



## technical advice

### Product Maintenance for **weber.pral** Through-Coloured Renders

(Scraped finish & scraped 'Ashlar' finish etc)

#### Description

**weber.pral** products are a range of low maintenance cementitious through coloured renders, with equivalent properties to mix designation III as described in The Code of Practice for External Renderings BS 5262 (1:1:6) = (cement : lime : sand).

We would suggest the products be applied by either Trained or Recommended Applicators as advised by our regional Area Sales Managers.

#### Cleaning

The **weber.pral** range may be cleaned periodically by the use of a pressure washer incorporating a mild detergent or road traffic film remover in water. The spray pattern should be adjusted to form a fan rather than a jet and care must be taken at the exposed edges.

The interval between treatments is purely dependant upon the amount of ground floor pedestrian 'traffic' and local atmospheric conditions. Organic growth should be brushed off the surface and subsequently treated with **weber CL150**.

#### Repairs

Once applied **weber.pral** products are finished materials and repairs are always likely to be visible. For this reason we would, in general, recommend that full panels be removed and replaced. Where the elevation includes an Ashlar effect the cuts could be used as edges of the panel. Repairs will appear to be 'new' at first in comparison to the existing, but these should tone down and 'weather in' over period of time. The quality of the repair is very much based upon the skills and the patience of the tradesmen undertaking the works. The paragraphs below give solutions to specific issues when considering repairs:

#### Damaged Render

**weber.pral** products are through coloured materials and as such small knocks and abrasions will not be as noticeable as with traditional painted renders. If a repair is deemed to be necessary, the material should be removed back to the substrate, a key provided by means of **weber.rend aid** and new material applied proud of surrounding surfaces. This should then be scraped back flush when the set allows. Please note that the existing render should be protected with masking tape to avoid staining.

For all small repairs including crack repairs **weber ibocar** can be used to accelerate the setting process of the **weber.pral** render and allow the scraping process to be completed shortly after application.

### **Cracking**

*Please note for the prevention of cracking please see the **Weber** specifiers handbook under best practice section 7, crack control.*

Straight line cracking is not typical of render failure, but rather of the reflection in the render of a crack in the substrate. The cause should be investigated prior to repair in order to ascertain the likely event of any further movement or whether remedial works are required. The works could include repairs to the substrate by pinning or resin bonding or introducing a movement joint. This assessment should be undertaken by a structural engineer.

BS5262 advises in clause 50.1 “inconspicuous cracks that remain dry and sound are usually best left alone. Cutting and repairing, however carefully done, invariably results in some differences in appearance over the area of the repair.”

There are three different methods of crack repair. Repair Systems 1 and 2 are designed for repairs to cracks where the issue of further movement has been assessed and is deemed remote or has been accommodated for by the introduction of an adjacent movement relief joint. The Repair System 1 method is an aesthetic repair to hairline/fine cracks and Repair System 2 is for cracks that are visibly open and any other forms of damage, requiring a patch type replacement. The final method, Repair System 3 is designed to allow for a small degree of further movement in the substrate. This repair method should only be undertaken by **Weber** recommended contractors.

#### **Repair System 1**

1. Using a mini disc cutter run a cut through the crack in order to open the crack to the thickness of the cutter blade.
2. Dry mix by volume 6 parts **weber.pral** with 1 part **ibocar**. Then add a dilution of 2 parts clean water mixed with 1 part **weber adflex** to produce a workable consistency. (Please note it is imperative that the **weber AD230** to water ratio is measured correctly because, if the dilution is too strong, this will affect the finished colour of the repair).
3. Fill the **Weber** cartridge with the mixed product and load into the cartridge gun. Cut the nozzle to suit the crack width and inject a bead of product into the crack ensuring that you do not overlay the material over the existing render but that you form a protruding nib of material 2 - 3 mm in front of the line of the existing render.
4. Allow the repair material to stiffen for a period of between 20 - 40 minutes (dependent on temperature) then remove the nib carefully by using the edge of a small filling knife. If the scraping process is completed after the 40 minute period, it is likely that a much lighter shade of repair will be achieved than the existing render, which will not blend in.

