



PLASMA™

DS-038.0-0815

**Globally Proven
Construction Solutions**



1. PRODUCT NAME

PLASMA™

2. MANUFACTURER

LATICRETE International, Inc.

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3. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

PLASMA is a revolutionary, professional grade grout that is ready-to-use. Built on a new, patent pending technology platform, PLASMA provides early strength development, unmatched ease of workability and superior stain resistance. PLASMA is crack and stain resistant and does not require sealing.

Uses

- Ceramic tile, glass tile and stone applications, residential and commercial
- Floors and walls
- Interior installations
- Ideal for re-grouting applications
- Grout joints 1/16" – 1/2" (1.5 – 12 mm) wide

Advantages

- Easy to use
- Superior stain resistance*
- Does not require sealing
- Industry-leading physical performance
- Inhibits the growth of stain-causing mold and mildew in the grout joints
- Uniform color
- Easy to maintain, cleanable to the original color
- Tough, durable, and crack resistant
- Non-sag formula for walls and floors

*For maximum stain resistance use SPECTRALOCK® PRO Premium Grout

Packaging

1 US Gallon (3.8 L) Pail: 85 per pallet

Grout Colors: Mushroom, Natural Grey, Bright White, Dusty Grey, Desert Khaki, Latte, Antique White, Marble Beige, Light Pewter, Parchment, Raven, Sterling Silver, Mocha, Smoke Grey, Silver Shadow, Sand Beige, Sauterne, Platinum, Midnight Black, Espresso, Translucent

Approximate Coverage

Tile Size	Grout Joint Width & Coverage – ft² (m²)					
	1/16" (1.5mm)	1/8" (3mm)	3/16" (5mm)	1/4" (6mm)	3/8" (9mm)	1/2" (12mm)
1"x1"x1/4" (25x25x6mm)	53 (4.9)	27 (2.5)	19 (1.7)	15 (1.4)	11 (1.0)	9 (0.83)
2"x2"x1/4" (50x50x6mm)	104 (9.6)	53 (4.9)	36 (3.3)	27 (2.5)	19 (1.7)	15 (1.4)
6"x6"x1/2" (150x150x12mm)	155 (14.4)	78 (7.2)	52 (4.8)	39 (3.6)	26 (2.4)	20 (1.8)
12"x12"x3/8" (300x300x9mm)	412 (38.3)	206 (19.1)	138 (12.8)	104 (9.6)	70 (6.5)	52 (4.8)
13"x13"x3/8" (325x325x9mm)	446 (41.4)	224 (20.8)	149 (13.8)	112 (10.4)	75 (7.0)	57 (5.3)
18"x18"x3/8" (450x450x9mm)	617 (57.3)	309 (28.7)	206 (19.1)	155 (14.4)	104 (9.6)	78 (7.2)
24"x24"x3/8" (600x600x9mm)	822 (76.3)	412 (38.3)	274 (25.4)	206 (19.1)	138 (12.8)	104 (9.6)

Shelf Life

Factory sealed containers of this product are guaranteed to be of first quality for one (1) year if stored at temperatures >32°F (0°C) and <95°F (35°C).

Limitations

- Adhesives/mastics, mortars and grouts for ceramic tile, pavers, brick and stone are not replacements for waterproofing membranes. When a waterproofing membrane is required, use a LATICRETE® Waterproofing Membrane (see Section 10 FILING SYSTEMS).

Note: Surfaces must be structurally sound, stable and rigid enough to support ceramic/stone tile, thin brick and similar finishes. Substrate deflection under all live, dead and impact loads, including concentrated loads, must not exceed L/360 for thin bed ceramic tile/brick installations or L/480 for thin bed stone installations where L=span length.

- Not for use in areas subjected to harsh chemicals, and/or no rinse or areas exposed to aggressive cleaning regimens (e.g. steam cleaning). Not for use on floors and base areas in veterinary clinics, kennels, or in applications exposed to high concentrations of food and mineral acids or areas exposed to high temperatures. For these installations, please use SPECTRALOCK® 2000 IG.
- Not for use in steam rooms or submerged applications.

