Lancaster Lime Works
NATURAL LIME FOR PRESERVATION AND BUILDING

Hemp Plaster

Mixing of Hemp Plaster:
Hemp can be mixed with NHL 2, to create an insulating plaster. First mix the lime putty mortar, NHL 2.0 and water to create a slurry then add the Hemp. Use the following ingredient ratios and instructions as a guide. Individual application recipes and methods may vary depending on the substrate, workability and installer preferences.

Always follow guidelines of prewetting the substrate before installation and keeping the plaster damp for three days after installation. (Hemp plaster and hempcrete will take a long time to dry therefore be careful that not too much water is added the first three days, mist just enough to keep the surface from drying to fast)

Gather ingredients:
½ five gallon bucket of Premixed lime putty mortar
Approx 6 gallons of water. (the less water the better)
One firmly packed five gallon bucket of Hemp Shiv
One Bag - NHL 2.0 (use NHL 5.0 for hempcrete)

Mix ingredients:
Use a wheelbarrow (and hoe), mixing pan or vertical shaft mixer.
Step 1: Add premixed lime putty mortar and thoroughly mix with one gallon of water until all lumps are gone. Step 2: Add the entire bag of NHL 2.0 and add five gallons of water until it is thoroughly wetted and all lumps are gone. (the drier the mix the better)
Step 3: Add the one five gallon bucket of hemp shiv.
Step 4: Mix together until Hemp is totally wetted and thoroughly mixed.
Step 5: Let mixture set for 10 - 20 minutes.
Step 6: Test on wall
Step 7: Add the additional water as needed to achieve a mixture acceptable for workability but as dry as possible.
Step 8: Apply hemp plaster using a stucco/plaster trowel. It can also be thrown on the wall.

Notes:
We suggest using premixed lime putty mortar as this adds the needed sand as well as extra free lime into the mix. You also can just use ½ bucket of sand in place of the premixed lime putty mortar. Try not to make the mix too wet as it will take longer to dry out.
Adding a mix of coarse and finishing hemp along with the sand will also help with the "bell curve" requirements for a good mixture.
Because hempcrete and hemp plaster take a long time to dry, we recommend applying a 3/8" thick layer of lime plaster to the surface to act as a poultice to help speed the drying process. Keep in mind that the hemp mixture may shrink back and develop cracks which in turn will crack the lime plaster. Compressing these cracks as it dries is important.
For a finish on the hemp plaster you could use Monolys, Tadelakt, Lime Putty plaster or NHL plaster. Do not install the final top coat until the base coat has completely dried.
There are approx. 7 gallons of NHL 2.0 per bag.
There are approx. 5 1/2 five gallon buckets of hemp per 33 lbs of hemp.