LIMESTRONG **BUILD**
HIGH PERFORMANCE POZZOLAN + LIME

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Limestrong Build Color System pigments come packaged in 250g resealable packs.

THE LIMESTRONG COLOR SYSTEM consists of eight core powdered pigment colors and a standard pallet[1] of 21 of our most popular color/shade combinations. These standard color/shade selections are supported by quantity calculators[2] and physical color sample swatches that can be ordered for each color/shade. But the eight core pigments can also be systematically leveraged to create a wide range of plaster colors.

Formulate Custom Colors

FOR THOSE WANTING TO DEVELOP a color/shade not represented in the standard pallet, we provide the resource of this custom formulation guide—providing the steps and formulas and mulitpliers to develop colors based on single pigment shades or to formulate colors blended from two pigments.

COLOR INTENSITY BY WEIGHT

The LimeStrong Color System is designed to scale rich dark to off-white by gram-weight: use less grams of pigment for lighter, less intense color; use more pigment for deeper color shades. Use a digital scale[3] to consistently weigh and add the same amount of pigment per mixed plaster batch.

COLOR AND SHADE CODE DESIGNATIONS

Each of the eight core colors is designated by a 2-letter code (FX for Flax, for example) for use in the formulation codes. There are six (6) shades specified for each color. Shades are designated by letters A thru F (A being the lightest, F the darkest) and represent pigment amount by gram-weight. Blended colors use the 2-letter color code as well as percentage number designations. **From a combination of these designations and a decimal multiplier, formulation codes are generated**[4], providing an accurate and repeatable method for coloring Limestrong Finish plaster or limewash.

MIXING IN POWDERED PIGMENT

Instructions[5] for mixing powered color pigments into the finish coat are found in the LSB Publication: **Mixing Limestrong Build Plaster**. A single 32 lb. bag of LSB Finish plaster is sized to make a 5-gallon bucket of ready-to-apply finish plaster. The advantage of mixing bucket-sized batches is better control of color consistency batch to batch. Exception: if a single mixer-batch provides enough mud to complete an entire wall, room, or job.

CREATING SAMPLE BOARDS

Mixing test batches and plastering sample boards is the only accurate way to ascertain the final, cured-color result of a custom formulated color. The color of the wet mud is NOT an accurate representation of the final cured color.

FOOTNOTES [0]

[1] The **Limestrong Build Standard Color** pallet is found on the **limestrongbuild.com** website and can also be downloaded in a PDF file format.

[2] Calculators found at **limestrongbuild.com**

[3] A scale's TARE feature will allow you to use a separate lightweight container to hold the pigment on the scale—then transport the pigment to the mix bucket. To use this feature: set the empty container on the scale, then press the TARE button (sometimes labeled ZERO) to reset the displayed weight to zero. Then add pigment to the container until desired weight is reached.

[4] Record the **formulation code** used on a project by job and on the sample board/tile for future reference. Partial bags of color pigment should be marked on-bag with remaining content weight for future use and stored in a dry place.

[5] Please read the complete instructions for mixing pigment colorants (either liquid of powdered) in our Mixing Limestrong Build guide.

IN BRIEF: The powdered colorant is added to the pre-measured mix water while slowly agitating the water to avoid settling. Mix for 30 seconds to one minute and make sure colorant is **completely dissolved**. Undissolved bits of pigment will burst and cause streaking when troweled on the wall. When completely dissolved, immediately add plaster or limewash and mix to consistency.

Formulation Guide

USING THE FORMULAS detailed below, the Limestrong Build Color System provides the lime plaster applicator a rich variety of color possibilities using eight simple-to-manage base colors.

BASE COLORS

Each of the eight base colors can be formulated, by a simple weight calculation, to produce a range of deep to light shades. Each of the six shades is designated by a four-digit number that functions as a decimal multiplier (Table 1). This number can be multiplied by any given quantity of dry LimeStrong plaster to get the proper quantity of pigment to create that shade.* (See the Color Shade Grids).

EXAMPLE 1:

For a full batch (32lb/14,500g bag) of Limestrong Build Finish at shade **B**, color Umber [**UR**]: **14500g x .0043** = **62**g [add 62g of UMBER pigment powder to full-batch mix water]

EXAMPLE 2:

For a sample-board quart-amount batch (2lb/907g) of Limestrong Build Finish at shade **B**, color Umber [**UR**]: **907g x .0043** = **4**g [add 4g of Umber pigment powder to sample-batch mix water (1.5 - 2.0 cups)]

FORMULATION CODE: **UR/B:0043**

BASE COLOR/SHADE FORMULA CODE

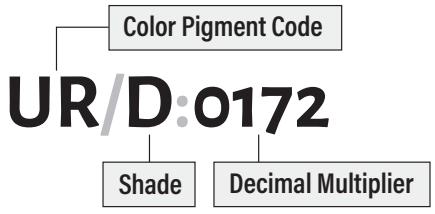

TABLE 1

SHADE	GRAMS	MULTIPLIER	PIGMENT NEEDED*
F	1000g	.0690	4 bags
E	500g	.0345	2 bags
D	250g	.0172	1 bag
C	125g	.0086	1/2 bag
B	62g	.0043	1/4 bag
A	31g	.0021	1/8 bag

*Per bag of Limestrong Build Finish plaster or limewash.

BLENDED COLORS

The blended color calculations and formulations* follow the same methodology, using two pigment color codes and a number representing the percentage of color used (Table 2).

EXAMPLE 1:

For a full batch (32lb/14,500g bag) of Limestrong Build (LSB) Finish at a blend of **80**% Ocher [**OR**] and **20**% Slate [**ST**]:
14500 x .0138 = **200**g + **14500 x .0034** = **50**g | **250**g
[add 250g of the blended pigments to full-batch mix water]

EXAMPLE 2:

For a sample-board quart-amount batch (2lb/907g) of LSB Finish at a blend of **80**% Ocher [**OR**] and **20**% Slate [**ST**]:
907 x .0138 = **13**g + **907 x .0034** = **3**g | **16**g [add 16g of total blended pigment to sample-batch mix water (1.5 - 2.0 cups)]

FORMULATION CODE: **OR80:0138** + **ST20:0034**

BLENDED COLOR FORMULA CODE

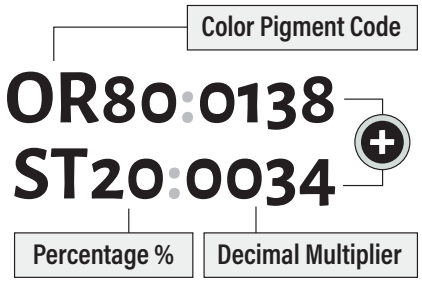

TABLE 2

PERCENTAGE MULTIPLIERS

FIGURE ANY PERCENTAGE MULTIPLIER:
250 x % (expressed in decimal) divided by 14,500 = multiplier
EXAMPLE: 250 x .75 (75%) ÷ 14500 = .0129
NOTE: 250 is weight (in grams) of a single bag of color pigment;
14500 is weight (in grams) of a full bag/single mixed batch of plaster.

90%	.0155	60%	.0103	30%	.0052
80%	.0138	50%	.0086	20%	.0034
70%	.0120	40%	.0069	10%	.0017

PIGMENT CODE	PERCENT OF BLEND	DECIMAL MULTIPLIER	CALCULATION: FULL BAG BATCH
OR	80%	.0138	14,500g x .0138 = 200g
ST	20%	.0034	14,500g x .0034 = 50g
	100%	.0132	250g