

# Technical Bulletin

## OXIDE MIXING PROCEDURES FOR POINT UP MORTAR

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Westlake Royal™ Roofing Components offers predetermined oxide quantities, depending on color, called “batches.” For job-site mixes that require both sand and cement where the mortar is only used as a cosmetic weather-block and not for attachment purposes, two batches of oxide should be used for each 94 lb. bag of Portland cement and each 80 lb bag of masonry cement (one batch per bag). This amount of cement should be mixed with eight (8) five (5) gallon buckets of mason sand (480 lbs). One batch is mixed with one bag of cement plus sand: 2.25 to 2.50:1 sand to cement ration. No additives are required. Light weight aggregate pre-mixed mortar preparations are typically mixed at a 3.50:1 cement to oxide ration, but may vary depending on the color.

The installers are responsible for mixing the first batch onsite to achieve the correct color and they should make note of the correct ratio for the future mixes on the same job. A good rule of thumb is to mix the batch so that the color matches that of the back of the wet tile. This means that the dried mortar will be closer to the color of the tile once dry.

For specific brands of mortar, a job-site test mix will have to be conducted by the tile crew.

White or gray cement requirements are noted on the plastic containers.

Moister content and primary efflorescence during the curing phase may influence the color of the point up mortar temporarily.

Sealing the mortar (an option) may help darken the color as well as suppress efflorescence.

Efflorescence is a condition that may occur during the curing phase.