- Not for exterior use.
- Maximum recommended grout joint width for floors ½" (12mm) walls ¼" (6mm).

Cautions

Consult SDS for more safety information.

- DO NOT add water or any other material to the mixture, or re-temper with water. This will have an adverse effect on the product and void all warranties.
- Protect finished work from traffic until fully cured.
- Avoid contact with eyes and or prolonged contact with skin.
- Wear protective gear (gloves, long sleeve shirt, and safety glasses) when applying. Flush thoroughly with water in case of initial contact.
- DO NOT ingest internally. Silica sand may cause cancer or serious lung problems.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Protect from freezing.
- Not for use in areas exposed to pressure washing or steam cleaning.
- Maximum stain resistance is achieved in 7 days at 70°F (21°C). PLASMA™ can be cleaned with standard household cleaners after this time. Protect from exposure to acids (e.g mustard, salad dressing, vinegar, etc) and strong cleaners for 28 days @ 70° F (21° C).
- Protect grout from dirt, construction debris, and contamination for 7 days at 70°F (21°C).
- Use of sanded grouts in joints <1/8" (3 mm) will result in a coarser surface compared to surfaces in wider joints.
- PLASMA Translucent Grout is a glass sphere-filled grout. Use of glass spheres in joints <1/8" (3mm) may result in a coarser surface compared to surfaces in wider joints.
- Some soft polished marble or delicate glazed or glass tile might be scratched by PLASMA during installation. Conduct a small test area to determine results before grouting entire installation.
- PLASMA may affect the color of white or porous stones (such as White Carrara, Thassos White, Royal Danby, etc) Conduct a test area to determine suitability and acceptability.
- Conduct a test area to determine compatibility with metal or steel tile.

4. TECHNICAL DATA

Total VOC Content form is:

PLASMA Translucent 35 g/l

PLASMA Sanded 42g/l

Physical Properties

Description	Test Method/Requirement	Typical Results
Water Cleanability	ANSI A118.3	Pass
Vertical Joint Sag	ANSI A118.3	Pass
Compressive Strength @ 28 Days	LAT method in grout joint	>5000 psi (34.5 MPa)
Abrasion Resistance	EN 12808-2	250 mm ³
Hardness (24 Hours)	Shore A	80

Working Properties

Description	70°F (21°C) / 50% RH
Ready for Light Foot Traffic	24 Hours
Tack Free Time	3 Hours
Ready for Heavy Foot Traffic	72 Hours
Dirt, Stain Resistance, Food Spills, Household Cleaners	7 Days
Full Cure	28 Days
Cure time for Wet Areas (e.g. shower floors)	2 Days

Specifications subject to change without notification. Results shown are typical but reflect test procedures used. Actual field performance will depend on installation methods and site conditions.

5. INSTALLATION

Surface Preparation

Before starting to grout, remove spacers and debris in grout joints and remove dust and dirt using a wet sponge. Do not leave water standing in joints. The use of a topical sealer or grout release applied to unglazed porcelain tile, abrasive, non-slip or rough textured tiles or porous tile or stone surfaces before grouting will facilitate cleaning. Note: when grouting in hot weather refer to TDS 176 Hot Weather Tiling and Grouting. Substrate temperature must be between 50°F (10°C) and 90°F (32°C). Apply STONETECH® Grout Release or a suitable STONETECH sealer if necessary.

Application

Clean tile surface with a damp sponge. Spread with a sharp, firm rubber grout float or wall float for narrow wall joints. To remove excess grout hold the float at a 90° angle and pull it at a 45° angle diagonally across the joints to avoid pulling out the material. For best results, work in small areas of 10ft² (0.9 m²) or less and perform initial cleaning immediately.

Cleaning

Begin initial cleaning within 5 – 10 minutes of application, waiting no longer than 10 minutes after commencement of installation. PLASMA requires little water to clean. Use a damp grout sponge (wrung dry) to clean excess grout residue using light pressure and a circular motion. Follow by dragging a damp sponge or microfiber towel over the cleaned area, diagonally to the joints, to remove any remaining residue. Change water when it becomes dirty/milky, at least every bucket of grout.

