, lump-free gauge
- High body for ease of application
- Excellent wet tack
- High strength
- Excellent adhesion to difficult substrates

Masonry Adhesive Specification

Colour	Light Yellow
Working time	65 min working time
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre



2.1.4 PREMIUM BOND™ STUD ADHESIVE

Premium Bond™ Stud Adhesive is a water-based synthetic stud adhesive used for bonding plasterboard to timber and metal studs for wall and ceiling linings. Its buttery consistency is designed for easy no-slump application, fast grab and maximum adhesive transfer. It is suitable for a wide range of climates.

ADVANTAGES

- Easy to use
- Rapid tack
- Tough bond

Premium Bond™ Stud Adhesive Specification

Colour	Green
Working time	Minimum 24 hours drying time or longer in adverse climatic conditions
Compound Type	Air-Drying
Packaging	5.2kg/ 4L pail
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.2 WET AREA COMPOUNDS



2.2.1 WET AREA SEALANT

USG Boral Wet Area Sealant is an acrylic water-resistant sealant. The sealant remains flexible and is capable of total joint movement of 10%.

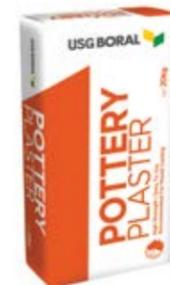
ADVANTAGES

- Flexible
- Water resistant
- Easy to apply

Wet Area Sealant Specification

Colour	White
Working time	24 hours drying time or longer in adverse climatic conditions
Compound Type	Air-Drying
Packaging	450g cartridge
VOC	N/A

2.3 | SPECIALTY PLASTERS



2.3.1 CASTING PLASTER

Casting Plaster is a general purpose plaster developed and manufactured for use in the production of plaster craft replications. Casting Plaster provides reproductions that are of medium hardness, making it suitable for carving and turning.

ADVANTAGES

- Medium hardness
- General purpose plaster

Casting Plaster Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	20-30 min knife set time
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.3.2 CERAPLAST™ PLASTER

Ceraplast™ is a plaster required for the casting of moulds for ceramic products and plastercraft replications.

ADVANTAGES

- Easy to use
- Short set time

Ceraplast™ Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	20 min
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.3.3 DENTAL PLASTER

Dental Plaster is used mainly for flashing and mounting dental models. It can be mixed with a harder dental stone to adjust setting time and increase in strength.

ADVANTAGES

- High strength
- Quick set time

Dental Plaster Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	5 min
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.3.4 POTTERY PLASTER

Pottery Plaster is a fine specialist plaster designed for use in the casting of moulds for ceramic products and plaster-craft replications. It is ideal for slip casting of statuary and sanitary ware, and for manufacturing compression moulds used in slab casting of tableware.

ADVANTAGES

- High strength
- Easy to use for mould casting
- Suitable for compression moulds

Pottery Plaster Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	10 min
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.4 | SKIM COMPOUNDS



2.4.1 HARDFINISH PLASTER

HardFinish Plaster is a general purpose product designed to provide a tough smooth abrasive-resistant finish over masonry, brick, concrete or rendered surfaces.

HardFinish Plaster is a setting compound designed to be mixed with lime to provide smooth and durable internal finish. It is free from inherent shrinkage and cracking and sets to a hard, white and blemish-free surface.

ADVANTAGES

- Easy to apply
- Smooth blemish-free surface
- Controlled set
- Low maintenance surface – tough abrasive resistant
- Excellent surface for decorating with paint or wallpaper

HardFinish Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	30 min or 70 min (WA)
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	20kg bag
VOC	Less than 50g per litre

2.4.2 DIAMOND® VENEER FINISH

A veneer finish designed to give economical walls and ceilings a strong, hard surface that resists abrasion and surface cracking.

Diamond® Veneer Finish is perfect for light commercial and residential construction. Diamond® Veneer Finish dries in as little as 24 hours and finishes smoothly.

ADVANTAGES

- Fast-applying – permits next day decorating
- Provides a smooth finish

Diamond® Veneer Finish Specification	
Colour	White
Working time	55 min
Compound Type	Setting
Packaging	22kg bag
VOC	N/A



3.0 JOINT SYSTEMS

USG Boral strongly recommends the use of the 3 coat jointing system using paper tape to achieve the best joint strength.

Where mesh or fibreglass tape is to be used, the joints must be reinforced by back-blocking as per AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings - applications and finishing. Paper jointing tape must be used in wet area and fire-rated applications and with air-drying type joint compounds.



3.1 SETTING COMPOUNDS

SETTING COMPOUNDS

Setting compounds are plaster-based products and develop strength by chemically setting. They can be applied with either hand or mechanical tools and generally provide a stronger joint than air-drying compounds.

