

# SHEETROCK® Brand First Coat



**Solves drywall decorating problems by minimizing surface texture variations**

- Prevents joint banding and photographing.
- Dries to a white finish in under 30 minutes.
- Designed for fast, economical application.

**Description**

Decorating problems (commonly referred to by such names as “joint banding” or “photographing”) are usually caused by differences between the porosities and surface textures of gypsum panel face paper or concrete and the finished joint compound, and magnified by the use of gloss paints. Then, when viewed in direct, natural lighting, the joints and fasteners in decorated walls and ceilings may be visible.

SHEETROCK Brand First Coat, unlike traditional primer/sealer products, has been formulated specifically to equalize both porosity and surface texture differences and provide greater uniformity of the finish coat. In contrast to a sealer, SHEETROCK Brand First Coat does not provide a film that seals the substrate surface. Instead, it minimizes porosity differences by providing a base that equalizes the absorption rate variations between the drywall face paper and the finished joint compound when painted. SHEETROCK Brand First Coat also provides the proper type and amount of pigments and fillers (that are lacking in many conventional primers and sealers) to equalize surface texture differences. Not intended as a final coating—it should be overpainted when dry.

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Easy to use</b>	Applies with brush, roller, airless or conventional spray.
	<b>Economical</b>	Covers approximately 300 to 500 sq. ft. per gallon.
	<b>Versatile</b>	Can be intermixed with wall and ceiling spray textures to enhance hardness, bond and whiteness. Surface priming recommendations on texture bag still apply.
<b>Limitations</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Allow SHEETROCK Brand First Coat to dry and then apply a quality wall size before applying wallpaper or vinyl wallcovering.</li> <li>2. During storage protect material from temperature extremes, moisture and free water. Protect from freezing. SHEETROCK Brand First Coat ages naturally during storage, so failure to rotate stock may produce performance problems.</li> <li>3. Not recommended over new plaster finishes. Not intended as a final coating; should be overpainted when dry.</li> </ol>
<b>Directions</b>	<b>Surface Preparation</b>	Surfaces must be dry, clean, sound and free of oil, grease and efflorescence. Glossy surfaces must be dulled. Prime metal with a good rust-inhibitive primer. Fill or level concrete with SHEETROCK Setting-Type (DURABOND®) or Lightweight Setting-Type (EASY SAND™) Joint Compound or COVER COAT® Compound. Treat drywall joints and nailheads with a U.S. Gypsum Company joint treatment system.
	<b>Mixing</b>	Stir gently. Do not thin for brush or roller application. For spray application, if necessary, add water in half-pint increments up to a maximum 1 qt. of water per gallon. NOTE: Overthinning may cause poor adhesion, lack of hide and unequal suction when dry. May be tinted.
	<b>Adding to wall and ceiling textures</b>	If slightly better spray properties, wet hide, improved bond, whiteness and surface hardness are desired, SHEETROCK Brand First Coat may be added to wet-mixed USG Ceiling and Wall Texture products at a rate of up to 1 gal. per 30, 32, 40 and 50 lb. bag of texture. Reduce water quantity to account for addition of SHEETROCK Brand First Coat based on 1:1 replacement basis. Surface priming recommendations on texture bag still apply.
	<b>Application (walls and ceilings)</b>	Apply a full coverage coat. Material dries to touch in under 30 min. under 75 °F/50% R.H. conditions. Maintain minimum air, product mix and surface temperature of 55 °F (13 °C) during application and until surface is dry. Brush, roller, airless or conventional spraygun may be used. If surface is not ideal, backrolling of airless spray applications may be beneficial. Brush—Use a high quality, professional paint brush. Roller—For best results, use a high quality roller with 1/8” to 1/4” nap on smooth and semi-smooth surfaces. For any surface, maximum nap length should not exceed 1/2”. Airless spraygun—As a general guideline, use professional equipment that meets or exceeds the following when spraying through 50 ft. of 1/4” i.d. airless spray hose: output at least 3/4 gal. per minute; pressure at least 2700 psi; and accommodates a spray tip of 0.0219 at 2000 psi. For example, recommended equipment includes Graco ULTRA 1500, 1000 or 750 models with a suitable spray gun that will



