

wall flats™

EMBOSSED WALL TILES. SIMPLE, MODERN, VERSATILE, & GOOF-PROOF.

SEAMLESS INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

STOP!!! PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT. THIS TYPE OF INSTALLATION REQUIRES SOME PROFESSIONAL LEVEL TOOLS.

- Let tiles acclimate at least 48 hours in the environment they will be installed in.
- The tiles come with adhesive strips, but they need to be removed before installing panels permanently. They are for temp use and not appropriate when trying to achieve a seamless look and long-term, permanent install.
- After the tape has been removed, tiles can be spray primed with a PVA Primer/Sealer in bulk on a large flat surface. Surface must be flat to prevent warping. Apply two thin coats of primer to minimize warping opposed to one heavy coat. Flip tiles over and apply two thin coats to the opposite side. If you are going to spray primer the tiles off the wall both sides must be done to offset warping. Spray the backside first and the front side second. This will keep the front surface clean.

Tiles do not have to be primed off the wall. They can be installed directly on the wall after removing the tape and primed once on the wall. We have tested both with similar results. The advantage to priming the panels off the wall is it gives you a more durable surface that is easier to clean when using adhesives and less likely to wick on the edges from the moisture content in the mastic, damp rag and joint compound. The disadvantage is the install can be more difficult if the tiles warp at all. This can easily be addressed. See below.

- The tiles go on the wall (a smooth surface such as drywall is ideal) with tile mastic. Quickly sand edges with high grit sandpaper to knock down any excess paint build-up as you are placing the tiles on the wall. For best results also primer the surface that the tiles will be attached to with a PVA Primer/Sealer. (Follow manufacturers instructions.) Installers need to pay close attention to the edges and ensure they are as close to 100% flat as possible. You can use a wallpaper seam roller for this. For problem areas tack down with finishing nails until adhesive is dry and fill small holes with joint compound later. Also take care in making sure the tiles are butted as tightly as possible to on-another. This will help minimize seams.

Mastic will likely get on the roller and the tiles during installation, keep a damp rag handy to wipe off. It does not hurt the tiles or the roller. Minimize wiping as much as possible on tiles that have not been primed prior to going on the wall. Blot as much as possible and wipe excess when needed. Excessive wiping with a damp rag on unprimed tiles can cause the tiles to ball up small amounts of pulp. Any excess mastic that pushes through the seams can be finger wiped to help fill seams.

- We then suggest spraying whole installation if unprimed tiles are installed with a coat of PVA Primer/Sealer. This protects the panels and makes a strong bonding surface for the next coating. (Follow manufacturer's instructions)
- Address seam issues with joint compound, white paintable silicone or additional tile mastic. Let dry and lightly sand whole wall with high grit sandpaper to remove any dust, flecks or excess primer build-up . If you used a paintable silicone take time to ensure excess is dealt with while wet because it cannot be sanded. Let panels cure for 24 hours, If in high humidity or colder climate extra time may be required. The goal is to allow contraction from mastic drying and primer curing prior to final paint. Address any shrinking at seams as before, let dry and either touch up primer with brush or touch up with sprayer.
- Depending on the level of finish desired, at this point the tiles may be finished adequately for your situation. They can be painted at this point with desired latex paint.

IF YOUR INSTALLATION REQUIRES AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL OF FINISHING, SEE ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

- We then suggest a product called Sheetrock Brand Tuff Hide Primer-Surfacer® from USG. (See attached sheet)
- Locate a local rep: <http://www.usg.com:80/contact/regional.jsp>

(continued)

- Most professional painters will be familiar with this product and have appropriate sprayer for application. It is a heavy primer that quickly helps prepare a wall with a high level finish, hides small imperfections and voids and provides an even surface.
- Apply first coat and let dry. Address seams and any problem areas if needed by light sanding or joint compound.
- Apply second coat. For this situation a third coat may be needed, you will have to judge on site. If you want to paint the panels they can now be sprayed with appropriate latex paint.
- Please keep in mind that most of the work goes into putting the panels on the wall and the more attention to detail that is applied to that, the easier it make the remaining steps. It is imperative that any contact area is rolled 100% flat to ensure smooth seam transitions. If some areas will not lay flat tack them down with finishing nails while drying and then fill small holes with joint compound.

wall flats™

EMBOSSSED WALL TILES. SIMPLE, MODERN, VERSATILE, & GOOF-PROOF.

inhabit.

P.O. Box 44198 Indianapolis, IN 46244-0198

1 888 830 5072 www.inhabitliving.com e mail: info@inhabitliving.com

©2006 Inhabit, Inc. All rights reserved.

The inhabit name, wall flats and the pattern designs are trademarks of Inhabit, Inc.
Descriptive or typographical errors are subject to correction.

Inhabit accepts no responsibility for damage caused by misuse of this product.

SHEETROCK® Brand Primer Surfacer

TUFF-HIDE™

Equipment

Use professional spray equipment that meets or exceeds the following rating when spraying through 50ft. of 1/4" i.d. high-pressure hose: output at least 1 gallon per minute; pump pressure rated at 2700-3000 psi; and accommodates a 0.031" spray tip at 2000 psi. Graco Mark V, GMax 5900 HD, Ultra Max 1095 and 1595 models are examples of approved airless pumping equipment. Use a 30-mesh filter located in the high-pressure manifold. Use a spray tip orifice between 0.023" to 0.031". It is recommended to use a Graco heavy-duty texture spray gun or equivalent that accommodates a Graco RAC V 527 (0.027"), RAC V 529 (0.029"), or RAC V 531 (0.031") tip. Make sure that airless sprayer, hoses, gun, and other related equipment are clean and in good working condition prior to application.