DO

- Always use clean water, tools and containers
- Do not mix with residues of previously used compounds
- Always add powder to water, based on the mixing ratio
- Mix only enough product to meet your needs
- Mix by hand or with a power mixer (max of 400rpm) until a workable paste has been achieved
- Once setting has commenced the material cannot be remixed and must be discarded

AVOID

- Application of plaster-based setting compounds over premixed air-drying type compounds is not recommended
- On hot, windy days, where the risk of early dry-out exists, the use of air-drying taping compounds is recommended
- Under cold or wet conditions allow a longer dry time before applying the next coat

HOT & DRY CONDITIONS - SETTING COMPOUND DRY-OUTS

All setting-type compounds require water to set hard. If water is lost before the compound can set hard, then the setting-type compound will lose its strength and adhesion. To minimise setting compound dry-outs:

- Use lower setting time compounds in hotter and drier months or regions – e.g. BaseCote™ 45
- Use air-drying compounds such as RediBase™, SHEETROCK® Taping Joint Compound or All Purpose Premix for taping
- For taping machines ensure a minimum of 1-2mm of setting-type compounds are embedded under the tape during application

3.2 AIR-DRYING COMPOUNDS

AIR-DRYING COMPOUNDS

Air-drying compounds are vinyl-based premixed compounds that achieve strength by drying and hardening. May require 24 hours drying time between coats depending on weather conditions.

DO

- Surfaces must be clean and free from dust
- Air-drying compounds may have a high viscosity in the pail; it may be diluted to a workable viscosity by adding water followed by mechanical mixing
- Allow previous coat to dry thoroughly before applying the next coat

AVOID

- The application of air-drying type compounds at interior temperatures less than 10°C is not recommended. Under cold or wet weather conditions, allow more than 24 hours for thorough drying
- When diluting ready-mix compounds, do not vigorously over mix as this will introduce entrapped air which can result in surface imperfections
- Do not apply air-drying compounds over joints that are not thoroughly dry. Pinholes may result
- For all USG Boral finishing compounds, do not use sandpaper lower than 150 grit. Take care to avoid scratching when sanding
- The inclusion of other materials to a mix will impair the performance (e.g. reduced strength and poor adhesion) and void the product warranty

COLD & DAMP CONDITIONS - SLOW DRYING & SHRINKAGE

- Under cold and damp (high humidity) conditions, air-drying compounds will take longer to dry
- Air-drying compounds will continue to shrink until the compound has completely dried
- Ensure each coat of air-drying compound is dry before applying the next coat to minimise the risk of joint shrinkage
- Wet on wet application of air-drying compounds will delay the drying & shrinkage and may cause hollow joints, joint banding and tram lines along the plasterboard joints

3.3 JOINTING TAPES

Jointing tapes are used to provide reinforcement to plasterboard joints and angles.

USG Boral SHEETROCK® paper tape is a high strength special cross-fibre paper tape possessing exceptional wet strength and resisting stretching, wrinkling and tearing.

A wafer thin paper aids smooth finishing and the roughened surface produces a superior bond to jointing compounds. It is creased along the centre for application to angles.

Paper tape is recommended by USG Boral for jointing of gypsum wall and ceiling linings due to its high strength and suitability for all jointing compounds and applications.

Paper jointing tape must be used in wet area and fire rated applications and with air-drying type jointing compounds. USG Boral SHEETROCK® jointing tape is available in 75m and 150m x 52mm wide rolls.

NOTE:

As the two sides of paper tape are not identical, the outside of the roll should always be applied to the wet plaster compound to ensure the best adhesion.



3.4 JOINTING SYSTEM

Jointing and finishing of plasterboard (SHEETROCK®) and gypsum panel (FIBEROCK®) should be carried out according to the required level of finish (refer to Section 4.0).

If no level is specified then Level 4 is the default level of finish for domestic construction. It requires all joints and internal angles to be taped and coated and in accordance with USG Boral's recommended three coat jointing system.

- Bed the paper jointing tape into an initial coat of taping, base or all-purpose compound
- Apply a second coat of base or all-purpose compound to fill and level joints
- Apply a coat of finishing or all-purpose compound

The joint compound should be finished smooth and be free of tool marks and ridges.

NOTE: application of plaster-based setting compounds over premixed air-drying type compounds is not recommended as this may affect joint performance.

Internal angles are to be completed with a two-coat application using paper tape:

- Bed paper jointing tape into an initial coat of taping, base or all-purpose compound.
- Apply a coat of finishing or all-purpose compound

Extreme care must be taken in jointing and finishing where walls and ceilings are subject to critical lighting.

