

ThatchCrete Datasheet

November 2017

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ThatchCrete: An enhanced fibre-cement blend to be mixed with a solution of FlexBond (a liquid additive), for the impregnation of Cemcrete's CemForce forming a reinforced vapour proof product of about 4mm in thickness.

CemForce: An open-textured reinforced 4mm x 4mm mesh fabric, made of polypropylene strands and fibres. Designed for use with cement matrices. CemForce is totally inert to the alkalinity of cement and has an extended fibrous interface area with which the cement matrix can interact and mechanically bond.

Technical Data

Type	Fibre reinforced blend
Colour	See website www.cemcrete.co.za
Pot life	45 minutes
Working time	30 minutes
Initial set	1 hour
Mixing water temperature	8°C-25°C
Application temperature (ambient)	8°C-25°C
Substrate temperature	8°C-25°C
Minimum application thickness	2mm including CemForce
Maximum application thickness	2mm for every layer of CemForce
Density	1.6kg/litre
Protection during application	Sun and wind barriers

Purpose

For creating a thin, reinforced, waterproof, fire resistant, cement lining to be applied directly onto the exterior of an old or new grass thatched roof. This lining is tough enough to resist mammals like baboons, vervet monkeys as well as birds from causing damage to the roof or entering the building.

Types

ThatchCrete Ready to use with the addition of diluted FlexBond solution only.
CemForce Woven polypropylene fibre.

Advantages

Thin cement linings can now be formed in situ with the help of the reinforcing of as many layers of CemForce as is necessary for any given strength required. Not only waterproofing, but resistant to fire, baboons; monkeys and birds.

Limitations

Do not use if freezing conditions are expected within 24 hours.

Storage

ThatchCrete and **CemWash:** Keep bags off the floor on slats in a dry cool place away from direct sunlight. Expected shelf life under dry conditions is 6 months from date of invoice. **FlexBond:** Store in a dry shed protected from freezing for 12 months from date of invoice. Stir well from the bottom if storage is prolonged

Weather

Protect from rain for 12 hours and freezing frost for 24 hours.

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Preparation of Surface

Sweep off loose material from thatch roof using a medium hard broom. Best results are obtained if the roof is first swept from the lowest point and ending at the top end working against the grass. Thereafter sweep from the top removing all loose material working towards the bottom end of the roof.

Mixing

Dilute one volume FlexBond with four volumes clean water and use this solution to mix **ThatchCrete** to a sloppy plaster consistency. If you are not going to apply the CemWash as a final colour coat then we strongly recommend that the **ThatchCrete** be mixed with Cemcrete's CreteBond diluted with water in the same ratio as mentioned below.

Application

Lay out the CemForce over the swept thatch, starting at the notch of the roof on the opposite side. Lay all the layers to cover the complete roof. Layers need to overlap each other with 200mm. Allow the layers to overhang by the thatch with at least 10mm. Now lifting a layer of CemForce from the notch apply a liberal coat of **ThatchCrete** slurry mixture over the concrete or fibreglass notch cover. Then reapply the CemForce onto the applied **ThatchCrete** slurry. Apply another coat of **ThatchCrete** slurry allowing it to saturate the CemForce very well.

When the **ThatchCrete** slurry mixture is applied onto the grass it should be worked into the grass by using the block brush. Much better results are obtained by brushing up against the grain of the grass working the mixture underneath the grass.

Continue laying the CemForce (not forgetting to saturate the CemForce with water only first and then shaken to remove excess water). Once all work has been completed a final coat of **ThatchCrete** needs to be applied to the completed work making sure that all the holes in the CemForce have been closed.

If extra strength is required, (especially in roof valleys where the grass is much thicker), more layers of CemForce can be applied in the same manner. All work must receive a final coat of **ThatchCrete**/FlexBond mixture.

The completed work must be allowed to cure for 5 days and then be coated with the desired colour by applying the top coat of Cemcrete's CemWash (see CemWash datasheet). The over coating using CemWash will not only add colour to the roof but will also enhance the texture of your new roof coating, and protect the **ThatchCrete** from UV damage. Please note: Over coating with CemWash is optional.

Curing

Allow finished **ThatchCrete** work to air cure for five days.

CemWash is then applied according to its datasheet.

Coverage

FlexBond/CreteBond	2litres per 40kg bag of ThatchCrete
ThatchCrete	5m ² per 40kg bag depending on thickness of final work
CemForce	Allow 10% for overlapping on joints
CemWash Colour	Approximately 24 - 30m ² /25kg bag

Packaging

FlexBond/CreteBond	1 Litre, 5 Litre and 20 Litre plastic drums
ThatchCrete	40kg bags. Only available in grey
CemForce	1m width, any length
CemWash	Supplied in 25kg non-returnable paper bags

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Safety

The use of protective clothing, goggles and dust masks is recommended even though **ThatchCrete** is non-toxic.

- Skin contact: Wash thoroughly with soap and water.
- Eye contact: Flush immediately with water for 10 to 15 minutes and contact a physician.
- Respiratory problems: Remove affected person to fresh air immediately and contact a physician.
- Not for internal consumption.

Manufacturer's Warranty

Cemcrete warrants that the products manufactured by it shall be free from material defects and will be consistent with its normal high quality. Should any of the products be proven defective, the liability to Cemcrete shall be limited to replacement of the product ex-factory. Cemcrete makes no warranty as to merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose and this warranty is in lieu of all other warranties expressed or implied. The user shall determine the suitability of the product for his intended use and assume all risks and liability in connection therewith.

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Johannesburg Head Office

8 Telford Street
Industria
011 474 2415

Johannesburg Showroom

227 Jan Smuts Avenue
Parktown North
011 447 3149

Centurion Showroom & Warehouse

15 Coachmen's Park
26 Jakaranda Street, Centurion
012 653 6808

Cape Town Showroom & Warehouse

Eagle Park, cnr Bosmansdam &
Omuramba Roads, Montague Gardens
021 555 1034