

## GENERAL INFORMATION

TexSton™ Tuscany™ is a decorative, integrally colored plaster and stucco finish for interior and exterior use. It creates a gritty Old-World look that emulates the texture of antique, honed stone. Its smooth burnished surface is given added character by subtle pits and fissures. As its name implies, Tuscany is at home in fine residences or classical business establishments. It is formulated with both Portland cement and lime for strength and durability, tempered with polymer admixtures for superior adhesion and ease of application.

**Basic Use:** Use Tuscany as a plaster or stucco finish coat for walls and special decorative features. It is recommended for both interior and exterior environments and is compatible with most plaster base coats as well as gypsum board, concrete, masonry and other substrates.

**Composition:** Tuscany is a dry powdered formulation and is ready for use when mixed with water. It contains:

**Portland cement:** White cement is used to enhance the intensity of Tuscany's coloration.

**Hydrated Lime:** Lime works in conjunction with cement to improve Tuscany's strength, water resistance, and workability.

**Dolomite:** Aggregates up to 2 mm diameter create the gritty texture and pits which characterize Tuscany.

**Silica Sand:** Dustless and free from salts.

**Polymers:** Acrylic polymers in Tuscany improve the product's adhesion, cohesion, and flexural strength and contribute to improve resistance to cracking.

**Water Repellent:** Stearate-based additive helps resist water penetration.

**Integral Pigments:** The mineral-oxide pigments in Tuscany comply with ASTM C979 to assure permanent, fade-resistant coloration.

**Colors:** Tuscany is offered in more than forty standard colors and can be custom colored to meet special design requirements. Pick a color from any leading paint manufacturer, or send us a swatch of the fabric, tile, or stone you are using and we will match it.

**Sizes and Coverage:** Tuscany covers approximately 30-40 square feet per 25 kilogram (55 lbs) depending upon thickness and texture applied. It is available in recyclable plastic buckets in the following sizes:

5 kg (11 lbs., approximately 1 gallon).

25 kg (55 lbs., approximately 5 gallons).

**Limitations:** Tuscany on ceilings or soffit conditions over gypsum drywall should be used with TexSton 7350 Additive per manufacturer instructions.

## TECHNICAL DATA

### Applicable Standards:

**System Performance:** Tuscany outperforms finish coats installed in accordance with ASTM C926 – Application of Portland Cement-Based Plaster.

**Quality Assurance:** Tuscany is produced in a facility certified under ISO 9002 – *Quality Systems – Model for Quality Assurance in Production, Installation and Servicing*.

**Surface Burning Characteristics:** Tuscany conforms to a Class A finish with 0 Flame Spread and 5 Smoke Density per ASTM E84 - *Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials* when applied over inorganic reinforced cement board.

## INSTALLATION

**Substrates:** Apply Tuscany over substrates that are clean, cohesive, free of contamination and as follows:

**Plaster Brown Coat:** Apply brown coat in accordance with ASTM C926 - *Application of Portland Cement-Based Plaster* and Portland Cement Association's *Portland Cement Plaster (Stucco) Manual*. Float brown coat to produce level substrate. Pay particular attention to moist curing requirements to minimize shrinkage cracking; cure at least seven days (21 days recommended) prior to application of finish coating. For additional resistance to cracking, a fiber mesh can be imbedded into brown coat or first layer of a Tuscany application.

**EIFS Base Coat:** Comply with exterior insulation and finish system manufacturer's instructions. Add TexSton 7350 according to manufacturer instructions.

**Gypsum Drywall:** (Interiors Only) Drywall shall be taped and then sanded or floated. Provide Level Two or better surface in accordance with Gypsum Association's GA-214 - *Recommended Levels of Gypsum Board Finish*.

**Concrete and Masonry:** Allow concrete and mortar to cure 28 days prior to finishing. Concrete should be free of form release agents that could interfere with adhesion of Tuscan. Sand glossy surfaces. Mortar joints should be flush.

**Trim and Fasteners:** At exterior and wet areas, use corrosion resistant materials for expansion and control joints, corner beads, flashings and other trim and fasteners.

**Existing Substrates:** Remove deteriorated substrates and patch in acceptable manner. Oily or glossy surfaces and oil-based paints should be lightly sanded. Wash with trisodium phosphate diluted as indicated on product label. Rinse, neutralize and wipe dry.