3.5 COVERAGE

Approximate coverage of USG Boral joint compounds in kilograms per 100sqm of USG Boral plasterboard including SHEETROCK®.

FIXING: Stud Adhesive		
FRAMING SPAN	APPROX. COVERAGE RATES*	PRODUCTS
450mm	4.3kg	PremiumBond™ Stud Adhesive
600mm	2.9kg	

APPROXIMATE: JOINT COMPOUNDS coverage		
JOINTING	APPROX. COVERAGE RATES*	PRODUCTS
Base & Bedding (1st & 2nd Coats) including angles	16kg to 22kg	Easy Sand™, BaseCote®, RediBase™ & Taping Joint Compound
Finish Coat only	8kg to 10kg	Ultralightweight, Total Lite™, LiteFinish™, FinalCote®, TopCote 550® & All Purpose Premix

*Based on horizontal sheeting. The coverage rates are approximate quantities and should be used as a guide only. The figures may vary significantly due to onsite application practices and environmental factors.

4.0 LEVELS OF FINISH

The term 'level of finish' applies to plasterboard linings prior to decoration. AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings – application and finishing defines three levels of finish: 3, 4 and 5. Level 4 is the default level of finish for plasterboard linings, unless specified otherwise.

It is essential that the level of finish is determined at the design stage since each level has specific requirements for substrate tolerances and plasterboard installation, jointing and finishing. The desired level of finish may not be achieved unless all of these requirements are met through various stages of construction.

Levels of finish recommended for various lighting conditions and surface decorations are shown in Figure 1. For the full description of levels of finish refer to AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings – applications and finishing. A summary of various levels of finish is provided below:

LEVEL 3

This level of finish is used in areas that do not require decoration, or where finish is not important (for example, above ceiling level or inside service shafts). All joints and interior angles must have tape embedded in the joint compound and one separate coat of joint compound applied over all joints and fastener heads. Butt joints and recessed joints in walls and ceilings can be placed on framing members.

LEVEL 4

This is the default and generally accepted level of plasterboard finish. All joints and interior angles must have tape embedded in the jointing compound and a minimum of two separate coats of joint compound applied over all joints, angles, fastener heads and accessories.

Butt joints in walls and ceilings must be between framing members and in certain cases back-blocked. Recessed joints in the ceilings must be back-blocked in any area containing three or more recessed joints.

If Level 4 surface is to be exposed to critical light, it should be covered with textured finishes such as SHEETROCK® Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacers or wall coverings. Smooth textured finishes and flat/matt or low-sheen paints can be used when Level 4 finish is illuminated by non-critical lighting. Flat paints in this situation tend to conceal joints better. Weight, texture and sheen level of wall coverings and finishes should be carefully evaluated and joints should be adequately concealed if wall-covering material is lightweight, glossy or lightly patterned.

NOTES:

- In critical lighting conditions, surface variations may still be apparent in a Level 4 surface finish
- Gloss, semi-gloss or deep tone paints are not recommended for Level 4 finish, as they accentuate surface variations

LEVEL 5

Level 5 finish should be used where gloss or semi-gloss paints are specified or where lining surfaces will be exposed to critical lighting conditions. The Level 5 finish is characterised by a parity of surface texture and porosity. All joints and interior angles must have tape embedded in the jointing compound and a minimum of two separate coats of jointing compound applied over all joints, angles, fastener heads and accessories.

Butt joints in walls and ceilings must be located between framing members and back-blocked. Recessed joints in the ceilings must also be back-blocked. The work is finished with proprietary surface preparations or skim coating to remove differential surface textures and porosity.

A suitable paint or plaster material (e.g. USG Boral SHEETROCK® Tuff-Hide™ primer surfacer or Diamond® Veneer Finish) is sprayed, rolled or trowelled over the defined area. The surface texture must be random and monolithic, concealing joints and fixing points.

NOTES:

- If Level 5 finish is desired for a decorated plasterboard surface, this must be specified at the design stage
- Level 5 finish is difficult to achieve and always requires the cooperation of the framer, plasterer and painter in establishing suitable work practices that deliver the agreed painted finish for the given project
- Some minor surface variations may still be visible in Level 5 finish, however, these will be minimised
- The surface of the defined area may require sanding to be suitable for decoration

5.0 FRAMING TOLERANCES



Maximum deviations in the bearing surface of the finished framing prior to the installation of plasterboard linings are as follows:

Framing Area	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
90% of Area	4	4	3
Remaining area	5	5	4

* Deviation at any point of the bearing surface of the finished framing when measured with 1.8m straight edge (refer AS/NZS 2589:2007 Gypsum linings – applications and finishing).

