The following guidelines are provided for customers who are considering painted brick masonry walls for their new home. The following guidelines must be adhered to for warranty compliance. As to General Shale brick that has been painted, although under no circumstances is the performance or durability of the paint applied to the General Shale brick warranted by General Shale.

General Shale recommends Romabio breathable mineral paint products for painting masonry. Romabio products are highly breathable and durable and are available in a wide variety of colors and finishes including Limewash and Masonry Flat. Romabio products are not only effective but they are easy to apply. For exterior applications, General Shale only recommends the use of paints that are breathable mineral based.

Selecting Materials:
- General Shale strongly recommends the use of a brick that is manufactured specifically for painting.
    - Check with your General Shale sales representative for products specifically manufactured to be painted.
    - Sales reps can access a painted brick list on the company share drive
- Color off-grade and size off-grade brick can be suitable for painting. Even though the brick will be painted it is essential that well fired brick units be used to ensure long term durability.
    - If off-grade brick are used they may affect the appearance or performance of paint.
    - Off-grade brick are sold as-is with no express or implied warranty.
- For brick that are textured, insure the degree of texturing is consistent throughout the run of brick to be painted. Differences in the brick texture can be noticeable even when the brick are painted.
- Do not use brick with manganese or other metallic based additives in the body.
- Brick with loose coatings are not recommended unless the loose coating is removed by pressure washing.
- For a list of brick that are suitable for painting contact your General Shale sales representative.

Construction
- Proper construction details are essential to the long term performance of a painted brick wall.
- Use recommended joint and tooling details. Avoid "raked" type joints.
- Drainage wall details including a clean airspace, flashing, and weep holes, should also be used. For additionalinformation please refer to "Recommended Details Essential to Durable Brick Home Construction". This is printed information on the brick tag attached to every cube of brick delivered to the site.

Paint Application
Follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations for cleaning, preparation, and paint application. Two Romabio documents are attached to this bulletin for further application instructions.

Attachments
How to Apply Romabio Masonry-Flat
How to Apply Romabio Limewash

HOW-TO APPLY

1. See if you need a primer.

RECOMMENDED SURFACES	INTERIOR	EXTERIOR
Absorbent, Unpainted Brick & Stone	No Primer needed	No Primer needed
Nonabsorbent Or Glossy Brick/Hardie Board/Cementitious Board	BioGrip Micro	BioGrip Micro
Concrete/CMU Block/ Portland or Gypsum Stucco, Pre-painted brick or stone	BioGrip Micro	BioGrip Micro

Helpful Tip

To check for absorbency on masonry, throw some water on it and see if it soaks it up, then it's absorbent. But if it forms droplets or sits directly on the surface, it is non-absorbent and will require a primer coat of BioGrip Micro.

2. Check your quantity.

IMPORTANT: MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT COLOR.
Check the texture of the brick and depth of the mortar joints as it will vary the amount of paint you need.

Determine exact coverage by performing a test with a one liter sample and see how far it covers with both the first and second coat.

Masonry Flat and Masonry Textured are both recommended as 2 coats.

MASONRY FLAT	MASONRY TEXTURED
1L/1 QT covers 65 – 85 Sq/Ft	1L/1QT covers 50- 70 Sq/Ft
2.5L/.67 GAL covers 165 – 215 Sq/Ft	2.5L/.67 GAL covers 130 – 18 Sq/Ft
15L/4 GAL covers 1000 – 1300 Sq/Ft	15L/4 GAL covers 800 – 1100 Sq/Ft

Helpful Tip

3 - 4.5 liter
WATER

15 liters
PRODUCT

The first coat needs a min of 20% dilution to ensure the initial bond.

3. Get your tools.

	Brush	Roller	Sprayer	Mixing Bucket
FLAT	✓	✓	HVLP OR AIRLESS	✓
TEXTURED	✓	✓	TEXTURE or AGGREGATE SPRAYER ONLY	✓

4. Add water.

IMPORTANT: PAINT MUST BE DILUTED.
Pour concentrated paint into a separate, clean mixing bucket and add the amount of water listed below (dilution rate).

FLAT/TEXTURED	DILUTION RATE	1L (1QT)	2.5L (0.67GAL)	15L (4GAL)
Minimum	20%	200ml (~0.2QT)	1L (~1QT)	3L (~3QT)
Maximum	30%	300ml (~0.3QT)	1.5L (~1.5QT)	4.5L (~1GAL)

All Romabio paints are sold concentrated for a smaller carbon footprint and cleaner product.

Using a paddle drill or a stir-stick, mix thoroughly for 3 – 5 minutes until there is uniform consistency with no standing water. The dilution rate varies by product type and is also listed on the back label.

5. Prep your surface.

IMPORTANT: YOU MUST DAMPEN THE MASONRY SURFACE.
Pressure wash and thoroughly clean all surfaces prior to application. Mild soaps are acceptable, but usually not necessary. If they are used, make sure all residue is gone before painting.

For absorbent, unpainted masonry surfaces, wet the wall or leave it damp from the initial cleaning. You don't need to have running water on it, but it should not be dry, anything in the middle is fine.