**Leveling:** Remove projections and, if required, fill depressions with leveling coat. Leveling coat can be factory-bagged plaster mix such as Mix: (by volume) 1 part of Portland cement Type I or II, ¼ to ¾ part of hydrated lime type S, 4 parts of 60 grit sand, (Optional)+Acrl 60/ 1 part to 5 parts of water.

### **Preparatory Work:**

**Masking:** Mask and protect adjacent surfaces.

**Prime:** Primer is required over gypsum board, wood and other substrates with uneven suction or moisture absorption, and to improve ease of application to smooth substrates like metal or glass. Use a TexSton Primer of type compatible with substrate. Mix with washed and bagged plaster sand to roughen primed surface and improve spreadability of plaster coating; add one quart of sand per five gallons of primer. Allow primer to dry before plaster application.

**Dampen Surface:** Immediately before applying Tuscan, dampen brown coat, concrete, masonry and other porous substrates with water. Do not dampen primed or sealed surfaces.

**Mixing:** Add small amount of clean, potable water and mix with drill mixer until homogeneous paste consistency is reached. Let material rest for two to three minutes. Then add sufficient water to yield consistency suitable for application and mix again. Do not retemper or remix. Mix with clean tools and in a clean bucket. Material to be used in a first coat or one coat system over wood, metal, plastic, etc. should also be mixed with 7300 Additive available at TexSton.

### **General:**

Apply finish in continuous application, free from cold joints, scaffold lines and other deficiencies detrimental to appearance and performance. Continuously apply in one general direction without allowing coating to dry at edges; keep a wet edge. If full width of wall cannot be covered at one time, terminate applications at natural divisions of surface such as control joints or corners. Do not bridge expansion or control joints.

Use high-quality trowels of types required to produce intended results. TexSton offers a full complement of specialty plaster tools.

Many creative finishes can be produced with Tuscan. Consider the following a starting point for your imagination.

**One Coat Application:** (Recommend for un-even finish techniques). Apply in one coat with ¼ inch minimum thickness using stainless steel trowel, pool trowel, plastic trowel, or other non-blackening metal trowel.

**Two-Coat Application:** (Recommended for leveled and controlled techniques): Evenly apply first layer approximately 1/16 inch thick using stainless steel trowel held at 45 degree. Allow to set. Then, create a "worm-trail" surface by using circular motions with a plastic trowel held flat to surface. When first layer is set, apply second layer of approximately 1/8 inch thick using a stainless steel trowel. Let set and continue smoothing with a non-blackening trowel or a plastic trowel.

### **Texture:**

**Pitted Finish:** Trowel to create pitted and fissured surface. The extent of pits and fissures can be controlled by the pressure and amount of troweling.

**Smooth Finish:** Trowel to close pits. Use water sparingly to dampen surface and continue smoothing until smooth closed surface is obtained. Avoid over troweling and formation of black "veins".

**Blended Colors:** A more variegated effect can be obtained by blending several colors together. Apply first color with a smooth surface, then apply second color and work it into the base layer to obtain random yet consistent pattern.

**Custom Finishes:** Many special effects can be produced with Tuscany. For example, surfaces can be scored to simulate masonry joint lines. Stencils can be used to apply ornamental motifs. And it can be applied over moldings or other sculptural elements to create relief.

Rather than trying to describe the specific technique to be used to achieve a custom finish, it is usually more convenient to specify an approved sample board or mock-up as a standard to be matched for a project. Contact TexSton for help developing custom finishes.

**Curing:** In order to insure workmanship and product quality, the finish should be moistened on the next day and the process repeated the following day. Moisten plaster with clean water. Use spray or hose; start at bottom and work upwards.

**Color Wash:** A color wash can be used to darken pits and fissures to create more contrast. Use TexSton Glaze, a water-based glazing liquid. Allow Tuscany to dry 48 hours before color washing. Dampen surface slightly before applying color wash, then follow manufacturer's instructions.

**Sealer:** On exterior applications it is recommended to seal the surface. Sealer provides added protection for exterior locations and wet interior locations. Use a TexSton sealer as per manufacturer instructions. Allow Tuscany to dry 72 hours before applying sealer. Apply according to sealer manufacturer's instructions. Protect against overspray. Apply two coats; allow first coat to dry before applying second coat. Excess sealer can form a white residue if not removed promptly. Follow manufacturer's instructions.

