



# PORTLAND LIME & SAND MASONRY MORTAR (M, S, N)

1-888-SPECMIX

DIVISION **04**  
MASONRY PRODUCTS

## Great Workability. Increased Productivity.

SPEC MIX® Portland Lime & Sand mortar is a dry preblended mortar mix containing Portland cement, hydrated lime and dried masonry sand formulated for superior bond, water retention and board life. Available in Types M, S and N, each meets ASTM C 270 and ASTM C 1714 requirements. In addition to custom mix designs that are available for specific applications or properties, the standard Portland Lime & Sand mortar

### MATERIALS USED

PORTLAND CEMENT  
HYDRATED LIME  
SAND

is designed to be compatible with the characteristics of the specified masonry unit. It is acceptable for all types of masonry construction with submittals available upon request. It may be used above or below grade when manufactured to the appropriate specification.

SPEC MIX Portland Lime & Sand is produced under strict manufacturing standards, and complete quality control measures are implemented with each batch. A digital printout displaying the proper proportions per batch may be kept as a permanent record. Each SPEC MIX manufacturer certifies that SPEC MIX masonry products are designed to meet the project specifications and applicable ASTM and ACI standards.



**TOTAL QUALITY CONTROL WITH EVERY BAG**  
**ASTM C 270 LABORATORY TESTED MIX DESIGNS**  
**PREBLENDED WITH SAND TO MINIMIZE LABOR COST**  
**CONSISTENCY BATCH TO BATCH**  
**GREAT WORKABILITY AND BOARD LIFE**  
**NO SAND PILES OR WASTED MATERIALS LEFT ON SITE**

## INSTALLATION/APPLICATION

Mortar type should correlate with the particular masonry unit to be used. The specifier should evaluate the interaction of the mortar type and masonry unit specified. That is, masonry units having a high initial rate of absorption will have greater compatibility with mortar that has high water retentivity. The material properties of mortar that influence the structural performance of masonry are compressive strength, bond strength and elasticity. Because the compressive strength of masonry mortar is less important than bond strength, workability and water retentivity, the latter properties should be given principal consideration in mortar selection. Select mortar based on the design requirements and with consideration of code and specification provisions affected by the mortar.

A sample of the proposed product will be provided by the manufacturer for architectural approval and testing, if required. Preparation of this panel with all materials and systems employed in the final project is imperative. Retain the mock-up or field sample through the completion of the project.

## MIXING

- Use a mechanical batch mixer to ensure homogeneity, workability and good board life.
- Add the maximum amount of clean, potable water for optimum workability.
- Mix for five minutes consistently from batch to batch.
- Tool mortar joints when the surface is thumb-print hard. Keep tooling times consistent.
- Hand mix mortar only with written approval by the specifier who should outline procedures.
- Use mortar within 2.5 hours after initial mixing.
- Retemper mortar only when mixing water is lost due to evaporation.
- Allow mortar to cure a minimum of 7 days but no more than 28 days before cleaning. Consult manufacturer of the masonry units and cleaning chemicals for further instructions to ensure proper washing procedures.

Clean masonry only with a national proprietary cleaning agent (following the manufacturer's instructions) or potable water. SPEC MIX products are custom packaged to the specification. They must be kept dry, covered and protected from weather and other damage.

## SIZES AND EQUIPMENT

SPEC MIX Portland Lime & Sand mortar is available in 80 lb. (36 kg.) packages for easy hand loading or in 3,000 lb. (1,362 kg.) reusable bulk bags to be used with the various SPEC MIX silo systems. When using the silo system, once the bulk bags of mortar are delivered to the project site, the portable silo is loaded with a

## APPLICABLE STANDARDS: ASTM AND ACI

**ASTM C 144** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR AGGREGATE FOR MASONRY MORTAR **ASTM C 150** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR PORTLAND CEMENT **ASTM C 207** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR HYDRATED LIME FOR MASONRY PURPOSES **ASTM C 270** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR MORTAR FOR UNIT MASONRY **ASTM C 387** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR PACKAGED, DRY, COMBINED MATERIALS FOR MORTAR AND CONCRETE **ASTM C 595** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR BLENDED HYDRAULIC CEMENTS **ASTM C 780** STANDARD TEST METHOD FOR PRECONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION OF MORTARS FOR PLAIN AND REINFORCED UNIT MASONRY **ASTM C 1093** STANDARD PRACTICE FOR ACCREDITATION OF TESTING AGENCIES FOR UNIT MASONRY **ASTM C 1157** STANDARD PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION FOR HYDRAULIC CEMENTS **ASTM C 1314** STANDARD TEST METHOD FOR COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF MASONRY PRISMS **ASTM C 1586** STANDARD GUIDE FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE OF MORTAR **ASTM C 1714** STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR PREBLENDED DRY MORTAR MIX FOR UNIT MASONRY **ACI 530.1** SPECIFICATION FOR MASONRY STRUCTURES



job site forklift and the product is dispensed into a mechanical batch mixer. (See silo operations manual.)

## LIMITED PRODUCT WARRANTY

SPEC MIX, Inc. warrants this product to be of merchantable quality when used or applied in accordance with the instructions. This product is not warranted as suitable for any purpose or use other than the general purpose for which it is intended. Liability under this warranty is LIMITED to the replacement of the product (as purchased) if found to be defective, or at the shipping company's option, to refund the purchase price. All claims under this warranty must be written and submitted to SPEC MIX, Inc.

## LIMITATIONS

SPEC MIX Portland Lime & Sand mortar should be installed in accordance with the provisions of the local building code and applicable ASTM standards. Good workmanship coupled with proper detailing and design assures durable, functional, watertight construction.

## WARNING

**IMPORTANT! READ BEFORE USING** This product contains Hydraulic cement. Contact with freshly mixed product can cause severe burns.

Avoid direct contact with skin and eyes. If this product should contact eyes, immediately flush with water for at least 15 minutes and consult a physician. For skin exposure, wash promptly with plenty of soap and water. Remove soaked clothing promptly. If this product burns your skin, see a physician immediately. This product may contain silica. Silica dust if inhaled may cause respiratory or other health problems. Prolonged inhalation may cause delayed lung injury, including silicosis and possibly cancer. A N95 approved dust mask, eye protection, and rubber boots and gloves are recommended when using this product. Material Safety Data Sheets can be viewed online at [www.specmix.com](http://www.specmix.com)

## KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

**WARNING:** This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SPEC MIX® MANUFACTURER
- VISIT [WWW.SPECMIX.COM](http://WWW.SPECMIX.COM)
- CONTACT SPEC MIX®, INC.  
PHONE: 888-SPEC-MIX FAX: 888-FAX-SPEC

SPEC MIX PRODUCTS ARE PRODUCED BY ITS LICENSED MANUFACTURING FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE U.S. AND CANADA. EACH MANUFACTURER ADHERES TO A STRICT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM TO ENSURE COMPLETE QUALITY CONTROL IN EVERY BATCH.