

Waterproofing & Treating Damp



1 Principles of waterproofing

The objective of waterproofing is to stop water entering a structure. The best way to stop water ingress is good design: design for drainage to reduce the amount of water standing on a surface. Unfortunately buildings contain many flat,

horizontal surfaces and also joints such as those between roof tiles and parapet walls, which can promote water entry. Cracking in masonry and leaking pipes are other problem areas.



2 Principles of damp-proofing

1. Find the water source
2. Insulate the water source (e.g. fix leaking taps or drains; apply waterproofing to parapet walls etc)
3. Leave the surface to dry out to below 15% moisture content

4. Remove old paint coatings down to sound bare plaster.
5. Apply paint system (Promac Plaster Primer and selected finish coats)



3 Waterproofing systems

1. Fabric reinforced acrylic (Promac Proseal)

This utilises waterborne acrylic waterproofing impregnation of polyester non-woven fabric reinforcement. It allows complex shapes to be insulated. The fabric is a carrier for the acrylic waterproofing compound and the resultant effect is similar to canvas.

- a) Apply a thick coating of Promac Proseal to the clean, prepared surface
- b) Embed the fabric into the Proseal while it is still wet. Press fabric down well and ensure no bubbles are formed.
- c) Apply a second coat of Proseal over the fabric, ensuring complete saturation of the fabric. Failure to do this often results in blistering and poor waterproofing. Leave to dry for at least 4 hours.
- d) Apply a third coat of Proseal and leave to dry for at least 4 hours. For optimum weather resistance, apply Promac Pro-Roof as a final coating.

reinforcement and prevent the need for use of a reinforcing fabric. The product is in applied as thick layer by trowel to a clean, sound surface. Leave the product to cure overnight before applying a weather-resistant top coating (e.g. Pro-Roof, Walldex, Micaquartz etc.). This product is excellent for waterproofing parapet walls and capping.

2. Fibre-reinforced mastic (Promac Fibre Seal)

This product contains special fibres that provide extra

3. Water-repelling Fluid (Promac Pro Repell)

This is a silicone-based clear fluid that makes masonry surfaces water repelling. Liquid water does not wet treated surfaces and this prevents water entry into the surface. Water vapour can pass through the surface, therefore allowing the surface to dry out. The use of Pro Repell as a waterproof barrier under a paint system protects the coating system from water entering behind. This reduces the damp patch effect that can occur on some walls. Pro Repell does not leave a varnish-like film and is invisible. It does not bind friable or weak surfaces and does not function over gypsum or paint surfaces. Pro Repell is ideal for treating face brick, ceramic tiles and concrete surfaces.



4 Surface preparation

This is the critical part of any painting project: poor preparation is the principal cause of waterproofing failure. The surface must be sound and free from dirt, loose particles, oils etc.

1. Brush off all loosely bound sand particles
2. Open out any cracks using a sharp knife
3. Seal all cracks or surface imperfections using Promac

- Bondseal. Leave to dry 2h
4. Fill cracks or surface imperfections using Promac Crack Fix. Leave to dry for 4h. Sand the surface smooth.
5. If surface is highly porous or friable, apply Promac Bondseal over the entire surface.

NB this does not apply to the use of Pro Repell.



5 Other important information

1. NEVER apply paint if rain is forecast, or expected, during the day of application
2. Apply paint after 8h00 (summer) or 10h00 (winter) to ensure the roof is not too cold or damp.
3. It is recommended that the paint be applied before 12h00 to avoid excessive roof temperatures and to allow the paint to harden sufficiently before any afternoon rain may occur.

Contact Promac Paints for further information as well as details of your nearest stockist.

Promac Paints: Tel: (012) 800 1055 - Fax: (012) 800 4046



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