# Product Data Sheet
## Artex Texture Finish (powder)

**OKARNO**

## Introduction

### Overview

Artex Textured Finish (powder) is a decorative finish applied to walls and ceilings to achieve a wide variety of textured patterns. It can be used to cover unwanted texture patterns to produce a smooth finish.

It has a low odour formulation and is best mixed using cold water.

### Application

It is supplied as a powder for mixing with water in two different size bags; 5kg and 25kg.

Artex Textured Finish (powder) is a decorative coating that can be used as a finish to suitably prepared interior building substrates including plasterboard, plaster, concrete, sand/cement and painted surfaces.

| Product | Bag size | Water required | | | Approx. coverage | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Initial mix | Light texture | Rich texture | Joint treatment | Texture finishing | Preparing concrete |
| Artex Texture Finish (powder) | 25kg | Approx. 11 litres | 5 litres | 2.5 litres | 60m² | 30 – 50m² | 32.5m² |
| | 5kg | Approx. 2.2 litres | 1 litre | 0.5 litres | 12m² | 6 – 10m² | 6.5m² |

## Installation

### Background preparation

All surfaces must be clean, sound and dry. After thorough preparation, ensure that any remaining decorative or paint coatings are sufficiently well adhered to support the texture application. Joints between plasterboard and other types of board should be filled, taped and feathered out using Artex Textured Finish (powder) and Artex Joint Tape and nail/screw heads should be filled. A coat of diluted Artex Sealer is strongly recommended before the application of the texture coating. All surfaces with variable or high porosity should be sealed. Plasterboard should be decorated (or, if texturing may be delayed, sealed) as soon as possible after fixing. Where *heated surfaces* (such as ceiling heating systems, chimney breasts, etc.) have been coated with emulsion paint or water based primer/bonding agent, these must be removed before the application of Artex Textured Finish (powder). If it is necessary to seal bare areas subject to heat, a good quality oil-based alkali-resisting primer should be used.

*New plasterboard* should be square-edged and fixed across the joints with the decorative (ivory) face showing. There should be a gap (max. 3mm wide) between all edges and all header (cut end) joints should be staggered.

*Plastered, rendered and absorbent concrete* surfaces should be dry and sealed with diluted Artex Sealer. Stepped levels, greater than 3mm, in concrete should be treated with Thistle Bonding Plaster and, when dry, sealed. Cracks, minor steps and surface irregularities should be pre-filled with Artex Textured Finish (powder) and taped as necessary.

*Paper polystyrene tiles and distemper* must be removed completely (including any adhesive). Allow to dry and then seal with diluted Artex Sealer. Surfaces which remain friable after the best possible preparation should be treated with a stabilising solution rather than Artex Sealer.

*Gloss paint* should be lightly sandpapered to form a key.

*Emulsion paint* should be clean, sound surface and well adhered. Seal if necessary with Artex Sealer.

*Gaps, cracks and holes* up to 3mm deep should be filled with Artex Textured Finish (powder) and taped as necessary, allowed to dry and then be sealed with Artex Sealer.

*Dark painted backgrounds* may need a light coloured primer coat.

### Mixing

Artex Textured Finish (powder) is best mixed using cold water and the use of clean un-contaminated buckets is advised. For the initial mix fill a bucket with the appropriate amount of water for the bag being used / job in hand (see General Product information table). Slowly add the required amount of Artex Textured Finish (powder) and mix using an Artex mixing tool or a drill whisk. If using a whisk always start on a slow speed setting and do not over mix. Mix until a thick paste is achieved. Allow to stand for at least 10 mins before re-mixing to a smooth paste. This consistency makes it ideal for taping joints, filling of small cracks and Smoothing out old texture patterns.

For texture patterns, the material will need to be thinned back further with cold water (see General Product information table). *Always mix in well-ventilated conditions and wash hands and tools with warm water immediately after use.*

## Installation (continued)

**General application**

Apply by brush or roller. Patterns can be created by texturing brushes, rollers or combs. One coat of Artex Textured Finish (powder) gives complete coverage on all prepared backgrounds. Depth of texture can be varied.

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1 3 5

2 4
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Artex Textured Finish (powder) should be applied liberally by brush or roller, covering about 1m x 0.5m at a time across the narrowest width of a room, then textured to the desired pattern. Whilst the material is still wet continue this way, blending in successive bands, until the entire surface has been textured. A 13mm brush margin should be made around all perimeter edges.

To improve the working time for texturing (before the texture dries out too much) turn off radiators, shut windows and drape dust sheets over sun filled windows. Once texturing is completed open windows opened to encourage a "through draft" to dry out the texture.

## Finishing

Artex Textured Finish (powder) can be used to create a wide range of textured patterns. Some common rich patterns include:

**Broken Leather -** Cover an Artex Texturing brush or sponge with a thick polythene bag. Twist the brush / sponge left and right whilst lightly bouncing over the covered surface.

**Swirl -** Lightly place the Artex Texturing brush on the covered surface then spin the brush and pull away cleanly. Repeat to create the next swirl. Avoid running in straight lines to keep the pattern random.

