

CARE AND MAINTENANCE FOR STUCCO

BUILDING TRUST

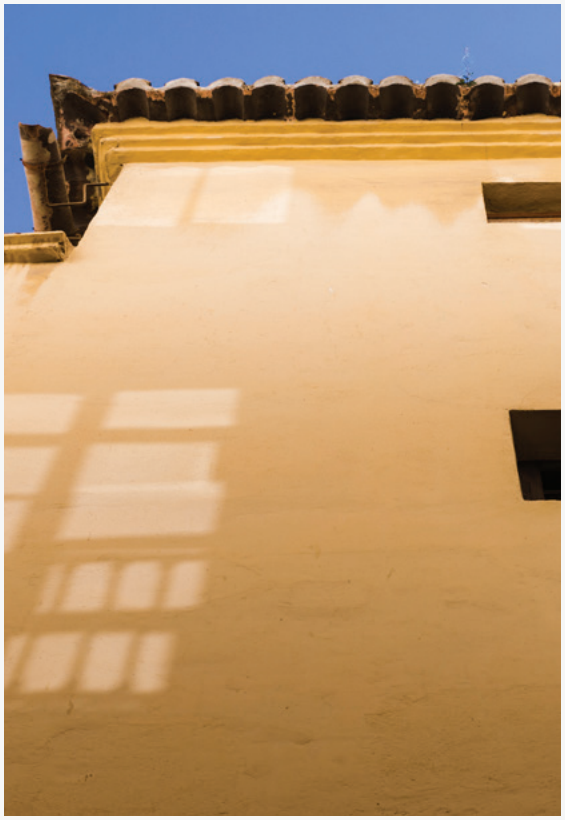
STUCCO SOLUTIONS

A STUCCO BUILDING NOT ONLY OFFERS YOU PERSONALIZED COLOR AND TEXTURE, it also provides enduring beauty with minimal maintenance for years to come. You can feel confident that your builder selected the finest in exterior building and finishing products.



SIKAWALL ACRYLIC AND CEMENT STUCCO FINISHES:

UNLIKE PAINT, SIKAWALL STUCCO FINISHES PROVIDE A THICK LAYER OF COLOR THAT IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE FINISH. Stucco finishes can benefit from an occasional cleaning to remove airborne dust or other atmospheric matter. Over time, minor repairs might be needed to replace sealants or fix chips in the stucco caused by lawn mowers or garden tools.



ACRYLIC STUCCO FINISH
A low VOC, 100% acrylic, resin based product that has remarkable resistance to dirt and stains because it utilizes the latest in DPR technology (Dirt Pick-Up Resistance).



CEMENT STUCCO FINISH
One of the most durable finishes you will find on homes. It is made from all-natural mineral materials; painting will never be necessary if cared for properly.

MAINTENANCE OF CEMENT STUCCO



Like any building material, stucco needs occasional care to keep its appearance fresh and clean.

Here are a few simple things you can and should do to keep it looking its best:

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO...

Be sure to keep irrigation systems directed away from your stucco wall. Over time, sprinkler systems could discolor your wall and might cause mildew (a fungus), or efflorescence (a whitish powdery "bloom") to form. Wash your exterior stucco a few times a year to keep its surface clean and its color bright.

HERE'S HOW:

1 **PRE-WET:** Use a garden hose with a jet nozzle to prewet the wall over its entire surface. Pre-wetting will overcome absorption, preventing the stucco finish from absorbing dirty wash water. Set your hose nozzle to a medium to coarse spray. Start at the bottom and wet the surface all the way to the top.

2 **WASH:** When the surface has been pre-wet, adjust the hose nozzle to a "pressure stream" and direct the stream of water against the wall to loosen dirt and dust. This time, start at the top and work down to the bottom. "Caked-on" dirt, if present might require loosening with a brush. To avoid eroding some finishes, do NOT hold the nozzle too close to the surface

3 **USE CLEANSER IF NECESSARY:** Sometimes, a mild cleanser might be needed to remove stains. We recommend a mild solution of trisodium phosphate, also known as "TSP," available from most paint and/or hardware stores.

If you use a different product, be sure it is water-soluble (dissolves completely in water) and is safe for Portland cement, lime and oxide pigment colors.

Do NOT use soap or dish washing liquid. Always test the cleaning solution on a small, inconspicuous area first to be sure it is safe for your wall.





4 **RINSE:** Flush the wall thoroughly with clean water to remove loosened dirt and cleansers.

If you find mildew: Wash the affected area with a mild solution of household bleach. Always observe proper safety precautions when using any chemical or cleanser. Never allow children access to household chemicals or cleansers.

If you find efflorescence: Spray the affected area with white vinegar. This should neutralize the alkaline efflorescence. After a few minutes – and before the vinegar dries – rinse the area with clean water. Efflorescence is usually caused by a combination of cool weather and excessive moisture.

WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO...

