

Hot Weather Working

Hot weather provides rapid drying conditions that affects newly applied materials, causing synthetic materials to dry and cementitious materials to 'pick up' or stiffen much quicker than normal. Warm, dry conditions with stiff breezes can equally provide rapid drying conditions. In hot weather, application of both renders and finishes should be carried out in the shade following the sun around the building.

During periods of sustained hot and dry weather, the substrate may need cooling with an even mist spray of clean water before application to avoid retained heat affecting freshly applied mortar. Note this should be done in a controlled manner, so as to avoid saturating the substrate as this can induce cracking. This advice is particularly relevant when rendering onto aerated autoclaved blocks.

Cementitious products need to retain water for sufficient time to enable the cement to hydrate fully in order to reach full strength. Rapid drying conditions may therefore leave render materials weak.

During hot, rapid drying weather newly finished cementitious render materials may need to be actively cured by spraying with a light spray of clean water two or three times a day for two or three days after application. This is particularly relevant when working internally with these products.

In common with all cementitious mixes, renders will not achieve full strength for approximately 28 days. During this period the finished work is more vulnerable to damage.

If you wish to discuss any of this information further, please do not hesitate to contact your representative.