



### Advantages

- Premixed and ready to use right out of the container
- Quick-drying (in as little as 4 hours)
- Minimal shrinkage
- Sands easily
- Excellent coverage and adhesion — used as directed, Rapid Coat covers as well as or better than ordinary joint compound
- Saves time and money — two-step system permits faster job completion and significant savings in labor

## Ready-Mixed, All-Purpose Joint Compound

# RAPID COAT®

## JOINT COMPOUND

**Lafarge Rapid Coat** is an all-purpose joint compound, ideal for use in all phases of gypsum board finishing: taping, finishing, skim coating, texturing, filling corner beads and trim, and concealing nail or screw dimples. Rapid Coat also makes an excellent bonding agent for laminating gypsum wallboards together.

### Physical Characteristics

**Material:** Vinyl-type formulation; Asbestos free

**Coverage:** Approx. 7.75 Gal. (29.25 L) per 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (100 m<sup>2</sup>) coverage will depend on number of beads and amount of trim.

**Drying Time:** Approx. 4 hours to harden; thoroughly dry in approx. 24 hours. Drying times will vary with temperature and humidity (See GA-236).

**IMPORTANT:** For interior use only. For optimum drying, maintain room temperature between 68 – 77° F (20 – 25° C) and provide adequate ventilation.

**Storage:** Up to 9-month shelf life if protected from extreme heat and cold. Maintain storage temperature above 32° F (0° C).

#### Available Sizes\*:

- PAIL: 4.5 Gal./17 L
- PAIL: 3.2 Gal./12 L
- PAIL: 1 Gal./3.8 L
- PAIL: .66 Gal./2.5 L

- BOX: 4.5 Gal./17 L
- BOX: 3.5 Gal./13.25 L

\*Some sizes may be available by special order only.

**Colors Available:** White, beige and yellow

### Standards and Codes

Rapid Coat is manufactured to conform to ASTM C 475.

### Application

While Rapid Coat gives excellent coverage with the traditional three-coat method (tape, fill, finish), a two-step application method is recommended to obtain the same great results in less time. Apply according to Gypsum Association publications GA-214 and GA-216.

JOB NAME:

CONTRACTOR:

DATE:



bringing materials to *life*™

## Sustainability

Can contribute to the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Credit Qualification to assist in obtaining LEED certification. Visit [www.lafargenorthamerica.com](http://www.lafargenorthamerica.com) for more details on specific credit contribution and documentation.



## Product and Safety Precautions

- Apply to clean and dry surfaces.
- Protect from freezing, extreme heat and direct sunlight.
- Maintain minimum 55° F (13° C) working temperature.
- Do not mix with any other product or material (such as chemical setting compounds or Plaster of Paris).
- If separation exists, re-mix thoroughly, taking care not to introduce air bubbles.
- If thinning is required, such as for machine applications, water may be added in small (4 oz.) increments. Excessive thinning of the product may cause cracking, increased shrinkage or other undesirable results.
- Allow compound to dry thoroughly between coats and before painting.
- Keep container tightly closed between uses.
- For finishing with mesh tape, use Lafarge Rapid Joint® setting-type compounds.
- Wear safety glasses at all times to protect eyes.
- Wear a NIOSH-approved respirator when sanding or engaging in other dust-producing activity due to potential for dust to exceed exposure limits. Exhaust ventilation may be required during dust-producing activities in areas with poor ventilation.
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are available for all Lafarge products upon request.



## Taping and Finishing Joints

**Step One:** Rapid Coat is generously applied with a steel finishing knife (4"–6"), to the surface to be finished (tapered edge). Joint tape should be pressed firmly into compound to create a good bond and excess material should be removed. A generous "fill coat" is then applied with a (10"–12") steel finishing knife or trowel to hide the tape. Excess material is removed by feathering the center and edges of the joint. Apply enough Rapid Coat joint compound to fill corner beads and nail/screw dimples. Remove excess material. If necessary, apply second coat when dry. Rapid Coat can be applied up to 1/4 in. thick without cracking.

**Step Two:** A finish coat may be applied when the Step One application is thoroughly dry (approximately 24 hours). Material is dry if no prints appear when surface is pressed lightly with fingertips. A thin coat of the joint compound is applied over the Step One application with a (10"–12") steel finishing knife or trowel at a width adequate to fill any voids or shallow spots. Excess material is removed by feathering the center and edges of the joint. Surface can be sanded or painted in approximately 24 hours.

Note: Not recommended for use with mesh tape. For use with mesh tape use Lafarge Rapid Joint® setting type compounds.

## Finishing Inside Corners

Using a steel finishing knife (4"–6"), generously apply Lafarge Rapid Coat to both sides of the inside corner. Fold joint tape along center crease and press firmly into center of the inside corner. Remove any excess material behind the tape and create a good bond with the gypsum board. Allow compound to dry thoroughly. Apply second coat to one side, allow to dry and apply to opposite side. Allow compound to dry thoroughly before sanding or painting.

Note: Not recommended for use with mesh tape. For finishing with mesh tape, use Lafarge Rapid Joint® setting-type compounds as a tape-setting material, following with finish coats of Rapid Coat.

## Fastener Heads and Trim

Rapid Coat can be applied to fill corner beads and nail/screw dimples. A second coat may be applied, if necessary, when dry.

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## Cleanup

Rapid Coat washes off easily with warm water. Tools should be dried thoroughly to prevent rusting.

## Sanding

Sanding is not required between applications unless the work is rough. Light sanding, after Step Two, should be done after application is thoroughly dry (180 grit sandpaper or 220 grit mesh cloth recommended). Wet sanding is recommended to avoid creating dust.

## Skim Coating

Rapid Coat can be used to skim coat gypsum board walls. A skim coat leaves a thin film of joint compound over the entire gypsum board surface, fills imperfections and eliminates texture differences between the gypsum board and the joint compound. Skim coating is recommended for rooms with critical lighting conditions.

## Painting and Wallpapering

Painting should not proceed until joint compound is thoroughly dry (See GA-236). For best results, a good quality gypsum board primer should be applied, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, before painting or wallpapering.

## Texturing

Rapid Coat can also be used to texture walls and ceilings. For best results, a good quality gypsum board primer should be applied, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, before texturing. Rapid Coat can then be applied to the dry primer surface up to 1/4 in. thick with a roller, sponge, brush or trowel to create the desired effect. Overpaint when dry in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

