

Concrete Block: Damp-Proofing Recommendations

Masonry Product

CONCRETE BLOCK as manufactured by Mutual Materials Co., P.O. Box 2009, Bellevue, WA 98009.

Materials

1. FABRISHIELD® 653 SILOXANE/QUARTZ WATER REPELLENT as manufactured by Fabrikem Manufacturing Ltd.
2. FABRISHIELD® 653 is a clear water repellent VOC-compliant product designed to provide invisible protection for above grade exterior concrete block. It is a blend of siloxane resins and diffused quartz carbide that reacts with the alkalinity in the wall. It is specially formulated to not alter the shade of the treated surface. FABRISHIELD® 653 is also recommended in the independent publication of NWCMA Tek Note on Rain Resistant Masonry.

Application

Test each surface to be treated for compatibility, to confirm product selection, to establish typical coverage rate and to confirm degree of water repellency. The surfaces to receive FABRISHIELD® should be clean, free of stains, vegetation and efflorescence, thoroughly dry, sound and in good repair. Any deficiencies should be corrected prior to the application of FABRISHIELD® (this should include caulking). On new construction or where repairs have been undertaken, surfaces should be allowed to cure a minimum of 21 days.

Test panels are imperative. Apply material as supplied—DO NOT DILUTE or ALTER FABRISHIELD®. Preferred method of application is with a hand-held manual pump and low-pressure sprayer. (Do not use an airless paint sprayer.) Brush or roller application is adequate where appropriate (rubber hoses and gaskets in some tank sprayers may be affected by the solvent carrier causing discolorations).

When applying FABRISHIELD®, it is suggested that the substrate receive an initial light "mist" coat to break the surface tension. This then should be followed immediately by a uniform flood coat, which allows just enough material to carry about a six-inch rundown from the contact point. Application should be made in an overlapping pattern and coverage controlled to approximately that established in the test panels.

If test panels indicate the need for a second coat, the above procedures should be repeated, allowing 12–24 hours for the first coat to dry.

Coverage

Typically, FABRISHIELD® 653 should be applied at the rate of approximately 70 square feet per gallon on smooth faced block that contain Dry Block admix. Textures of Split Face and Fluted concrete block will also lower coverage rate.

Precautions

FABRISHIELD® should not be applied to surfaces that have been wet or rained upon during any of the four preceding days or if rain is expected within 12 hours following application.

Adequate ventilation should be provided and prolonged inhalation of vapors avoided. (Materials must be kept away from fire and flame.) Goggles are advised to avoid eye irritation. **AVOID CONTACT WITH SKIN. NOTE: Protect all adjacent non-masonry surfaces.**

Advantages

Surfaces treated with FABRISHIELD® 653 exhibit water repellency for up to 10 years. This repellency helps treated surfaces to remain cleaner, thus reducing maintenance costs as well as making future cleaning easier.

Because FABRISHIELD® 653 is a penetrating type sealer, it is unaffected by surface abrasion. This deep penetration also means minimal aesthetic change. The breathable nature of this sealer allows moisture vapor to migrate from interior to exterior surfaces.

Specifications

This material should be specified in the masonry section to ensure a quality application and to establish positive responsibility. It's also good to meet with the Architect, General Contractors, Mason and Applicator (if other than Mason) to establish criteria and to determine if the wall is ready.

Damp-proof the exterior above grade concrete block walls with FABRISHIELD® 653 SILOXANE/QUARTZ WATER REPELLENT as manufactured by Fabrikem Manufacturing Ltd.

Apply as per Mutual Materials Co., CONCRETE BLOCK DAMP PROOFING / TRANSPARENT RECOMMENDATION.



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Updated: May 17, 2016