

# SPECCRETE® VERTIFAUX

## LIGHTWEIGHT CEMENT BASED VERTICAL CARVING & RESURFACING MORTAR

**DESCRIPTION:** Specco Speccrete® Vertifaux is a single component, ready to use, cementitious carving and resurfacing mortar designed for vertical applications to concrete, masonry, drywall or plywood substrates. Speccrete® Vertifaux exhibits extended set times that allow subsequent decorative texture impressions during sculpting, texturizing, or hand carving. Speccrete® Vertifaux is formulated for ideal consistency with low density, lightweight aggregates to allow non sag applications on vertical and overhead surfaces. Speccrete Vertifaux is typically used for interior applications however, external applications are possible by adding Speccobond latex admixture and applying a penetrating water repellent such as Specco Waterstopper S-5 VOC.

**BENEFITS:** LIGHT WEIGHT FORMULATION PROVIDES A NON SAG, HIGH YIELD MORTAR...EXCELLENT TROWELABILITY AND CARVE TIMES...EASY TO HAND CARVE OR TEXTURE STAMP... LIGHT GRAY COLOR ALLOWS EASY STAINING OR INTEGRAL COLOR ADDITION... PRE-BAGGED MIX PROVIDES CONTROLLED BATCHING AND COLOR CONSISTENCY OVER HAND-MADE VERTICAL MIXES

**COMPOSITION:** Proprietary blend of cement, plasticizers, rheology modifying additives and selected aggregates for weight reduction, improved finishing, and shrinkage compensation. This product contains no calcium chloride or intentionally added chlorides that contribute to reinforcement steel corrosion.

### TECHNICAL DATA:

WORKING AND PERFORMANCE PROPERTIES @ 70° F (21° C) APPROXIMATE VALUES *	
Density (Wet mix) per ASTM C 138:	88-90 lbs. / cubic foot
Working time:	30 - 40 minutes
Initial set per ASTM C-191 (Finishing time):	3 - 4 hours
Final set per ASTM C191:	10 - 11 hours
Coverage:	7.95 square feet at 1.5 inches thick
Yield:	0.60 cubic feet per 50 lb bag

\*Above results were obtained using a water / powder ratio of 23.5% = 1.41 gallon water (5.64 quarts) per 50 lb. (22.72 kg) unit

**SURFACE PREPARATION: CONCRETE:** Existing concrete should be prepared by removing unsound concrete with the use of high pressure water blasting, grinding, or sandblasting. Acid cleaners or degreaser use is discouraged as these chemicals may leave surface residue or weaken the resulting surface. New concrete should be adequately cured and free of release agents, curing compounds, or any surface laitance, dust or other contaminants that could act as a potential bond break. Any surface voids, holes or pockets should be patched and filled with Speccrete® Wall Base. The repaired areas should be allowed to fully cure before applying Speccrete® Vertifaux topping. **MASONRY:** Remove and repair any loose or weak mortar between masonry units. **DRYWALL, BACKERBOARD, PLYWOOD:** Apply reinforcement tape over any joints between the boards, at the corners, and also over exposed screw or nail heads. All surfaces should be reinforced to prevent any flexing or movement. Mechanically fasten wire mesh or lathe to drywall or plywood surfaces as needed to help support the Speccrete® Vertifaux topping.

**PRIMING:** All substrates should be primed with B-30 Bonding Agent. Due to its inherent high thickness, the B-30 Bonding Agent should be pre-diluted with water at a 1:1 volume ratio for easier spray or brush application. Apply this diluted solution at approximately 200 sq. ft./ gallon using a roller or brush. Allow the primer to dry to a "tact free" consistency (which is typically 20-30 minutes) before starting the Speccrete® Vertifaux application. Overly absorbent substrates may require a second coat of primer to ensure an adequate seal. Do not expose the freshly primed surface to rain or water contamination, in which case the B-30 Bonding Agent would have to be reapplied (at the same pre-diluted 1:1 volume ratio with water) due to possible run off.