NEVER use harsh detergents or cleansers that can damage portland cement, lime or oxide pigment colors.

NEVER hold the hose nozzle too close to the stucco surface. A forceful, high-pressure jet of water held too close could damage certain stucco finishes.

HELPFUL PRODUCTS...

Eventually every homeowner has to make a small repair or "spruce up" an aging wall. Here are some specialty products owners of stucco homes might find useful.

- To repair chipped corners and small spalls use SikaWall Exterior Color Coat. After the patch has dried, use SikaWall Allegro II Coating in the color that was applied to your home.
- To render stucco surfaces water-repellent and improve stain resistance use SikaWall Pro-Tect, a clear, colorless liquid formulated to protect above ground stucco, masonry and mature concrete from water.
- To renew older, faded stucco surfaces, or to repair stubborn stains on newer surfaces, use SikaWall Allegro II Coating. This mineral-based spray finish material is similar to stucco without the added maintenance demands of conventional paints on stucco finishes.

MAINTENANCE OF ACRYLIC STUCCO FINISHES





CLEANING

SikaWall Acrylic finishes are durable, strong materials manufactured to give attractive appearance and longevity. The desired color of the finish is manufactured into the product and does not require painting for many years. The following procedures are suggested to treat acrylic finishes in case of accidental or environmental soiling or minor damage.

GENERAL CLEANING INFORMATION

SikaWall Acrylic Finish can be cleaned using the same cleaning agents that are used to clean acrylic latex paints. Any necessary surface scrubbing should only be done with a soft nylon bristle brush. Always test clean a small inconspicuous area of the finish to ensure no detrimental color or texture change will occur.

ENVIRONMENTAL SOILING

MILD CLEANING

Gently scrub the affected area with a solution of dish soap and water. Rinse thoroughly.

HEAVY DUTY CLEANING

Pressure wash at a maximum pressure setting of 1000 psi. Water up to 100°F may be used. The nozzle of the pressure washer wand should be no closer than one (1) foot from the stucco surface. Do not concentrate the nozzle in one area as this may result in damage.

CLEANING OILY RESIDUE

Mix a 1/4 cup of Trisodium Phosphate (TSP) to one (1) gallon of warm water. Gently scrub the affected area. Rinse thoroughly with water. Caution: Trisodium Phosphate can become a nutrient source for algae growth.

STAINS FROM WOOD

Stains from redwood, cedar or treated lumber can be very difficult to remove once they have set on the acrylic finish. If possible, these stains should be removed immediately by one of the cleaning methods listed in the Environmental Soiling section. If the stain does not respond to cleaning, the affected area may have to be sealed and recoated.

TAR AND ASPHALT MATERIALS

Like stains from woods, tar-like materials can be very difficult to remove. If the finish is fully dry and the affected area is small, quick action must be taken. Remove any excess residue taking care not to enlarge the stain.

Cold water and/or ice may be helpful in containing the affected area. Commercial cleansers are available that may be effective in removing the stain. In the event that the stain cannot be removed, it may be necessary to seal and recoat the surface with a SikaWall Acrylic coating. Be sure your Acrylic Finish color number is documented.

RUST STAINS

Rust stains on acrylic finishes can come from iron or steel construction components adjacent to the installation. To effectively remove the staining, its source should be removed or treated to prevent reoccurrence. To clean the acrylic finish affected by rust stains, use a commercially available Metal Oxide Remover.





MILDEW, FUNGUS AND ALGAE

For installations of SikaWall Acrylic stucco in geographical areas prone to fungus and algae growth, a regular schedule of cleaning is advisable. At the first signs of organic growth the affected area should be cleaned. There are several Mold and Mildew cleaners available for household use.





PATCHING AND REPAIRING

Any occurrence of damage such as dents, punctures, holes, etc. are best repaired by an applicator with experience in the use of Sika materials. In some cases, the finish, basecoat and lathing may have to be removed and replaced. Given these circumstances and the variety of damage that can be encountered, the best option is to contact the Sika Technical Services Department for specific information on repairs of this nature.

REFINISHING

If the finish material must be closely color matched to the existing work, it is recommended that a physical sample be provided to the Sika Color Department for analysis and matching. Even then, the new finish can appear somewhat different than the original finish due to age or a difference in the texturing technique of the applicators.

If a wall surface must be refinished, it may be more acceptable to resurface the entire panel or larger area to an existing break or termination, rather than a smaller patch area. As per Patching and Repairing, refinishing should be left to an applicator with prior experience in the use of Sika materials. The area must first be cleaned by one of the methods listed above.

Secondly, on the clean and dry existing finish, a skim coat of SikaWall basecoat should be troweled onto the surface to completely fill the voids created by the original texture. If primer was used in the initial work, apply SikaWall Primer to improve the color consistency and trowelability of the new finish. In applying the new finish, follow the instructions given in the SikaWall Product Data Sheet for specific finish and texture desired.

since 1986

since 1997

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