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Technical Data Sheet

Uni-Marble Grain

Uni-Marble Grain is a Natural Marble chip-based Trowel-on Coating from the Unitex® Uni-Trowel Décor range. For exterior and interior walls, Uni-Marble Grain provides a smooth, glistening natural colour Marble pebble or chip effect.

Description

Uni-Marble Grain is an acrylic bound stone-tough natural coloured aggregate coating finish suitable only for applying on walls.

Uni-Marble Grain is the final surface coating of a more complete Unitex® Applied Finish System. As granular marble finishes carry through the contours of the underlying substrate, **Uni-Marble Grain** requires an even and smooth substrate for best results. It is necessary to prepare the substrate surface with the appropriate Unitex® Render and Substrate Primer (see Application Instructions).

Uni-Marble Grain is a product from the Unitex Professional Product Range and is only to be applied by those experienced in its application. The acrylic bound **Uni-Marble Grain** must only be applied to well-prepared, smooth surfaces. This product must be trowel-applied in a thickness to ensure both complete substrate coverage and to be thicker than the chip size of the coarsest aggregate. The coating is then thoroughly worked to produce a uniform and tightly bound, smooth, even surface.

Grades

Uni-Marble Grain is available in a limited range of shades based on the natural colours of marble chips and their grain size. There are two grain sizes, being Medium and Fine.

Expected Coverage is:

Medium: approx. 3.5 m² per 15 litre pail.

Fine: approx. 4.5 m² per 15 litre pail.

Purpose

A complete Unitex® Applied Surface Finish that includes **Uni-Marble Grain** both protects and decorates new surfaces and restores old surfaces such as interior and exterior walls, balustrades, columns and in-fill panels as well as entrances and lobbies. The substrates such as Brick, Cement Blocks, Fibre Reinforced Cement Sheeting, Autoclaved Aerated Cement panels, Pre-cast and in situ formed concrete must be dust-free, dry and solid to allow the Unitex® Applied Finish to adhere and bond with the substrate.

The use of **Uni-Marble Grain** provides a smooth, multi-coloured, glistening, stone effect to enhance the style of especially large concrete structure externals as well as Foyers and Lobbies. The **Uni-Marble Grain** glistening finish converts what could be dull cement structures into fresh marble towers. Both the protective and decorative functions of **Uni-Marble Grain** are long term and will normally remain so for many years to come. Hence, the specifier is provided with a virtually maintenance free coating for the life of the warranty period.

Performance

Uni-Marble Grain exhibits excellent durability and natural marble colour retention under most climatic conditions. A protective and decorative service life of 10 years would be expected, provided that mechanical damage, e.g. penetrations by cutting, welding, burning, etc., does not occur.

Please note that all acrylic-based clear coatings will show some degree of fading and discolouration due to the impact of weather and airborne pollutants. Some water whitening of the coating may occur in both hot and humid or cold and damp situations but this effect lessens as the weather improves.

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Composition

Uni-Marble Grain consists of washed and graded granular marble chips of specified size to give the desired texture and natural colour mix.

The marble grains are bound tightly together and also adhered to the substrate by a special adhesion promoting acrylic polymer. This polymeric binder allows the **Uni-Marble Grain** to be applied in a high film build that retains enough flexibility to cope with normal substrate movement, though regular expansion joints are always needed in rendered walls. The location of expansion joints is the responsibility of the Builder and his Engineers.

Biological Resistance

Resistance is provided against attack from bacteria and fungi by the incorporation of fungicides and bactericides in the formulation. This product is a water-based acrylic system which offers safer handling compared to solvent-based systems.

Fire Resistance

Coatings based on **Uni-Marble Grain** meet strict standards such as AS/NZS 1530:3:1999 Simultaneous Determination of Ignitability, Flame Propagation, Heat Release and Smoke Release.

Water Resistance

The coating is formulated to provide a high water vapour permeability factor to allow for migration of water vapour from the substrate, but the coating film forms a high barrier to external rain and moisture penetration. Some occasional water whitening of the film can occur in hot, humid and cold, damp situations but leaves the film as weather improves.

