

Performing Stucco Repairs Technical Bulletin

TB027

Category: Stucco

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The information related to performing stucco repairs can vary greatly depending on many factors, the following information is generic and not meant to address every field condition that may or may not exist as there are too many variables.

1. Preparation of the repair area;

Straight line or saw cuts must be made irregular by chipping away the edge. Remove any loose material and expose approximately 2" of the existing lath at all edges of the repair area.

2. Installing the water resistive barrier;

A minimum 6" vertical and 2" horizontal weatherboard/shingle lap is necessary, lap the top and sides under the existing and allow the bottom to lap over the existing paper.

3. Installing the lath;

Cut lath to fit and lap the existing over/on top of the new. The simple rule of thumb to remember is "paper over paper and wire over wire".

Note: When using wire lath, metal lath "butterflies" (6" x 12" strips of metal lath) are recommended at the corners of openings such as doors and windows normally installed before the field area.

4. Installing the scratch coat;

Traditional (7/8") 3-coat stucco requires a 3/8" scratch coat. Come as close as possible but do not bond the scratch coat to the edge of the repair area. Allow a minimum 24 hours before proceeding, moist cure as necessary.

5. Installing the brown coat;

Immediately after apply an acrylic bonder to the edge of the existing stucco, apply the brown coat at a thickness slightly greater than the surrounding area and shave the surface flush with a straight edge.

After allowing the brown coat to take set, but before it dries it is compacted. This is achieved by floating it with a "hard" brown coat float. After the brown coat has hardened moist cure it for 48 hours and allow it to cure naturally for 5 additional days for a total of 7 days minimum before applying the finish.

6. Applying the finish;

Apply the finish using the same type and color of product that exists on the wall, matching the existing finish and texture to the best of your ability. If the existing surface is painted, use a surface applied acrylic bonder and spray or roller apply it to the entire brown coat surface over lapping on to the existing finish enough to accommodate the tie in (or over lap of the new finish.) Wait until the surface reaches a pH level of approximately 8 to 9 prior to applying the acrylic bonder and then painting or re-finishing.

Note: Be sure to use primers and paints that are designed for stucco and be sure to read the paint manufacture's literature and follow all their directions.

PAREXUSA
www.parexusa.com

Corporate Office

Parex USA, Inc.
4125 E. La Palma Ave., Suite 250
Anaheim, CA 92807
(866) 516-0061
Tech Support: (800) 226-2424

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