For all other surfaces, prep the same as with any other type of painting.

Helpful Tip

Prep and paint on the first day allowing you to save time and manage your project better.

6. Start painting.

Apply in 50-90°F. Do not apply if the temperature drops below freezing in the first 36-48 hours after application. Apply like other traditional paint products.

Do not try to achieve perfect coverage with the first coat. Apply the first coat and allow the paint to dry 4-8 hours before applying the second coat.

Two coats are a condition of the 20 year limited warranty for Masonry Flat and Masonry Textured.

Touch up at any time because of the flat finish.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT LET MASONRY FLAT & TEXTURED SET ON MASONRY SURFACES THAT ARE NOT TO BE PAINTED.
If they do get on them, remove immediately. You can use a mild acid like vinegar or muriatic acid for harder cleaning if necessary.

Helpful Tip

Rain will not affect the paint application after 4-8 hours of drying time.

7. Clean up and you're done!

Cleanup with water and soap if necessary.

Romabio Paints are organic and they will not harm lawns, plants or trees once diluted.

Masonry Flat & Masonry Textured are washable, but they should be allowed to cure for 14 days before cleaning. Light pressure washing may work as well, but not all stains can be removed because the paint creates a permeable surface.

If you pour the paint into a separate bucket and store the undiluted paint, you can store it for many years as the concentrated product has an extremely long shelf life.

If you pour the water directly into the paint bucket and store the diluted paint, then this will reduce the shelf life and depending on storage it may only last a short period.

If you paint directly out of the container, this may contaminate it so we do not recommend storing it for future use.

For more, check out the videos on @romabiopaints Youtube channel.

HOW-TO APPLY

ROMABIO

1. Check your quantity.

Classico Limewash

1L/1 QT covers 90-120 Sq/Ft

2.5L/.67 GAL covers 215-300 Sq/Ft

15L/4 GAL covers 1300 – 1800 Sq/Ft

2. Get your tools.

IMPORTANT: MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT COLOR.

You can apply it with a Romabio Masonry Brush or a sprayer. A roller is not recommended.

For dilution, you'll need a separate mixing bucket.

For the wash off process, you'll need a typical garden hose with an adjustable spray nozzle for the Exterior or a spray bottle for the Interior.
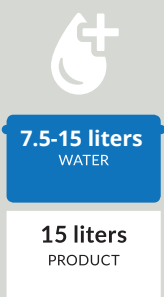
3. Add water

IMPORTANT: PAINT MUST BE DILUTED.
Dilute the concentrated paint product with clean water in a separate bucket.

Classico Limewash works best with 50% - 100% dilution rate or ½ part to 1-part water to paint.

Hand mix or drill the paint for 5-10 minutes thoroughly until it has a uniform consistency.

	DILUTION	1L (1QT)	2.5L (0.67GAL)	15L (4GAL)
Minimum	50%	500ml (~0.5QT)	1L (~1.25QT)	7.5L (~7.5QT)
Maximum	100%	1L (~1QT)	2.5L (~2.5QT)	15L (~4GAL)

4. Prep your surface.

IMPORTANT: YOU MUST DAMPEN THE MASONRY SURFACE.
For the Exterior, pressure wash and thoroughly clean all masonry surfaces prior to application. For the Interior, wipe clean the masonry surface. Mild soaps are acceptable but usually not necessary.

All Romabio paints are sold concentrated for a smaller carbon footprint and cleaner product.

HOW-TO APPLY

ROMABIO

5. Start Painting.

If any soaps or cleaners are used make sure all residue is gone before painting.

Dampen the wall prior to painting. It should be damp without running water on the surface.

Work one section (approximately 10′ x 10′ in size) at a time from top to bottom.

Apply in Temperatures 50-90 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not apply if it will be below freezing anytime in the next 36-48 hours.

Apply a good, solid coat. Classico Limewash will appear more translucent when it is wet, and it will be opaque when it is dry.

> **Helpful Tip**
>
> Rain will not affect the paint application after 3-4 hours of drying time.

6. Distress and start wash off technique 10 – 60 minutes after you apply.

Start the wash off process once it is starting to tack up or lighten around the edges of the bricks, usually 10-60 minutes after application depending upon temperature and sunlight.

You can use a hose, rag, or spray bottle to distress the Classico Limewash finish.

Distress and wash off until desired look is achieved. It takes a bit of artistry and playfulness to get the look you want, but keep playing with it until you get what you want , but keep playing with it until you get what you want.

Touch ups are easy and can be done at any time.

After 3-4 hours of drying time, rain will not affect the finish.

> **Helpful Tip**
>
> There's no stress because it's removable within the first 5 days after application!

7. Clean up and you're done!

Cleanup is with water and soap if necessary.

If any Classico Limewash is on unwanted areas and has dried for a significant amount of time, you can use diluted household vinegar or even muriatic acid to help remove it if necessary.

Romabio Paints are organic and they will not harm lawns, plants or trees once diluted. Due to the high pH of the paints, the concentrated paint should be handled with care.

For more, watch the how-to videos on Romabio Paints YouTube channel.