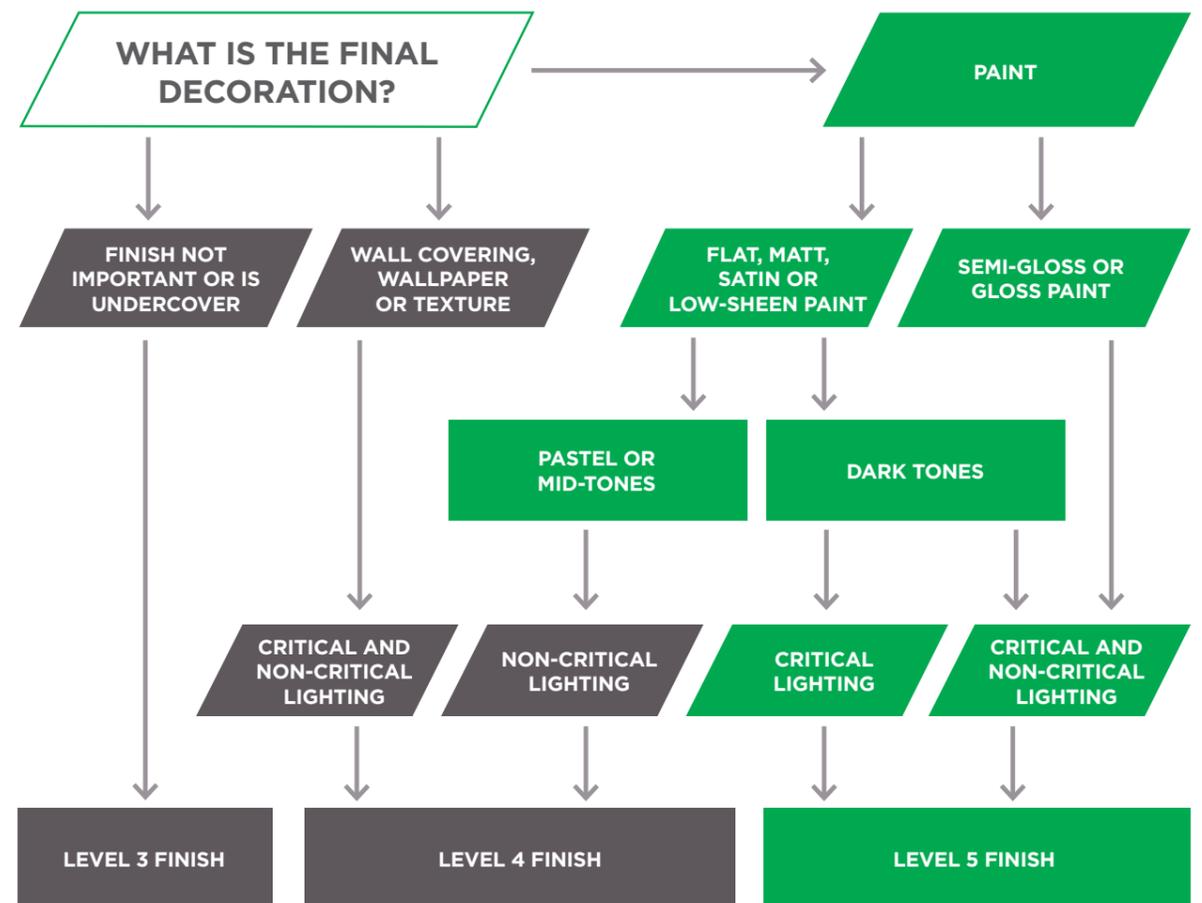


Figure 1

PRODUCT INFORMATION

See USGBoral.com for the most up-to-date product information.

SALES ENQUIRIES

1800 003 377

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TecASSIST™ 1800 811 222

NOTE

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your USG Boral sales office or representative for information.

This Technical Information Guide is intended to provide general information and should not be used as a substitute for professional advice. There are many variables that can influence construction projects which affect whether a particular construction technique is appropriate. Before proceeding with any project we recommend you obtain professional advice to ascertain the appropriate construction techniques to suit the particular circumstances of your project having regard to the contents of this catalogue. We recommend you use qualified tradespersons to install this system. The technical information contained in this catalogue was correct at the time of printing. Building systems, details and product availability are, however, subject to change. To ensure the information you are using is current, USG Boral recommends you review the latest building information available on the USG Boral website. For further information contact TecASSIST™ or your nearest USG Boral Sales Office.