

## BEECK ETCHING FLUID

Acid concentration for cleaning old plasters and for removing sinterskin from new mineral plasters.



### Ranges of Application:

BEECK ETCHING FLUID thoroughly removes sinter-skin from new lime and lime based cement plasters and, thus, creates a silicification-active surface for subsequent treatment using BEECK silicate systems. Appropriate for all mineral building materials of an at least partially calcareous character, especially plasters of the mortar categories PI-PIII acc. to DIN 18 550 indoors and outdoors. Also for cleaning weathered mineral plasters including old lime and silicate coatings. Unsuitable for gypsum or natural stone, see Surface and Pretreatment.

### Processing:

Thin BEECK ETCHING FLUID with 3 to 5 parts water and apply with a hard brush. After completion of the reaction (realizable through a decrease of effervescence) rinse with plenty of clear water. Maximum exposure time: about 5 to 10 minutes. Use vapor jet or hose for rinsing facades. Indoors, remove with plenty of water and a brush. Protect surfaces not to be treated from undesired contact with ETCHING FLUID. CAUSTIC: Avoid skin contact and observe Safety Instructions! Minimum temperature: +5°C air and surface during cleaning. Do not apply to heated surfaces.

### Technical Features:

BEECK ETCHING FLUID has both a caustic and a pore-astringent effect. The sinterskin typical for lime based plasters is formed during drying of the plaster when the water used for preparation evaporates and the lime binders contained therein deposit on the plaster surface. This results in a high-tension, glass-like, brittle layer, in most cases of a characteristic shine. Sinterskins are particularly obvious in smooth or modeling plasters when applied in circular movements or with a felt-covered tool, less visible, however, in coarse plasters. Sinterskin that is not being removed may lead to flaking and stress cracks in the plaster. When using high-quality silicate coating systems, the removal of sinterskin is especially important and imperative because it makes the plaster pores only then accessible for silicification. Equalizing the absorbency will also facilitate the subsequent processing of silicate paint coatings which finally results in a reduction of consumption and costs.

### Physical/Technical Characteristics:

Density: 1.2 g/cm<sup>3</sup>  
pH value: 1 (undiluted)  
Viscosity: thin as water

### Drying:

Avoid complete drying. Rinse off within approx. 10 minutes after application. If necessary, wet strongly absorbent surfaces beforehand using a hose. Do not apply to heated surfaces. Subsequent coatings no sooner than 8 to 12 hours later.

### Yield:

Depending on dilution and surface:  
approx. 0.02 l BEECK ETCHING FLUID per m<sup>2</sup>.

### Available Sizes:

5 l, 10 l and 28 l.

### Cleaning:

Clean appliances, tools and clothes with plenty of water immediately after use.

### Storage:

Store BEECK ETCHING FLUID in the airtight sealed original container in a well ventilated, acid-resistant place. Lasts at least 24 months when stored cool and free of frost. Never transfer into containers that are non-acid-resistant! Observe Safety Instructions!

### Composition:

Watery solution of hexafluorosilicic acid, pure mineral acid without organic components. The neutralization products resulting from chemical reaction with calcareous building materials are water-insoluble and, thus, non-efflorescing. When used properly, the neutralization is complete and the cleaning water is acid-free. Therefore, rewashing only for removing exposed plaster grains.

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### Surface and Pretreatment:

#### General Requirements:

The surface must be dry, solid, coatable and water-wettable as well as free of efflorescing salts. Check new plasters especially lime plasters (P I) for sufficient dryness and stability. After removal of sinterskin, fresh lime plasters may be further solidified through carbonation which is why there may be several weeks between the etching and the silicate coating. Silicate coating of pure lime plasters no sooner than after 4 to 6 weeks, of lime based cement and cement plasters at the earliest after 10 days. Etching to be performed inbetween. Longer waiting times may be required in case of unfavorable weathering or thick plaster layers.

Extremely thin-layer plasters, strongly water-repellent or highly synthetic plasters are only suitable for silicate coating and treatment with BEECK ETCHING FLUID to a limited extent. Therefore, always make samples.

Dirty mineral facade plasters and old silicate and lime coatings can easily be cleaned using thinned BEECK ETCHING FLUID. Also efficient against microorganisms and, thanks to opening, favorable to intensive silicification and both uniform absorption and processing of silicate paints.

BEECK ETCHING FLUID is NOT appropriate for gypsum, clay, natural or artificial stones that contain efflorescing substances. In case of doubts, make samples. Sand gypsum plasters to remove sinterskin. However, thinned BEECK ETCHING FLUID may well be used for pretreating particularly smooth and dense mold concrete.

### Safety Instructions and Disposal:

#### ► Hazard Class: Corrosive (C)!

Wear acid-resistant safety clothes including glasses and gloves when processing. Only to be used by trained and skilled personnel. Avoid skin contact: risk of acid burns !

Always observe the professional associations' regulations for acid handling. Also refer to the corresponding EU Safety Data Sheets.

Carefully cover all surfaces not to be treated, especially glass, ceramic and metal surfaces. In case of contact, immediately rinse with plenty of water. Keep out of the reach of unauthorized persons.

Observe the regulations for sewage discharge. Disposal of product remainders according to legal regulations.

► Waste Code: Product and Product Remainders (European Waste Code): 060199.

It is our objective to provide, through this technical information, advice based on our skills and practical experience. Any instructions given are non-binding and do not release the user from his or her liability to check for product suitability and application methods him/herself with regard to the surface used. Technical modifications may result from product development. Upon publication of a revised or new version, these instructions will automatically lose their validity. The details contained in the EU Safety Data Sheets in their current form dictate liability for classification in terms of the Hazardous Substances Regulation, disposal etc.