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# Leveling Skimcoat

Sandable skim coat for use with BASF Metallic Top Coat

## Product Bulletin

### PACKAGING

70-lbs per 5-gallon pail  
(32-kg per 19-liter pail)

### COVERAGE

280 ft<sup>2</sup> (26 m<sup>2</sup>) per pail, applied  
in two coats

200 ft<sup>2</sup> (19 m<sup>2</sup>) per pail, applied  
in three coats

### COLOR

Light gray

### SHELF LIFE

2 years when stored in the  
original, unopened conditions  
in a cool, dry place away from  
direct sunlight. Store at minimum  
40°F (4°C). Do not allow  
temperature to exceed 120°F  
(49°C).

### FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY

A preconstruction meeting is  
recommended to ensure that  
expectations of all parties are  
aligned prior to commencing  
application. A jobsite mock-up  
is also recommended to qualify  
workmanship.

### DESCRIPTION

BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT is a sandable skim  
coat that is specifically formulated for use with  
BASF METALLIC TOP COAT.

### USES

BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT is intended for use  
in exterior and interior applications. In exterior  
applications, it can be used with BASF Continuous  
Insulation, EIFS and stucco wall systems. BASF  
LEVELING SKIMCOAT can be sanded to create  
a uniform substrate for application of BASF  
METALLIC TOP COAT.

### EQUIPMENT

- Spiral or Jiffler type mixer paddle  
(dedicated/clean)
- Heavy duty 1/2 inch variable speed drill
- Stainless steel tapered Venetian trowel
- Ancora .817/RS-1 tapered soft plastic trowel  
([www.wind-lock.com](http://www.wind-lock.com)) or equal
- Hand-held misting sprayer
- Drywall hand sander
- 100 and 150 grit drywall sandpaper
- Foam block sanders
- Orbital oscillating hand sander (optional)
- 3M Tack Cloth, Norton Abrasives microfiber  
tack cloth or equal

### Recommended trowels

*First coat:* Stainless steel tapered 12x4  
Venetian trowel

*Second coat:* Stainless steel tapered 12x4  
Venetian trowel for initial application. Flexible  
plastic Venetian trowel to create the final smooth  
appearance. Ancora makes a plastic trowel (article  
number .817/RS-1, available from Wind-Lock)  
that has been found to work well. **NOTE: Use of  
standard EIFS/stucco trowels (either new  
or broken-in) may result in uneven finish  
application.**

### MIXING

Mix by using a clean spiral or Jiffler style mixer  
with a low speed drill. **NOTE: Do not use drywall  
mixing paddles.** Wipe sides of pail down with a  
water soaked rag to help eliminate dried particles  
from falling into the product. Mist a small amount  
of water over unused material before replacing the  
lid. Replace lid when not being used.

### SUBSTRATE PROTECTION

Ensure that flashing, parapet caps and other  
means of protection are installed prior to  
application of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT, so  
that moisture does not accumulate behind BASF  
LEVELING SKIMCOAT during construction.

### SURFACE PREPARATION

The surface should not contain irregularities. All  
divots, pits, mesh overlaps, and mesh patterns  
must be leveled and skimmed with a BASF Base  
Coat to correct any imperfections.

**NOTE: To ensure a smooth surface, an  
additional layer of base coat is required  
prior to application of BASF LEVELING  
SKIM COAT. All leveling corrections must  
be made using base coat. Do not rely on  
LEVELING SKIMCOAT to correct base coat  
imperfections.**

### APPLICATION CONDITIONS

**NOTE: Provide full tenting to protect from  
wind and sun.**

### APPLICATION

Two coats of LEVELING SKIMCOAT are required.  
Three or more coats may be needed to attain the  
desired level of surface smoothness.

