

Paint Strippers

- Selective Cleaning
- Improved Rinsing
- Minimized Damage
- Greater Productivity
- Reduced Call-backs

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DESCRIPTION AND USE

FABRIKEM® manufactures a series of paint strippers designed to remove a variety of coatings from various masonry surfaces. Applications include the removal of graffiti, multiple layers of paint, high-strength coatings, clear water repellents, wax, acrylic-based stucco finishes, and some vegetative stains.

FABRIKEM® SPECIAL PAINT STRIPPER TYPE H is a gelled, hydroxide type stripper which is formulated specifically for the removal of multiple layers of paint especially from older masonry surfaces where high pressure cleaning could prove destructive to the substrate. It is also suitable for the removal of vegetative stains from a variety of masonry surfaces.

FABRIKEM® SPECIAL PAINT STRIPPER TYPE M is a gelled methylene-chloride type stripper which is intended to assist in the removal of high strength coatings such as epoxies, urethanes, and enamels. Its quick reactivity makes it ideal for spot treating areas requiring paint removal (some types of graffiti).

ADVANTAGES

Because of their thixotropic consistency, FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPERS are easily applied, thus minimizing spillage. While hot water will definitely improve the efficiency of these products, the emulsifiers used do allow for cold-water rinsing. Each product is designed to be effective in the removal of a wide variety of substances.

APPLICATION

Always test before undertaking large scale cleaning to confirm product selection, to ensure adequate results, to establish appropriate technique, and to establish typical coverage rates. Remove all loose and flaking paint using scrapers and/or high-pressure water. Allow surface to dry completely before applying stripper. Use the stripper as supplied: DO NOT DILUTE.

Apply the stripper using brush or roller. FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE H should be applied with tools that can resist strong alkalis. FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE M should be applied with tools that can resist strong solvents. Apply stripper in a uniform manner, with coverage at the rate established by the test panels. Allow the stripper to dwell on the surface for the following minimum periods:

FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE H: 45 minutes to 24 hours
FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE M: 15 to 20 minutes

In cold temperatures, these times will need to be extended. In windy and warm conditions, care must be taken in the use of these strippers to avoid allowing them to dry out as this will defeat the stripping process. Substrate temperature is generally more critical than ambient temperature. As the substrate temperature drops below 20°C (70°F) the effectiveness of these strippers diminishes. This is the reason that the use of hot water (>80°C/175° F) is recommended (as this helps to speed up the chemical reaction of the stripper).

Periodic agitation with additional stripper will usually optimize performance. Once the stripper has fully reacted with the substance to be removed, pressure wash off.

After removal, surfaces which have been cleaned with FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE H should be neutralized using a solution of either FABRIKEM® RESTORATION CLEANER TYPE C or TYPE S (depending on the nature of the substrate) diluted with clean water at a rate of 1:3. Apply this solution, allow a dwell time of about 3 minutes and pressure wash off.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL

The effective removal of graffiti requires the use of specific techniques in addition to those stated elsewhere in this product literature. While most graffiti can be effectively removed using FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE H, in some instances (e.g. water-based acrylics), FABRIKEM® PAINT STRIPPER TYPE M may be more effective. On porous substrates, the penetration of aerosol paints is considerable: this can lead to "ghosting" after the stripping process is complete. Long dwell times (>2 hours for Fabrikem® Paint Stripper Type H), warm substrate and ambient temperatures (>20°C/70°F), mechanical agitation of the stripper on the substrate, and hot water pressure rinsing are imperative for the successful removal of graffiti.

CAUTION

The effective removal of paint and coatings necessitates the use of strong chemicals. Care must therefore be exercised when using these products. Provide proper protection to all non-masonry surfaces (including glass, metal, hardware, and vegetation). Care must also be used to protect adjacent surfaces which could be damaged by run-off, splash, or overspray.

Adequate ventilation must be maintained at all times. Protective equipment must be worn during every step of the cleaning process.

Because of pollution considerations, care should be exercised in the control of residue run-off. Concern should be shown not only for the environmental impact of the cleaning chemicals, but more likely for the chemical content of the coatings being removed (especially older paints which may contain lead, mercury, and other harmful substances). It is usually a wise practice to collect all solid effluent and dispose of this in accordance with applicable legislation.

Do not use these products until first consulting the MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET.

LIMITATIONS

These paint strippers are not suited for the removal of cementitious coatings. Consult the manufacturer for recommendations should this condition exist.

In order to remove the paint stripper and coating residue, high pressure washing is required. If the substrate is too soft to withstand this procedure, some erosion of the surface is to be expected.

The effectiveness of these strippers is directly related to ambient and surface temperatures. Because paint stripping involves chemical reactions, cold temperatures will slow down reactivity while warm temperatures will accelerate cleaning. If test panels are applied, ensure that testing conditions match, as closely as possible, those which will exist at the time the large scale work is to be done.

COVERAGE

Test panels are imperative to determine exact coverage. Coverages will vary depending on surface texture, porosity, the quantity and nature of the coatings to be removed. Typical coverage is in the range of 75 to 100 square feet per gallon.

GUARANTEE

FABRIKEM® guarantees its products when applied in accordance with its printed instructions. Results of inadequate surface preparation, improper mixing, incorrect application, insufficient testing, inadequate protection, ignorance of environmental and safety regulations and other factors beyond the manufacturer's control cannot be held to the manufacturer's responsibility. No responsibility can be accepted beyond the purchase price of the product.

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