**SCRATCH COAT:** After the primer has dried, and before applying the Speccrete® Vertifaux, a thin scratch coat of Speccrete® Wall Base should be applied by trowel or hopper gun at approx. 1/16 to 1/8 inch thick. This scratch coat should be raked horizontally to create adequate surface profile which will improve subsequent bond of the Speccrete® Vertifaux. Allow the scratch coat to dry 6-8 hours before re-priming the area with B-30 Bonding Agent (again, pre-diluted at a 1:1 ratio), letting the surface dry, and then applying the Speccrete® Vertifaux afterwards. **MIXING:** Place approx. 1.40 gallons (5.60 quarts) of water in the mixing container and slowly add the 50 lb of Speccrete® Vertifaux while continuously mixing with a mechanical low speed drill and paddle mixer. Adjust water to the desired consistency of the mortar, but do not exceed 1.60 gallon (6.40 quarts) per 50 lb. bag to reduce shrinkage potential. Larger quantities may be mixed in a mortar mixer if necessary. **Note - For external applications, we recommend the use of our Speccobond Bonding Agent (as an admixture) at a rate of 1 pint per 50 lb bag of Vertifaux, and reduce the required water by one pint (to 5.10 quarts per bag total water) to compensate for the additional bonding liquid added.** Mix Speccrete® Vertifaux to a uniform consistency for a minimum of three minutes. Do not add previously mixed material to new batches, and do not re-temper or add additional water to previously mixed material to gain plasticity.

**APPLICATION:** Substrate control joints should be marked and filled with Speccrete® Wall Base prior to installing the Speccrete® Vertifaux to prevent transferring into the new surface. Apply Speccrete® Vertifaux by hand trowel between 1.5" to 3.0" maximum thickness. Coverage rates will vary depending on depth of installation, substrate texture, and finishing. If applying in successive lifts, allow preceding lift to stiffen (but not harden) before applying fresh material. Application thickness should be sufficient to allow for the accurate transfer detail of the concrete texturizing tools, rollers, or skins. Begin texturizing as soon as the material has sufficiently set to achieve a clean impression without tearing the surface. Speccrete® Vertifaux can be hand carved between 6-24 hours after installation. Carving time will vary depending on temperature, humidity, and overlay thickness.

**CURING:** Normal curing of Speccrete® Vertifaux is not necessary due to its hygroscopic composition, however, fog misting or use of polyethylene sheets is recommended during thinner applications under 1.5" or in adverse conditions (hot, windy weather). Saw cutting of control joints should be completed approx. 14 hour after installation. Staining and sealing are usually done at approx. 48-72 hours after job completion, allowing a few days for proper curing to take place. Specco Stone Transitions acid stains or Specco Spectrum transparent stains are both recommended for obtaining diverse natural color effects.

**CAUTIONS:** When using Speccrete® Vertifaux in exterior applications, always add the Speccobond admixture and additionally seal with a clear water repellent such as Specco Waterstopper S-5 VOC for maximum protection against water absorption and freeze thaw cycling. The addition of polypropylene fibers are typically not recommended with Speccrete Vertifaux when carving or tooling due to the increased chance of micro-tearing on edges. If fibers are to be added, the use of both a shorter length fiber with a finer denier (thickness) is recommended for easier profiling. Do not apply Speccrete® Vertifaux if the temperature is expected to fall below 40° F (4° C) or rise above 90° F (32.2° C) within 24 hours of application. Maximum recommended application thickness in one lift is between 1.5" (38 mm) to 3.0" (76 mm). To help minimize occurrence of shrinkage cracks for exterior applications or applications under 1.5" (38 mm), it is mandatory to pre-dampen the dried "scratch coat" with water spray before applying the 1:1 diluted B-30 bond solution. If Speccrete® Vertifaux sags at any point during application, completely remove the material, re-prime the substrate, and re-apply the mortar at a reduced thickness. Do not overwork the completed surface. Do not cure with traditional water or solvent based curing compounds, this will allow subsequent staining and color alteration of the surface.

**WARNINGS:** Contains cement and silica, avoid inhalation of dust. Wear gloves, safety goggles, and NIOSH/MSHA approved dust respirator during mixing and placement. Use only with adequate ventilation. Refer to product M.S.D.S. (Material Safety Data Sheet) for additional safety information. Do not take internally. Avoid prolonged contact with skin. **FOR INDUSTRIAL USE ONLY. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.** If inhalation or exposure causes any physical discomfort or irritation that persists, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION. **NPCS HMIS SAFETY RATINGS:** HEALTH = 2, FLAMMABILITY = 0, REACTIVITY = 0, P. PROTECTION = E. **PACKAGING:** 50 lb. bag (22.72 kg), 50 bags / pallet

**STORAGE:** Store in a dry, protected place. **SHELF LIFE:** 1 year properly stored

**LIMITED WARRANTY:** This product is warranted to be of merchantable quality when used according to the instruction herein. It is not warranted to be suitable for any purpose or use other than the general purpose for which it is intended. Liability under this warranty is limited to the replacement of the product as purchased, if found to be defective upon inspection by the manufacturer. This limited warranty is issued and accepted in lieu of all other expressed warranties and explicitly excludes liability for consequential damages. Buyer assumes all risk and liability resulting from the use of this product. Revised – 07-24-09