

The GIB® plasterboard range of air drying compounds caters for different weather conditions caused by seasonal change.

Air drying compounds (the compounds in pails) are held together by binders (glue). When these binders coalesce and cure, they bind the filler particles (mostly limestone) together which causes the product to go hard. How hard a specific compound will be to sand is dictated by temperature as it cures.

The warmer the weather, the harder the product will become to sand.

The colder the weather, the softer the same product will become to sand.

This can be seen when a compound that is great to machine or hand sand when applied on a hot summer's day is seen to be much easier to sand if applied on a cold winter's day. This can result in the winter application sanding too easily, resulting in swirl marks that ruin the finish when sanded, it may also be easily damaged if trade folk brush past a dry but not painted joint.

Conversely, a harder compound may sand well in winter, but become too hard if applied in very hot weather, or if in-line with sun shining through a window in summer resulting in direct UV penetration. This may result in the product becoming "glazed" as it is sanded and very difficult to sand.

To cure this issue there is a range GIB® compounds, each of which is optimised for warm, cold, or in between weather use. It is up to the trades person to select the product most suited to the condition to ensure ease of sanding and quality of finish.

The GIB Trade Finish® range was developed to ensure a product is available that has similar rheological (troweling) properties through the range, but different sanding characteristics to suit different seasons.

The harder to sand products should be used in the colder weather (winter). In these conditions the binder will not cure as hard, however it will still be hard enough to resist swirl marks, scratching and trade damage.

The easiest products to sand should be used in warm weather, when the binder will cure harder. This creates a surface that is easy to sand and can be machine sanded in summer with out leaving swirls and dig marks.

The table on the right shows the sanding characteristics of each GIB® compound.

Remember.

- Harder sanding products in cold seasons.
- Easier sanding products in warmer weather.

Change from one to the other for the cold and warm seasons if ultimate ease of sanding without swirl marks and scratching is desired. Use the chart to guide you to figure what will work best for you.

For further information, contact the GIB® Helpline on 0800 100 442 or visit gib.co.nz.

FEEDBACK

We value your comments and would like to encourage you to let us know your thoughts on the GIB® compounds, systems, etc. Please send us your feedback and also for further information on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact Edwin Zijderveld on (09) 633 0991 or email edwin.zijderveld@gib.co.nz.

	Sanding/	GIB® Air Drying	Setting
	Scrape	Compound	Compound
→ warmer	Very easy sanding	GIB Trade Finish® Extra Lite GIB ProMix® Lite	
	Easy	GIB Trade Finish® Lite — GIB Plus 4®	
Weather Conditions	sanding	GIB U-Mix®	
	Moderate sanding	- GIB Trade Finish® Multi	GIB Lite Blue GIB Lite Blue®
colder	Harder to sand	GB Trade Finish® Heavy Weight — GIB ProMix® All Purpose	
	Easy to scrape		GIB Tradeset®
	Scrape while "green"		GIB MaxSef 200 and