1. Sand or stone existing surfaces to remove  
imperfections and trowel marks. Remove dust  
and debris.

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2. Apply BASF TINTED PRIMER at a rate of 150-250 ft<sup>2</sup>/gal (14-23 m<sup>2</sup>/l). The color of BASF TINTED PRIMER is not important. Use of unpigmented BASF TINTED PRIMER tint base is acceptable. Allow primer to dry.
3. Apply the first coat of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT using a 12x4 inch Venetian trowel at a uniform thickness of 10-15 mils. Maintain a wet edge at all times during application. Application thickness is critical. Where insufficient thicknesses are applied, rapid drying may result. Excessive thickness may cause check cracking.
4. Allow the first coat of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT to partially cure, then sand the skim coat with 100-150 grit sandpaper to remove trowel marks and create a smooth surface. Change sandpaper frequently. For best results, sand BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT using a sanding block on the same day that it is applied, before it is fully cured.
5. Use a soft brush to remove dust, then wipe the sanded surface with a clean tack cloth to remove dust.
6. Extra care is needed with power sanders. If they are used, rotate sander in a figure-8 pattern to avoid creating a sanding pattern. Avoid sanding deep holes into the BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT surface.
7. **Insufficient BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT thickness can result in blister formation in subsequently applied BASF METALLIC TOP COAT.** If heavy sanding is needed to attain a smooth surface, reskim the entire panel with BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT as outlined in Steps 3 to 5 above.
8. Use a soft brush to remove dust, then wipe the sanded surface with a clean tack cloth to remove dust.
9. For the second and subsequent coats, a small amount of cool, clean, potable water may be used to adjust workability. **Do not add more than 10 oz of water per full pail of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT.**
10. Apply the second and subsequent coats in thin (8-12 mil) applications, using the stainless steel trowel. Additional trowel pressure will be needed to ensure adhesion of the second and subsequent coats. Freestyle leveling is not recommended, since it can result in wavy surfaces that become evident in critical light.
11. Manipulate the second and subsequent skim coat applications using the flexible, plastic trowel to obtain a smooth, trowel-line free application. While manipulating the thin second and subsequent coats, be prepared to mist the surface of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT and the face of the trowel with clean potable water, using a hand-held spray bottle. This will help maintain a wet edge if the skim coat begins to set before application is complete. Manipulate the surface until it is smooth, achieving a trowel line free application.
12. Allow the second and subsequent coats of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT to partially cure, then sand the skim coat with 100-150 grit sandpaper to remove trowel marks and create a smooth surface. Change sandpaper frequently. For best results, sand BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT using a sanding block on the same day that it is applied, before it is fully cured.
13. Wipe the sanded surface with a clean tack cloth or slightly dampened microfiber cloth to remove dust.
14. Allow the final coat to cure for minimum 8-hours at ambient temperature greater than 50°F (10°C) and relative humidity less than 70%. If ambient temperature is less than 50°F (10°C) or humidity is greater than 70%, allow 24-hour dry time at minimum 40°F (4°C). Protect from rain and other moisture sources while curing.
15. **Insufficient BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT thickness can result in blister formation in subsequently applied BASF METALLIC TOP COAT.** If heavy sanding is needed to attain a smooth surface, reskim the entire panel with BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT as outlined in Steps 3 to 9 (two applications) above.
16. Wipe the sanded surface with a clean, clean tack cloth or slightly dampened microfiber cloth to remove dust.
17. After applying the final coat, use 100-150 grit sandpaper to create an ultra smooth surface.
18. Allow BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT to cure as described in Step 10. Wipe the sanded surface with a clean tack cloth or slightly dampened microfiber cloth to remove dust in preparation for application of BASF METALLIC TOP COAT.

### LIMITATIONS

1. Limit the size of each panel to 24 ft<sup>2</sup> (2.2 m<sup>2</sup>), with no more than an 8 ft (2.4 m) panel length.
2. Attempting to create a smooth surface on large panels using a scissors or boom lift is not recommended. Large projects that employ BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT must be scaffolded. In addition to facilitating a more controlled application of BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT, protection from wind and intense sunlight will be needed for subsequent application of BASF METALLIC TOP COAT.
3. Protect BASF materials during transportation, storage and installation to avoid physical damage.
4. Air and substrate temperatures must be greater than 40°F (4°C) and less than 100°F (38°C) during application, and must be greater than 40°F (4°C) for the following 24 hours.
5. Do not apply BASF LEVELING SKIMCOAT to hot surfaces or in direct, intense sunlight.

## **HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL**

Read, understand and follow all Safety Data Sheets and product label information for this product prior to use. The SDS can be obtained by visiting the Wall Systems website at [www.wallsystems.basf.com](http://www.wallsystems.basf.com). Use only as directed.

### **VOC Content**

<50 g/L less water and exempt solvents.

**For medical emergencies only call chemtrec at (800) 424-9300**

## **WARRANTY**

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