



WHY USE GARDZ®?



GARDZ is a unique sealer for porous and potential problem surfaces. It is formulated to deeply penetrate and dry to a hard, moisture-resistant film that seals down and binds porous, chalky and crumbling paints and texture finishes. It is especially recommended for damaged drywall, new drywall, spackling and joint compound skim coats, plaster, calcimine, uncoated wallpaper, wallcovering adhesive residue, texture paint, popcorn ceilings and builder's flat paint.

General Application Tips

Brush – For best results use a quality nylon/polyester or other similar synthetic blend bristle brush with flagged tips. Do not overload the brush or the product will drip and run on vertical and overhead applications.

Roller – Use a roller with a 3/8" or less synthetic nap or use the Zinsser WALWorks™ Roller. Apply GARDZ to walls from the bottom up to prevent product from running down the wall. If this happens, back-roll or brush out the runs to even out the film. When applying to ceilings do not press hard or the product will drip out of the roller. For ceiling applications where a roller would be too messy or disruptive (popcorn ceilings, for example), GARDZ may be applied using a power sprayer or garden sprayer (see below).

Sprayer – GARDZ may be applied using HVLP or airless sprayer systems. Use a .011" to .013" tip and 800 to 1200 psi for airless application. Maintain a distance of at least 18 to 24 inches between the spray tip and the surface. If surface is too fragile for power sprayer application, GARDZ may be applied with a garden sprayer. For best results, use a sprayer with a clean 2-gallon plastic tank. Pour GARDZ into the tank and pressurize according to manufacturer's directions. Adjust the nozzle setting to dispense the product in a fine, consistent, fan pattern, keeping the sprayer tip at least 12 to 18 inches from the surface. Follow manufacturer's instructions for clean up and storage, and protect adjacent areas from over-spray.

APPLICATION TIPS



GARDZ SEALS DOWN

Damaged Drywall

Most drywall damage occurs when wallcovering is dry-stripped from the wall, or mirrors and paneling that have been glued directly to bare drywall are pulled away, taking the facing paper with them. The brown backing paper that remains is highly absorbent and will bubble and blister if joint compound, spackling or water-base paint are applied without first being sealed. Follow the directions on the GARDZ label and remove loose facing paper by cutting back to sound areas with a drywall knife, or sanding off using 80-grit paper.



Apply GARDZ liberally with a brush, medium nap roller or sprayer. If the facing paper blisters again, cut out the blister and reapply GARDZ to exposed paper. Allow at least three hours dry time.

After GARDZ has completely dried, apply skim coat or spackling to achieve a smooth, uniform surface. Let dry before sanding. Remove all dust. Seal skim-coated and spackled areas with a final coat of GARDZ. When dry, apply paint, wallcovering or texture finish.



New Drywall/Joint Compound

New drywall joints and corners are finished with joint compound that is often thinned with water by drywall finishers for easier application. When it dries, the joint compound is extremely porous and will absorb paint – and even primer – like a sponge, leaving joints and corners with a duller sheen than the rest of the surrounding wall area. Additional coats of primer or paint are usually required to remedy this defect.



Seal the walls and ceilings with GARDZ to prevent this problem from occurring. GARDZ penetrates drywall facing paper and spongy joint compound and hardens to a solid, moisture-resistant film that protects the surface from damage during future decorating projects.

Skim Coat

Repaired areas and, in some cases, irregular drywall surfaces, are completely coated with a layer of joint compound to create a smoother appearance. In some places this layer can be as thick as 1/4 inch and others as thin as a sheet of paper. The result is a surface with different levels of porosity that can cause most paints to appear mottled and shadowy. Just one coat of GARDZ will be sufficient to seal these surfaces evenly and completely so that topcoat primers and paints have a smooth, consistent sheen.

Spackling Repairs

Spackling compound is different from joint compound. It is formulated with a much heavier consistency than joint compound and usually dries to a much harder and more dense surface.



Spackling compound is generally used for gouges, holes and other heavy-duty repairs to drywall, plaster, wood and even masonry. Spackled areas are very porous and should be sealed with GARDZ to prevent them from absorbing too much paint.

Plaster

Freshly applied plaster is very porous but also can be extremely alkaline with a pH of 12 or more in many cases. Allow new plaster to cure at least 24 hours before applying GARDZ. Before priming old, bare plaster with GARDZ be sure to determine that the surface is clean, dry and in sound condition, taking care to repair any cracks or holes with spackling paste or joint compound before sealing the surface.

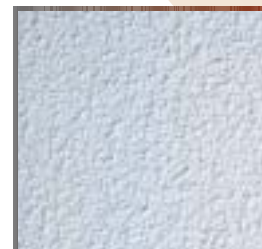
Calcimine

Calcimine is a very old form of plaster coating that was applied to ceilings in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Most homes with calcimine ceilings are in the oldest settled parts of the U.S., particularly the northeast and middle-Atlantic states. Calcimine ceilings are extremely chalky and water-sensitive and are notorious for causing paint failure. For many years calcimine was sealed with oil-base primers. These days fewer contractors are willing to use oil-based products because of the odor and the

prolonged dry time. GARDZ penetrates calcimine more effectively than oil-base coatings and has a much lower odor. Because it resists moisture, GARDZ prevents water-base topcoat paint or texture finishes from softening up calcimine layers underneath.

