



Guide Sheets for Natural Hydraulic Lime

Heritage Cob and Lime are distributors and suppliers of high quality, Tarmac White Peak Natural Hydraulic Lime.

We often get asked what is the difference between NHL and Fatty Lime Mortar? The principle differences are that NHL sets in water whereas fatty lime mortar sets by carbonisation. NHL gives a harder set, is less flexible and does not have the same breathability as fatty lime, however it is a useful lime based product.

Commonly known as NHL, this product is supplied in 25kg bags in a powder format and is available in three grades:

NHL 2: Feebly hydraulic, used to make lower strength mortars. Suitable for internal work, external pointing, render and masonry in sheltered areas.

NHL 3.5: Moderately hydraulic lime is used to make slightly stronger mortars. It's suitable for general masonry, rendering and pointing work in most areas.

NHL 5: Very hydraulic. NHL was originally designed for use on water viaducts as it sets in water. It is a useful lime based product when early strength is important or in areas of high exposure- e.g. an exterior wall facing onshore wind from the sea or any area that is exposed to continuously wet conditions.

* NHL sets by water, so the powder product needs to be mixed on site with a suitable sharp sand for at least 20 minutes before use.

*Any leftover NHL mortar will not keep as it will continue to set unlike fatty lime mortar, which sets by carbonisation.

*NHL cannot be lime washed. Instead mineral silicate paint such as Keim should be used.

*NHL can be used as an additive to fatty lime mortar if a quicker set is required at a suggested ratio of 9:1 = nine shovels of fatty lime mortar to one of NHL.

Safety:

Limes are caustic. Always wear eye protection and protective gloves and clothing and follow the safety instructions on the labels.

Our advice and information are given in good faith. It's important that users satisfy themselves that they've chosen an appropriate product and have a suitably skilled workforce.

Specialist Contractors in Building Restoration & Suppliers of Traditional Building Products
* Lime Putty *Lime Mortars *Lime Washes * NHL * Casein Paint * Cob Blocks

Coates Road, Bideford Business Park, East-the-Water, Bideford, EX39 4GD