



# Adding Pigments to LATICRETE®

## MVIS™ Mortars

### TDS 108M

#### COLOR PIGMENT SELECTION:

Pigments can be added to LATICRETE® MVIS Adhesive Mortars & Pointing Mortars provided the pigments are sun-fast and weather resistant. They must also be certified by the supplier to be free of water, soluble salts and unaffected by portland cement or alkali. PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits can also be used to pigment white adhesive mortars.

Recommended pigments are mineral oxides: iron oxides (red, yellow, brown, and black); manganese dioxide (black, brown).

The actual percentage of pigment will vary depending upon the LATICRETE mortar and the pigment type, however, the amount of pigment must not exceed 10% by weight of the portland cement content of the mortar. The use of too much pigment will increase the water absorption, produce a dusty surface and generally weaken the mortar. **A test area should always be conducted prior to installation to confirm that product performance and appearance meet the requirements of the project.**

**CAUTION: NEVER USE CARBON BLACK OR LAMPBLACK PIGMENTS – THEY WILL PRODUCE A VERY WEAK, POROUS MORTAR.**

**CAUTION: TROWEL APPLIED, PIGMENTED FLOOR AND WALL COATINGS OFTEN SHOW SHADING.**

Area shading is typically caused by different rates of substrate absorption, sections being troweled more than others, temperature/humidity changes and other factors that determine the mortar cure rate. Without applying stain, sealers or wax to the coating surface, a completely uniform shade is very difficult to achieve.

To minimize area shading;

1. Mix floor and wall coating mortars with the minimum quantity of gauging liquid;
2. Coatings sprayed on walls will produce more uniform color than if applied by trowel;
3. Lighter or pastel colors show less variation than dark colors;
4. Using a LATICRETE Latex Additive helps lock in the color, reduces wash out, improves adhesion, ensures a better cure, and produces a water-resistant, non-dusting surface.

Note: The performance properties (e.g. shear bond strength, compressive strength, absorption rate, etc...) and final color of LATICRETE products incorporating pigments added in the field cannot be predicted. The physical properties of these products are dependent upon proper and consistent mix ratios, techniques, types of pigments used, and jobsite conditions. The use of color pigments in LATICRETE mortars means the sole and exclusive LATICRETE MVIS warranty, for the project, is the LATICRETE Product Warranty ([DS 230.13](#)).

Note: While the methods described below are all valid, please note that using white thin-set mortars will always result in a closer color match. We recommend a mockup be done to confirm color.

#### **MVIS™ Hi-Bond Veneer Mortar: Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits**

Requires (2) PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. (Each Color Kit contains 2 individual color packets, use all 4 color packets) Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible packet – when using a full 50 lb (22.7 kg) bag of MVIS Hi-Bond, drop all color packs directly into approximately 5.5 qts (5.2 L) water in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Hi-Bond and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select color Kits. See [DS.246](#) for more information.

**MVIS™ Thin Brick Mortar Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits**

Requires two (2) PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits. (Each Color Kit contains two (2) individual color packets, use (4) color packets). Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible packet – when using a full 50 lb. (22.7 kg) bag of MVIS Thin Brick Mortar, drop all color packs directly into approximately 4.6 – 4.8 qts (4.4 – 4.5 L) water for Large and Heavy Stone installations or 5.0 – 5.2 qts (4.8 – 4.9 L) water for Thin Bed installations in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Thin Brick Mortar and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. See [DS-248](#) for more information.

**MVIS™ Veneer Mortar: Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits**

Requires (2) PERMACOLOR Select Color Kit (contains 2 individual color packets, use all (4) color packets) Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible pack – when using a full 40 lb. (18 kg) bag of MVIS Veneer Mortar, drop both color packets directly into approximately 5.9 qts (5.6 L) water in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Veneer Mortar and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. See [DS-60](#) for more information.

**MVIS™ Lightweight Mortar: Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits**

Requires two (2) PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits. (Each Color Kit contains two (2) individual color packets, use all (4) color packets). Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible packet – when using the 30 lb. (13.6 kg) bag of MVIS Lightweight Mortar, drop all color packs directly into 4.6 – 4.8 qts (4.4 – 4.5 L) water for Large and Heavy Stone installations or 5.0 – 5.2 qts (4.8 – 4.9 L) water for Thin Bed installations in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Lightweight Mortar and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. See [DS-60.1](#) for more information.

**MVIS™ Premium Pointing Mortar (#44 Bright white): Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits**

Requires two (2) PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits. (Each Color Kit contains two (2) individual color packets, use (4) color packets for a 50lb (22.7 kg) bag and (2) for a 25lb (11.3 kg) bag). Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible packet – drop all color packs directly into approximately 2 qts (1.9 L) for 25lb and 4 qts (3.7 L) water in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Pointing Mortar and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. See [DS-274](#) for more information.

**MVIS™ Pointing Mortar (#44 Bright white): Mixing with PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits** Requires two (2) PERMACOLOR® Select Color Kits. (Each Color Kit contains two (2) individual color packets, use all (4) color packets). Place recommended amount of water in a clean mixing container. Remove color packets from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water dispersible packet – when using the 50lb (22.7 kg) bag of MVIS Pointing Mortar, drop all color packs directly into approximately 4–5 qts (3.8–4.7 L) water in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible packet is no longer visible. Add Pointing Mortar and mix as directed above. Please note that additional water may be necessary when using PERMACOLOR Select Color Kits. See [DS-228.0](#) for more information.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at <https://laticrete.com>  
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