Application Details

Uni-Marble Grain is a product from the Unitex® Professional Applicator Range and these Application Details are required to be followed for the Building Owners Coating Warranty, Coating Longevity and Appearance.

Application should not be carried out under excessively cold conditions (below 10 °C), wet and/or humid conditions or in hot, windy conditions (above 30 °C).

Substrate Preparation: To ensure full performance is achieved, surface preparation is most important. Any crumbling, loose or damaged substrate, including render, must be removed or patched and made good prior to applying **Uni-Marble Grain**. Ensure all surfaces are dry and free of grease, oils, dirt and dust. Pre-painted surfaces must have flaking paint wire brushed back to sound substrate prior to Unitex® Render application.

Please contact Unitex® to recommend the appropriate Render for the masonry substrate. Generally, either Uni Dry Cote Redi Render, Uni Dry Coat HiLite Render or Uni Dry Cote Fast-R Render, all with or without Unitex Polymer Render, shall be recommended. These renders are available as dry powders and are prepared by adding water and drill mixing to a workable slurry. The slurry is applied to the suitable substrate by trowel or spray and floated to a smooth and even finish. After thorough drying to a Wood Moisture Equivalent of less than 12 %, measured by Protimeter or equivalent moisture meter, the surface is ready for the next stage.

Applying Uni-Marble Grain: Unitex® recommends applying 2 coats of Uni-Substrate Primer by roller over the prepared render surface prior to the application of **Uni-Marble Grain**. This provides a continuous, even, low absorbency surface without roller marks upon which the overlying **Uni-Marble Grain** can dry in a uniform manner and as Uni-Substrate Primer is pre-coloured to a complimentary shade to **Uni-Marble Grain**, lighter and darker substrates are prevented from blushing to the surface of **Uni-Marble Grain**.

Upon opening each pail of **Uni-Marble Grain**, it must be drill mixed to a whipped, fluffed, white mixture (1 minute drilling). **Uni-Marble Grain** is trowel applied as a one-coat high build protective and decorative coating. The film thickness is high build to provide effective coverage of the background. It is recommended that **Uni-Marble Grain** is applied by experienced teams of Applicators using trowels to apply the **Uni-Marble Grain** followed by Finishing Applicators who work the **Uni-Marble Grain** to achieve a closed, tight surface before smooth finishing. **Uni-Marble**

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Grain dries from the surface first, while the substrate interface remains wet, so the wet coating must be worked tightly with nil tearing and smooth finished rapidly. Then protect and leave to dry.

NOTE: Once surface skinning occurs, do not touch as delamination and irreparable damage will result.

The **Uni-Marble Grain** coating, when applied to a dry surface, is usually touch dry in 24 hours under standard conditions of 25 °C and 50 % Relative Humidity, and is serviceable in these standard conditions after 7 days drying.

Uni-Marble Grain, when applied as specified, provides a glossy finish, which makes it even more important that it is coated over a true, level and uniform properly prepared surface. If the Applicator of **Uni-Marble Grain** be other than the team that prepared the surface, then prior to applying **Uni-Marble Grain**, a Straight Edge should be used to check suitability and the Builder/Project Manager must be informed of the suitability or otherwise of the substrate.

Please note that prior to the contract, the Builder must be provided by the Applicator with a Site Applied Reference Sample on the wall of the Unitex® complete system. It is recommended that the Site Applied Reference Sample be of a minimum size of 2 m².

Supply

Uni-Marble Grain is supplied ready mixed in 15 litre sealed pails (32 pails to a pallet). The product must be protected from excessive heat and cold during transit and storage.

Unitex® offers a full range of specialty substrate renders and applied finishes for use in the Building Industry. Data Sheets and panel samples for the full range of **Uni-Marble Grain** and other Unitex® products are available on request.

Unitex® heavy duty finishes have been chosen on many projects throughout Australia for more than 30 years. Addresses of completed projects can be supplied on request.

Specifier's Clause.

The Unitex® system of Unitex® Render, Uni-Substrate Primer and **Uni-Marble Grain** shall be applied as per the relevant Unitex® Specifications. These products are manufactured in Australia by Unitex Granular Marble Pty Ltd.

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