#### **Repair System 2**

1. Using a disk cutter cut a straight line 50 mm either side of the crack, then remove the render back to the substrate between the cuts.
2. Stick a masking tape tight to the outer edges of the cut edges then prime the inside cheeks of the render cuts and exposed substrate with a dilution of 3 parts clean water and 1 part **weber.tec latex**.
3. Whilst the primer is tacky skim a layer of mixed **weber.pral** including **ibocar** if desired into the void. Immediately push into the applied material a piece of **Weber** alkali resistant mesh cloth cut to width followed by a further coat of **weber.pral** applied over the mesh so as to fill the void and overlay the product onto the masking tape and past the existing thickness of render by 3 mm.
4. Allow the product to pick up sufficiently until it is firm enough to allow for the scraping process and remove the 3 mm of excess product back to the line of the existing thickness

of render. The edge of a filling knife could be adopted for this process. Brush the product down to remove the scraping dust and remove the masking tape. Scraping too early or too late in the set of the material will affect the cured shade of the product and will prevent a colour match being achieved to the existing.

### Repair System 3

1. An assessment of the crack should be undertaken by a structural engineer to evaluate the degree of movement required. If the expected movement is greater than would be reasonably expected from the expanded metal lath within the render, then consideration should be given to the inclusion of a designed movement joint within the substrate and render.
2. Using a disk cutter cut a straight line at least 150 mm either side of the crack, then remove the render back to the substrate between the cuts. Stick a masking tape tight to the outer edges of the cuts to prevent staining of the existing rendering.
3. Mechanically fix a light expanded metal over a polythene sheet to the exposed substrate and embed in a 10-12 mm undercoat of **weber.rend PUC**, and scarify to produce good key. Leave for a minimum of three days to cure.
4. Prime the surrounding edges of the existing render with a dilution of 3 parts clean water to 1 part **weber.tec latex** to avoid a dry joint between old and new materials. Whilst the primer is still tacky apply a coat of **weber.pral** over the **weber.rend PUC** so as to fill the void and overlay the product onto the masking tape and past the existing thickness of render by 3 mm.
5. Allow the product to pick up sufficiently until it is firm enough to allow for the scraping process remove the 3 mm of excess product back to the line of the existing thickness of render with a **Weber** scraping float. Brush the product down to remove the scraping dust and remove the masking tape.

### Site work

BS5262 Code of Practice for External Renderings and BS8000, Workmanship on building sites, Part 10, Codes of Practice for Plastering and Rendering, should be followed at all times.

### Painting

The **weber.pral** range are low maintenance products that do not require painting. However, if painting were deemed to be necessary any exterior masonry paint suitable for cementitious materials, e.g. **weber.plast P** would be in order.

The above information is applicable for the **weber.pral** group of products.

- **weber.pral D**
- **weber.pral H**
- **weber.pral M**
- **weber.pral MF**

## The application of **weber.sil P** to **weber.pral M/H/MF Monocouche scraped finished renders**

**weber.sil P** is a high performance mineral paint that gives exceptional long term durability and performance. It is anticipated that the use of this product will not detract from the low maintenance benefits of the **weber.pral** monocouche render. Providing that the Monocouche render is clean, dry and sound, a direct application of the **weber.sil P** is appropriate.

The first coat of **weber.sil P** should be diluted with between 10% and 15% clean water and the paint then applied with a medium pile wool paint roller. When the first coat is dry 6 -24hrs later a second coat is applied, again this coat should be diluted with water between 5 and 10%.

The application should be in a criss-cross pattern ensuring that the paint is applied evenly minimising any effect on the scraped texture of the Monocouche.

*Please note when the product is applied to a sprayed roughcast texture brushes may need to be adopted for the method of application.*

**weber.sil P** is manufactured in the colours shown in the Monocouche Renders guides. It is important to note that the **weber.sil P** colours have been matched to our internal factory quality control colour specification for the render colours. However, there are many influencing factors surrounding the application of the Monocouche render that will affect the final cured shade of colour; in particular the point at which the laitance is removed by scraping in the setting process of the render. Due to this it is therefore not possible to always ensure an exact match to the shade of colour achieved at the job site.

Spillages do stain and are difficult to remove so protect vulnerable areas thoroughly and wear suitable protective clothing. Tools can be cleaned with clean water.

For further information regarding **weber.pral** rendering products, please refer to the **weber render solutions** specifiers handbook or contact:

**Weber**

Dickens House  
Enterprise Way  
Maulden Road  
Flitwick  
Bedford  
MK45 5BY

Tel: 08703 330070

Fax: 01525 718988

[www.netweber.co.uk](http://www.netweber.co.uk)

e-mail: [mail@netweber.co.uk](mailto:mail@netweber.co.uk)