Important: Do not allow water to sit on grout surface. Excessive water used during cleanup can interfere with product curing.

Allow to dry and inspect. If a minor haze is present after initial cleaning, wait until second cleaning to address residual haze. Wait approx. 3 hours in warmer temperature (>70°F/21°C) low humidity environments and 6 hours in cooler temperatures (<70°F/21°C) high humidity environments. When the grout joints are firm, use a damp sponge to remove remaining grout haze. Any haze that is present can be removed using a white scrub pad with isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) or a household cleaner such as Windex® being careful not to touch the grout joints. Use a damp sponge or microfiber towel to remove any cleaner or water and finish by drying the tile surface with a clean microfiber towel or cloth.

Note: Use caution when polishing soft glazed tile or polished stone.

For use with our SPECTRALOCK® Dazzle™ – Please follow these instructions to use with any color in the PLASMA line

- Obtain a 1 gal (3.8 L) bucket of PLASMA and an empty 1 gal (3.8 L) bucket.
- With a margin trowel – take approx. 1/2 of the material within the PLASMA bucket and place within the empty bucket.
- Then in the center of each bucket create a small hole with a margin trowel.
- Open the Dazzle (any color) and proceed to place 1/2 of the jar within each bucket inside the small holes in the center of each bucket.

- Next, take a good scoop of PLASMA™ and cover the Dazzle in the hole very slowly and gently (this helps to mitigate the Dazzle from dispersing in the air and out of the bucket).
- Then proceed to mix by hand (It is not recommended using any drills to mix the PLASMA since that would help to incorporate more air in the mixture – potentially slowing pot life and speed up the setting process).
- Thoroughly mix the dazzle and disperse throughout the bucket.
- Once each bucket has been mixed extensively and the Dazzle seems to be dispersed evenly within each bucket – then add the 1/2 gal (1.9 L) back into the original bucket.
- Now you are ready to grout or reseal the original bucket to keep the PLASMA from hardening.

6. AVAILABILITY AND COST

Availability

LATICRETE® and LATAPOXY® materials are available worldwide.

For Distributor Information, Call:

Toll Free: 1.800.243.4788

Telephone: +1.203.393.0010

For on-line distributor information, visit LATICRETE at www.laticrete.com

Cost

Contact a LATICRETE Distributor in your area.

7. WARRANTY

See 10. FILING SYSTEM:

DS 230.13: LATICRETE® Product Warranty

DS 025.0: LATICRETE 25 Year System Warranty (United States and Canada)

8. MAINTENANCE

LATICRETE and LATAPOXY® grouts require routine cleaning with a neutral pH soap and water. Contact the cleaner manufacturer if another cleaner type will be used to ensure compatibility with the grout. Installation performance and durability may depend on properly maintaining products supplied by other manufacturers. Routine maintenance can be done with detergents and a sponge or mop. For tough or difficult to remove soil, a bleaching cleaner (e.g. Soft Scrub, Comet, Ajax, etc. or electric dish washing detergent) on a nylon scrubbing pad or a long handled stiff bristle brush can be used. Please note: Prior to using any cleaning material on a tile, etc. installation, test a discrete area or scrap piece of tile to insure desired results.

9. TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical Assistance

Information is available by calling the LATICRETE Technical Service Hotline:

Toll Free: 1.800.243.4788, ext. 235

Telephone: +1.203.393.0010, ext. 235

Fax: +1.203.393.1948

Technical and Safety Literature

To acquire technical and safety literature, please visit our website at www.laticrete.com.

10. FILING SYSTEM

Additional product information is available on our website at www.laticrete.com. The following is a list of related documents:

DS 230.13: LATICRETE Product Warranty

DS 025.0: LATICRETE 25 Year System Warranty (United States and Canada)

DS 030.0: SPECTRALOCK® 2000 IG

TDS 176: Hot Weather Tile and Grouting

DS 663.0: HYDRO BAN®

DS 236.0: 9235 Waterproofing Membrane

DS K20509: STONETECH® Grout Release