**Clean-Up:** Remove masking. Remove plaster splatters using methods that will not damage surfaces.

#### **Precautions:**

**Delivery, Storage and Handling:** Deliver in manufacturer's unopened packages and store in dark and dry place at between 45 and 95 degrees F. Use OSHA compliant eye protection. Wear a respirator when mixing, sanding or scraping. Provide well-ventilated work areas. Avoid prolonged skin contact. Do not apply if rain or freezing temperatures are expected within 24 hours; protect from rain for 48 hours after application. Do not apply over wet or frozen surfaces. Do not apply when temperature is less than 45 degrees F or more than 95 degrees F. Keep away from children. Use within six months of purchase. See MSDS and product label.

**Appearance Tolerances:** Appearance may vary depending upon application and field conditions. Color cards and product samples represent approximate colors and textures only. Final approval should be based on contractor-prepared samples or mock-ups showing actual materials and workmanship proposed for use. Like all exposed plaster finishes, mottling and variations in hue and appearance are normal and a part of Tuscany's aesthetic appeal.

## **AVAILABILITY AND COST**

**Availability:** TexSton products are available from dealers throughout North America. Contact TexSton or visit the website for referrals to local sources.

**Cost:** Contact dealers for pricing information.

## **WARRANTY**

TexSton expressly warrants its products to be fit for the ordinary purpose for which they are intended for a period of five years from date of installation when applied and used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions within six months of purchase.

TexSton's liability under this warranty is limited to the replacement of products found to be defective or to the refund of purchase price to original purchaser. TexSton reserves the right to require proof of purchase and to inspect installations prior to resolving claims made under this warranty. This limited warranty is exclusive and in lieu of all other warranties either written, oral or implied, and expressly excludes liability for consequential damages.

## **MAINTENANCE**

**Cleaning:** Remove dust and loose dirt, then, wipe with a clean damp cloth. When necessary, surfaces may be cleaned with mild detergents or proprietary cleaning agents together with gentle scrubbing or low-pressure water washing. Mineral spirits or acetone can also be used; observe proper safety procedures when using solvents. Clean vertical surfaces from the bottom up. Thoroughly rinse exterior surfaces with clean water after cleaning. At interior surfaces, wipe off cleaning agents with a damp rag followed, if necessary, by a dry rag. Efflorescence, a white powdery deposit that can form on building surfaces, should be removed as soon as practical using water and a soft bristle brush or nylon scouring pad. Test cleaning products and techniques in an inconspicuous location before proceeding and comply with manufacturer's instructions.

**Inspection:** As with any building material, finishes should be periodically examined to assure that surfaces and substrates are in good condition. Examine joints, sealants, flashings, trim and other locations that could permit water to enter the building. Conditions that could produce stains – such as water run-off from roofs or ledges washing down face of a wall – should be corrected.

Since Tuscany is a finish coat, cracks that appear in their surface are probably due to cracking within the substrates to which they are applied; extensive cracking could indicate excessive building settlement or movement and should be examined by a qualified building professional.

**Blemishes:** In many instances, scratches, scuff marks and stains that do not respond to ordinary cleaning techniques may be removed by lightly sanding the surface. The success of this depends on the texture of the finish, and tests should be performed in inconspicuous locations before proceeding. Re-apply sealer or top coat, if required, to sanded areas.

**Repairs:** Most damage to Tuscany surfaces can be repaired by experienced applicators. Extensive damages may require replacement of an entire section of finished surface.

**Graffiti:** Consult a firm specializing in graffiti removal and protection.

## TECHNICAL SERVICES

**Design:** TexSton and many of its distributors are ready to assist designers with color matching and custom color development services; color chips and sample boards are available. Our master craftsmen are also available to help develop special textures and aesthetic effects and to provide assistance with specification development.

**Training:** The ultimate quality and beauty of TexSton finishes depend upon the skill of the installers who apply them. While Tuscany is simple enough that any skilled finish contractor can learn to apply it, we also conduct rigorous training programs through the TexSton Architectural Finishing Institute (T.A.F.I) that enable us to certify master craftsmen. Classes can be conducted in the TexSton studio, at a dealer's or contractor's location, or on a job site.

**Installation:** When specified for large or complex projects, TexSton can provide master craftsmen to assist local applicator crews.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Material Safety Data Sheet  
Contractor Application Tips  
Instruction on Product Label  
Color Charts and Samples  
Guide Specification



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