Popcorn Texture

Also known as "California texture", this finish has a bumpy appearance and is normally applied directly to bare drywall or to drywall that has been primed with builder's flat.



In either case, popcorn finishes rarely have good adhesion and have been known to fall from the ceiling if coated with water-base paint. They are also difficult to paint with a brush and roller because they continually shed the popcorn particles, which can quickly clog the roller nap. Seal off surrounding walls with painters' tape and plastic before applying GARDZ with a pressure sprayer or garden sprayer. GARDZ easily penetrates popcorn finishes and binds them to the drywall underneath, creating a solid, moisture-resistant surface that will not crumble or fall apart if water-base finishes are applied.

Stucco/Knock-Down Textures



True stucco finishes are created with a cementitious material such as mortar. Although these surfaces are generally not crumbly or soft, they can be very porous and should be sealed with GARDZ.

Most interior texture finishes that resemble stucco are created using joint compound that is manipulated with a variety of tools to achieve different effects. One example is a "knock-down" finish, where the material is applied to the surface in a manner that creates small peaks which are then skimmed flat with a drywall knife.

Any type of texture or stucco finish made from joint compound should be sealed with GARDZ to strengthen it and help prevent future damage from minor impacts and water-base coatings. New stucco or similar finishes that are either cement-based or plaster-based will have a very alkaline pH and should be allowed to cure before coating with GARDZ.

Builder's Flat Paint

In many cases builder's flat paint is nothing more than a mixture of cheap flat latex paint with water and joint compound, which is then sprayed onto walls and ceilings. It has just enough adhesion to stick to the wall and endure a few topcoats of quality latex paint. Eventually, however, the weight of the topcoat paint overcomes the adhesion of the builder's flat and failure occurs, with all of the paint – including the builder's flat – peeling off all the way to the drywall itself. GARDZ penetrates chalky, builder's flat paint and binds it to the wall, providing water-resistant protection from paint, wallcovering and texture finishes.

Old Wallpaper

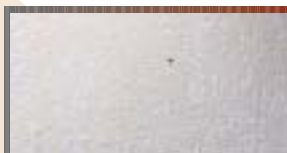


Most of the wallpaper installed before the 1960's was true paper, with no vinyl or plastic coating. To determine if the wallcovering is a true paper, wipe a wet sponge across the surface. If the water is readily absorbed, it means there is no vinyl

coating. This type of wallcovering can be effectively sealed with GARDZ. First, peel away any loose or frayed edges of the wallpaper; whatever remains should be firmly adhered to the wall. Apply GARDZ with a roller as you would to any other wall surface.

Residual Wallpaper Adhesive

Old adhesive is found on bare wallboard where the old wallcovering has been dry-stripped.



In most cases the residue is heavy-duty, clay-base adhesive. Ordinarily, it is removed using DIF® Wallpaper Stripper. However, this approach is not recommended in the case of bare drywall because the water in the DIF solution or the gel will weaken and ultimately delaminate the facing paper. Water-base coatings or texture finishes will reactivate old wallpaper adhesive, resulting in cracking and peeling. GARDZ is formulated to completely seal in residual adhesive and prevent it from ruining water-base topcoats and texture finishes.

Hanging New Wallpaper

GARDZ penetrates, seals, sizes and protects drywall facing paper and spackling or skim coat repairs, providing a properly sealed surface for new wallcovering. At redecorating time, GARDZ protects the surface of the drywall when the old wallcovering is stripped off. Although wallpaper may be installed directly over any surface that has been coated with GARDZ, some types of wallpaper and translucent wallcoverings may require an additional coat of an opaque pre-wallcovering primer such as SHIELDZ®.

Clean Up & Storage

Make sure to immediately wipe up any drips or spills with a wet, soapy cloth or rag. Wash application tools in warm, soapy water immediately after use. If product has dried on application tool, soak it overnight in a solution of ammoniated household detergent and water. Follow manufacturer's instructions when cleaning spray equipment. In hot weather keep the container lid closed when not using to prevent excessive evaporation and subsequent thickening of the product, as this will affect its ability to penetrate porous surfaces. Note that GARDZ is not freeze-thaw stable. KEEP PRODUCT FROM FREEZING. In freezing or below-freezing weather, GARDZ should not be left in unheated vehicles or buildings.

Unique Properties of GARDZ®

- ▢ *Penetrates deeply into porous surfaces*
- ▢ *Dries fast to a hard film*
- ▢ *Resists moisture – won't rewet*
- ▢ *Prevents drywall blistering/bubbling*
- ▢ *Binds down chalky builder's flat paint*
- ▢ *Great for sealing spackling/skim coats*
- ▢ *Strengthens soft texture finishes*
- ▢ *Seals in residual wallpaper paste*
- ▢ *Can be applied to high-pH surfaces*
- ▢ *Clear, low odor, water-base formula*
- ▢ *Cleans up with soap and water*
- ▢ *Replaces solvent-base sealers*

On the Internet you can find out more about GARDZ and how it is used at

www.zinsser.com



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