

THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS

The application of the lime plaster is very similar to the application of cement stucco. A few precautionary steps **MUST** to be followed in order to achieve good results.

1. PROTECT THE WORK BY USING TARPS

Curing and suction control are the most important factors. The slower the curing, the better the result. It is important to use tarps, burlap, etc. to protect the work for several days from adverse conditions such as sun, wind and rain. If conditions become too excessive, it may become necessary to mist water on the walls.

2. MIXING TIME

For NHL 3.5, NHL 2 & NHL 5 (when adding your own sand), mixing a **minimum** of 10 minutes is required. Be very careful not to add too much water at the beginning. Measure the water carefully. The lime is going to hydrate slowly and too much water will result in a "slurry".

NOTE: for **ecologic**[®] Mortar (premix, no sand needed) mixing time is five (5) minutes maximum.

3. TIME BETWEEN COATS

Wait a **minimum** of 10 days (or longer) between coats.

4. WET THE WALLS BETWEEN COATS

At the end of the day, the **day before** the application of a new coat (brown and finish) we recommend that you soak the walls to allow them to absorb as much water as possible. Do not have any water running or dripping down the wall at the time of plastering.

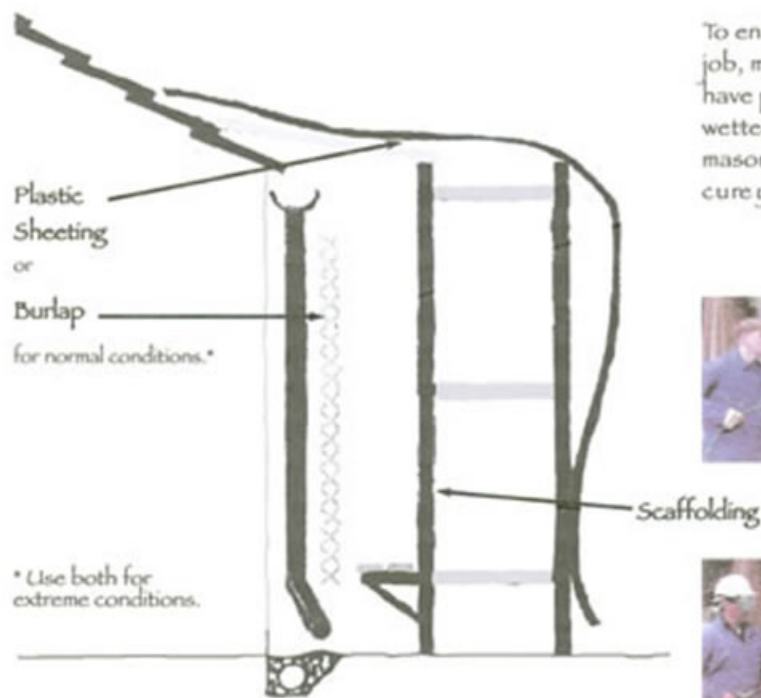
5. REWORK THE PRODUCT

NHL can be reworked up to 24 hours after application depending on the weather conditions. This is possible mainly because there is no cement in it. This is a huge advantage. If some cracking occurs in the brown coat, the applicator can mist the crack and close it up the next day, allowing for a flawless result. Drying conditions can reduce that window of opportunity so take advantage of it.

Although most of the steps we recommend are similar to the recommendations of the PCA or Portland Cement Plaster (Stucco) Manual, most of applicators do not follow these guidelines. The additives that are in Portland Cement compensate for these lapses, as well as improve productivity and workability. The lime that is specified on your project is called Natural Hydraulic Lime or NHL. The European Norm EN 459-1 specifies that NHL cannot contain any additives or any additional materials. It is considered a pure and natural product. Consequently there is nothing in NHL that will help to compensate for lack of workmanship or allow the contractor to "cut corners". The material tells the applicator how to work, not the other way around.

PLEASE, ALWAYS CONSULT www.LimeWorks.us FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS. Please do not attempt to apply limeplaster without reading the documents contained in the section best describing your project type.

A few hints for applying St. Astier Natural Hydraulic Lime



To ensure a successful job, make sure you have properly pre-wetted the existing masonry, and slow cure your mortar.



Protect from these extreme conditions:



Drying Wind



Freezing



Heavy Rain



Strong Sun