



Mix&GO Butterjoint Masonry Mortar

This Mix&GO is the perfect choice when a highly workable, easy to use product is needed, particularly in pressed or gauged brickwork. Our Standard Mix&GO Butterjoint Mortar is made with NHL 3.5W, however can be made with the Natural Hydraulic Lime of your choice. This durable 100% Natural Mortar product is perfect for almost any masonry application. No sourcing sands, no dealing with color, just add water “Mix&GO”. Available Custom Colored and in our range of 40 standard colors. Mix&GO Butterjoint Mortar is MADE IN THE USA.

Where to Use

Gauged or “Cut and Rubbed Brickwork” has been utilized for centuries on historic masonry structures. With the dawn of the Industrial Revolution, brick became more refined and “pressed brick” were often laid with very thin beds, some of which were no more than a 1/8” of an inch. Our Mix&GO Butterjoint Mortar is perfect for both of these applications, as well as repointing ashlar or cut and dressed stonework.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Components

Mix&GO Butterjoint is a mortar that contains lime, (Natural Hydraulic Lime, conforming to EN:459), a blend of natural sands, and (in colored products), synthetic iron oxide pigments. This product contains no cement, latex, or acrylic admixtures.

Compressive Strengths (Approximate)

Lime	7 Days	14 Days	28 Days	56 Days	91 Days	182 Days	365 Days	730 Days
NHL 3.5	87.02	253.82	406.11	565.65	659.92	812.21	964.50	1109.54
NHL 5	43.51	208.85	407.56	604.81	742.59	939.84	1138.55	1335.80
NHL 2	56.56	200.15	343.74	487.63	587.40	730.99	874.58	1018.17

Aggregate Sieve Analysis (Percent Retained)

#2	#4	#8	#16	#25	#50	#100	#200	PAN
0.000	0.000	0.020	0.010	0.150	33.100	60.390	5.010	0.300

Preparation

For Laying or Bedding Masonry: Protect work from harsh direct sunlight, wind and rain, and if necessary freezing temperatures. Protect sills, ledges, windows, doors, and projections from droppings and splatters. Do not use tape or adhesives on any masonry surface. Prevent mortar from staining the face of the masonry and or other surfaces to be left exposed.

For Masonry Repointing: Remove all existing cement mortar or deleterious lime mortar by hand. Angle Grinders should not be used at risk of damaging historic masonry particularly when working with this product, whereas masonry joints can often be less than 1/8 of an inch. All deteriorated mortar should be raked out to sound mortar, leaving a clean square face at the back of the joint, to which ever depth is greatest (1 inch, 1 1/2 times the width of the mortar joints, or until cohesive existing mortar is encountered). Care should be taken not to damage historic masonry surfaces and masonry joints should not be widened. Debris should be removed by hand brushing, vacuuming, or pressurized air. If there is evidence of moisture retention or rising damp it may be necessary to allow the structure to “dry out”. If this process is not done, lime leeching may occur, causing failure or the placed mortar and staining of the masonry.

Control Absorption by wetting units or surfaces prior to application. Surfaces and/or units should be cool and damp but not glistening or “holding water” to prevent premature drying of mortar

Mixing Directions

Mix&GO can be mixed either by hand or in a mechanical paddle mixer. Add one bag (65 lbs) of Mix&GO with 1.1 gallons and blend, adding additional water as necessary to achieve workability. Mix for at least 5 minutes. Please note that adding too much water can cause mortar to shrink, crack, and/or change color while curing.

Application

Lay a bed of mortar to sufficiently create full bed (horizontal) joints and “butter” brick ends to form full head (vertical) joints. To achieve the thinnest possible joint, as was done traditionally, it may be necessary to “butter” the bed joints prior to laying. Do not move or adjust units after the commencement of set, which can cause loss of bond between mortar and masonry units. If adjustments are deemed necessary remove both the masonry unit and the bed, and re-lay using fresh mortar.

For Masonry Repointing: Joints greater than 3/4” should be re-pointed with an initial lift to bring the joint depth to a uniform thickness. Pack mortar firmly against the previously placed mortar by applying firm pressure to ensure close contact between the lifts. If pointing in lifts, roughen the surface to provide keying between applications and allow mortar to become thumbprint hard prior to reapplication. When finishing mortar joints it is often preferable to match the original joint profile.

Reworking: Standard Mix&GO can be reworked for up to 3 hours. If a different Natural Hydraulic Lime is required, reworking times may be different. Please view corresponding Natural Hydraulic Lime Datasheets. If a significant amount of water is need to rework the mortar, the hydraulic set may have started and the material should be discarded.

Curing Time: Mortar work should be protected from sun, wind, and rain for at least 7 days. Mortar work should be protected from freezing temperatures for at least 28 days. In some cases mortar work may need to be protected from freezing temperatures for several months.

Coverages and Consumption (per bag)

Yield (Gallons)	Yield (cubic feet)	Bricklaying 4” bed- 1/8” thick	Stonework 4” bed- 1/8” thick	Repointing Brick 1/8” joint – 3/4” thick	Repointing Stone 1/8” joint – 3/4” thick
Approx. 5 gallons	Approx. 0.75 ft ³	120 brick	165 linear ft	300 ft ²	880 linear ft

Clean Up

Ensure that all work is properly protected prior to cleaning. Maintain clean surfaces on the face, sills, ledges, and projections of masonry on a daily basis, and with a trowel, strike off minor dabs of adherent mortar from masonry faces. After mortar has achieved thumbprint hardness, lightly brush masonry to remove small mortar burrs from joints and masonry edges. Manual cleaning of masonry can be effective by using water and soft bristled brushes to remove mortar smears. Light pressurized spray (less than 300 PSI) can be used with caution due to the fact that over saturation of the masonry could lead to moisture migration. Virginia Lime Works™ does not recommend cleaning with masonry detergents, however, if such measures deem detergents necessary, contact detergent manufacturer for protocol when cleaning “PURE LIME MORTAR” and test the treatment in small inconspicuous areas to determine its effectiveness and to ensure no damage occurs to the building fabric. Tools can be cleaned using conventional methods and properly protect any unused product from moisture and freezing. Opened bags of Mix&GO can be stored in sealed pails for up to 6 months from date of purchase.

Alternate products, Natural Hydraulic Lime (to be mixed with sand on-site), Lime Putty Butterjoint Mortar.

Additional References

Mix&GO Material Safety Data Sheet, Guide to Traditional Lime Mortar, Guide to Natural Hydraulic Limes, Mortar Classification Chart, Guide to Masonry Repointing.