Note: SHEETROCK® Brand TUFF-HIDE™ Primer-Surfacer, is a high solid coating. For best results, use new hoses to avoid clogging at the spray tip. Clogging commonly occurs with any high solids coating when old and/or poorly cleaned hoses are used.

Surface Preparation

Substrate must be sound, dry, clean and free of oil, grease, mildew and efflorescence. Product, air, and surface temperatures must be maintained at a minimum of 55 °F (13 °C) throughout the finishing process.

For new drywall

Treat all joints, fasteners, and accessories with a recommended USG SHEETROCK® Brand Joint Treatment System. Fill all nicks, voids, and gouges with joint compound. A minimum Level 4 wallboard finish is recommended. Refer to Gypsum Association publication GA-214, *Recommended Levels of Gypsum Board Finish* or ASTM C-840 equivalent for a detailed description.

For concrete and plaster surfaces

Plaster surfaces should be thoroughly dry before painting. Concrete surfaces should age at least 60 days before finishing. Remove all form oils and efflorescence and grind down form lines. Fill cracks and holes, and level concrete surfaces with SHEETROCK® Brand setting type joint compound (DURABOND™ or EASY SAND™) or Cover Coat® Compound and let dry.

Mixing

Stir gently. Do not thin. Thinning will reduce performance. May be tinted with up to 2 oz. per gallon of universal colorants.

Application

Apply using airless spray only. When used in lieu of a skim coat of joint compound and paint primer coat in a Level 5 gypsum board finish, apply to a minimum Wet Film Thickness (WFT) of 15 mils. In all applications a WFT in excess of 20 mils is not recommended. Use a wet film thickness gauge to ensure proper application thickness and maximum performance. Maintain 55 °F (13 °C) minimum product, air, and surface temperatures during application and until surface is dry.

Test the spray pattern prior to application. Control the rate of coverage with the spray tip size (first time users should try a 0.027" tip). If the fan pattern is the same, a large tip orifice applies more paint than a small orifice. Do not try to increase coverage by increasing fluid pressure. Use the lowest pressure necessary (high-pressure increases wear on pump.)

Hold the gun perpendicular to the surface approximately 18 inches away. Move the gun parallel to the surface at a steady rate. Start the stroke off the "target" surface and pull the trigger, as the gun is moving. While the gun is still moving release the trigger as you approach the other edge of the target surface. This method avoids excess paint buildup at the end of each stroke. Moving the gun at the correct speed will deposit a full, wet coating without runs or sags. Lap each stroke approximately 50% over the previous stroke for uniform paint thickness. Spray from left to right to scratch in the initial coat and then crosshatch spray up and down as the doubleup coat to provide a uniform appearance. Check wet film application thickness using a wet film thickness gauge. When painting corners, aim the gun toward the center of the corner to ensure both sides are sprayed evenly.

Drying Time	Dries to touch in approximately 60-90 minutes when applied at 15-20 mils WFT (9-12 mils DFT) under normal drying conditions (77 °F/50% RH). Let dry before re-coating. High humidity and/or cold temperature will slow drying. May be painted after overnight drying.
Coverage	<p>Coverage is approximately 100-125 sq. ft. per gallon when applied at 15-20 mils WFT (9 -12 mils DFT). Actual coverage can vary depending on factors such as substrate surface condition, spray techniques, procedures, coating uniformity and thickness.</p> <p>Wipe up drips and spills immediately with damp cloth. Clean tools and equipment with warm soapy water. Clean and store airless spray per the spray manufacturer recommendations. Close container after each use.</p>
Touch-Up	<p>For surfaces damaged prior to the application of finish paint, an additional application of SHEETROCK Brand TUFF-HIDE Primer-Surfacer can be used to treat properly repaired areas. For example, fill and level all nicks, voids, protrusions, paper tears, etc. with joint compound and sand smooth. For areas with minor damage, spray SHEETROCK Brand TUFF-HIDE Primer-Surfacer over repaired area and blend into surrounding coated surface using a feathering technique. For larger repaired areas, it may be necessary to re-spray the entire wall or ceiling surface.</p> <p>For areas damaged after the application of finish paint, or previously painted surfaces, make sure surface is sound and free of dirt, oil, stains or other contaminants. In some cases stained surfaces should be treated with a stain blocking sealer to obtain uniform color. Lightly sand painted surface to dull any sheen and develop "tooth" for good bond prior to the application of SHEETROCK Brand TUFF-HIDE Primer-Surfacer to the entire wall or ceiling surface. For painted surfaces with minor damage, SHEETROCK® Brand First Coat flat latex paint can be used over repaired areas using a feathering technique.</p>

Trademarks

The following trademarks used herein are owned by United States Gypsum or a related company: SHEETROCK, DURABOND, EASY SAND, COVER COAT and TUFF-HIDE. MARK V, GMAX & ULTRA MAX are trademarks of Graco, Inc.

Note

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your U.S. Gypsum Company sales office or representative for information.

Notice

We shall not be liable for incidental or 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 their intended use. Our liability is expressly limited to replacement of defective goods. Any claim shall be deemed waived unless made in writing to us within thirty (30) days from the date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety practices. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