**Medusa -** Lightly stipple the surface and then wearing a rubber glove produce a random pattern with your fingers.

**Comb patterns -** Holding the comb firmly at angle of approx. 25 – 30° to the surface, make each stroke with a single firm action. For light texture patterns like:

**Stipple -** Bounce the covered surface using an Artex Texture Brush bringing it away cleanly each time. Turn the brush slightly after each dab to avoid "box" marks. If the brush becomes clogged with texture shake off the excess before continuing.

It's advisable to practice on a piece of sealed plasterboard until the desired effect is achieved.

**_Texture > Texture_**

Ensure the existing finish is firmly bonded to the background. Remove any loose areas and make sure the remaining surfaces are clean and dry. Lightly dampen before removing any prominent texture nibs. Apply a stabilising solution or Artex Sealer liberally to seal the surface and allow to fully dry.

Mix the Artex Textured Finish to the initial mix consistency using the Using a Caulking blade apply a thick mix of Artex Textured Finish with firm pressure over the surface and allow to firm up, but not dry, then repeat as necessary to disguise the original texture. (the number of coats will depend on the texture depth.)

Then either: A) allow the final caulking to firm up but not dry and texture as required, or: B) allow to dry, seal with Artex Sealer, allow to dry and texture as required. Depending on the original background, pin holing in the new texture can sometimes occur. To help avoid this, method A) is preferred. When using method B) ensure that caulking and Artex Sealer applications are allowed to thoroughly dry.

**_Texture > Smooth_**

Follow the steps for _Texture > Texture_, up to the final caulking stage. To achieve a smooth finish, take care with the final caulking coat, which you can apply using a slightly thinner consistency. When dry, minor imperfections can be lightly sanded. Remove any dust prior to decoration

## Finishing (continued)

**Drying**

Artex Textured Finish (powder) dries to an "off-white" colour. To ensure uniform appearance, or change in colour it should be over-painted with good quality emulsion paint. **(Always follow the paint manufacturers recommendations for porous surfaces)**

Drying time is normally 24-48 hours depending on atmospheric and site conditions. It is essential to provide adequate and constant ventilation so that drying time does not exceed 3 days. The coating, when dry, is unaffected by natural changes in temperature. At all times during application and until the material is fully dry; the temperature must remain above 5°C.

## Conditions

A coating of Artex Textured Finish (powder) is not resistant to water vapour and is not washable. Artex Textured Finish (powder) may be over-painted with a good quality emulsion paint **(Always follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations for porous surfaces)**. However Artex Textured Finish (ready-mixed) is recommended for use in domestic areas of high humidity such as kitchens and bathrooms.

For the treatment of heated surfaces such as ceiling heating systems, chimney breasts, etc. See the appropriate notes on 'Background Preparation".

Artex Textured Finish (powder) is not suitable for applications to surfaces which will be subjected to continuously humid conditions, such as public showers, changing rooms and swimming pool areas.

Artex Textured Finish (powder) can be removed by soaking with warm water before scraping the resulting paste off. A steam stripper may be helpful especially where the texture has been previously painted.

**If texture gets into your eyes DO NOT rub but wash immediately with plenty of clean warm water and seek medical attention.**

**Storage**

Artex Textured Finish (powder) should be stored in dry conditions, as absorption of moisture can affect the performance of the product. If stored on concrete flooring then timber platforms should be provided. Stored correctly Artex Texture Finish Powder has a shelf life of 9 months. Bags are marked with a "use by" date in order to assist with stock rotation and a batch number for manufacturing traceability.

**Standards**

Okarno Limited is a quality-assured company and operates a Quality Management System in accordance with *BS EN ISO 9001* The QMS is independently audited (certificate no: *FM 504548*).

**Manual handling**

It is important to observe appropriate Health and Safety legislation when working on site, e.g. protective clothing and equipment, etc. In practice, consideration must be given to design criteria requiring specific project solutions.

Artex Textured Finish (powder) should always be carried using correct manual handling techniques and safe systems of work appropriate to the size and length of the product. Some of these guidelines are summarised below.

- Whenever possible, place one foot in front of the other to produce a good base and reduce the pressure on the body.
- Assess the load by placing your hand on it and moving.
- Only handle what you feel you can manage.
- Initiate movements with your legs, unlocking the knees and driving with the legs to start the lift.
- Keep the load as close to your body as possible when lifting or handling.
- Turn instead of twisting and move your feet.
- Let your back find its natural curvature.
- Never lose control of the load.

**Loading and unloading pallets**

- Always wear safety shoes.
- Always place one foot forward by operating from the corner of the pallet or placing one foot on the pallet taking care to ensure that the pallet does not tip in the process.
- Unlock the knees for low level work.
- Take a firm grip of the load with both hands.
- Lift using the legs to start the movement.
- Turn by moving the feet.

**Application and installation**

- Always work in a balanced position.
- Operate with one foot forward.
- Keep the body upright.
- Always use appropriate platforms where necessary.

Okarno reserves the right to revise product specifications without notice. The information in this document is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of publication.  It is the user's responsibility to ensure that it remains current prior to use. The information in this document is for guidance only and should not be read in isolation. Users should read and familiarise themselves with all the information contained in this document and ensure that they are fully conversant with the products and systems being used before installation.

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