accommodate an RAC IV 521 (0.021) tip, and RAC IV Dripless Guard and a 30 mesh filter. Conventional spraygun—Use Binks Model 2001 gun, pressurized external, with 565 fluid needle, 66 fluid nozzle and 65 PR air nozzle; or Binks Model 18, pressurized internal, with 68 fluid needle, 68 fluid nozzle and 206 air nozzle; or similar equipment. Air hose is typically 3/8" i.d. with 1/2" fluid hose i.d. **NOTE:** Adjust pressure and material feed rate so a full coverage coat can be achieved by overlapping preceding application with 1/4 to 1/2 of fan width at a distance of 18" from surface. Pressure and material feed rates will vary with hose diameter, height or distance pumped, and paint consistency. SHEETROCK Brand First Coat contains a high level of select pigments and fillers like conventional latex flat paints. When these paints are used in spray equipment previously used to spray PVA sealers which contain high levels of resin, clogging at the spray gun tip may result. The use of clean or new hoses is recommended to avoid this problem when spraying SHEETROCK Brand First Coat.

**Cleanup** Clean equipment with warm, soapy water.

**Achieving a "Sand Finish" Texture with SHEETROCK Brand First Coat** By adding a fine perlite aggregate to SHEETROCK Brand First Coat, a "sand-like" finish texture can be achieved. Use SHEETROCK Sand Finish Additive or similar product. To begin application, after the surface has been properly prepared for decorating with paint, apply a prime coat of SHEETROCK Brand First Coat and let dry. Slowly stir in 4 lbs. of Sand Finish Additive (or similar fine perlite aggregate) per 5 gal. of SHEETROCK Brand First Coat. Mix until the sand additive is uniformly dispersed. A full-coverage application is recommended using a Binks Model 18D spray gun utilizing 57 fluid nozzle with R-27 slotted fan cap, or a Binks Model 18D spray gun utilizing 57 fluid nozzle with R-27 slotted fan cap, or a Binks Model 18 gun with 68 fluid nozzle and 101 slotted fan cap. Adjust air pressure and material feed rate to compensate for hose length/diameter and consistency of material to be sprayed. Coverage is approximately 100-200 sq. ft. per gal. Surface may be painted after overnight drying. Follow directions of paint manufacturer. Unpainted surfaces are not washable or scrubable.

**Product Data**

**Color:** White. May be tinted.  
**Binder:** Vinyl acrylic.  
**Filler:** Calcium carbonate.  
**Dilution (water):** Up to 1 qt. per gal.  
**pH:** 8.0 to 9.0.  
**Drying Time:** Dries to touch in under 30 min. under 75 °F/50% R.H. conditions.  
**Coverage:** Up to 300-500 sq. ft./gal.  
**Storage:** Close container after each use. Store in dry place at moderate temperatures. Protect from freezing. Up to nine-month shelf life under good storage conditions. Rotate stock on a first-in, first-out basis.  
**Packaging:** 5 gal. and 1 gal. pails.

**Submittal Approvals:**

<b>Job Name</b>	
<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Date</b>

**WARNING:**  
Breathing of spraying mist may cause eye, nose, throat or upper respiratory irritation. Long-term breathing of large amounts of mica may cause lung disease. If spraying, wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator. Do not take internally. The use of safety glasses is recommended. Product safety information: (800) 507-8899.  
**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**  
Volatile organic compounds (VOC) do not exceed 20 g/l. VDS does not exceed 0.15 lbs./gal.

**Trademarks:**  
The following trademarks used herein are owned by United States Gypsum Company: COVER COAT, DURABOND, EASY SAND, SHEETROCK. Bondex is a registered trademark of RRM Bondex International, 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 and 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 the 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 date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

**SAFETY FIRST!**  
Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installing of all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.