

# Thistle UniFinish

## Safety Data Sheet

### Health & Safety

#### 1. Identification of the substances / preparation and company

##### 1.1 Product Identifier

Thistle UniFinish

##### 1.2. Relevant identified uses of the substance or preparation and uses advised against

Gypsum building plaster used to provide a smooth, flat surface to internal walls and ceilings. This information reflects typical values and is not a product specification.

##### 1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet

Supplier British Gypsum  
East Leake  
Loughborough  
Leicestershire  
LE12 6HX  
Telephone 0844 800 1991  
Email bgtechnical.enquiries@bpb.com

#### 2. Hazards identification

##### 2.1 Classification of the substance or preparation

This product is **not** classified as dangerous according to EC regulation 1272/2008 and its amendments. Plaster may form an alkaline solution on contact with body moistures or when mixed with water.

Dust from mixing or sanding may irritate the respiratory system, skin and eyes.

##### Hazard Statements:

H302 - Harmful if swallowed  
H319 - Causes serious eye irritation  
H332 - Harmful if inhaled  
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation  
EUH066 - Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking

**Precautionary Statements:** P261, P271, P304 + P340, P312, P301 + P330, P305 + P313, P337 + P351, P264, P405, P403 + P233, P270, P280, P285, P501

#### 3. Composition / information on ingredients

**General composition:** Calcium sulphate hemihydrate. Natural constituents may include clay, limestone and minor amounts of quartz. Additives may include minor amounts (less than 1%) of hydrated lime.

#### 4. First aid measures

##### 4.1 Description of first aid measures

**Eye contact** P305 + P313 - If in eyes, get medical advice  
P337 + P351 - If eye irritation persists, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes.

**Skin contact** P264 - Wash hands thoroughly after handling.

**Ingestion** P301 + P330 - If swallowed, rinse mouth.

**Inhalation** P261 - avoid breathing dust  
P304 + P340 - if inhaled, remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing  
P312 - Call a doctor, if you feel unwell.

**General** Get medical attention if any symptoms persist.

#### 5. Fire fighting measures

The product does not pose a fire hazard. However, some packaging materials may burn.

Suitable extinguishing media – water, foam, carbon dioxide or dry powder.

#### 6. Accidental release measures

##### 6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Avoid creating dust - see Section 8 for recommended personal protective equipment.

Plaster can be mixed with water. Avoid eye contact or prolonged, repeated contact with skin - see Section 2 for hazards identification.

Prevent plasters from contaminating drains.

#### 7. Handling and storage

##### 7.1 Precautions for safe handling

**Use** – Minimise dust generation when opening bags, mixing or sanding plasters in poorly ventilated places. Avoid eye contact or prolonged or repeated contact with skin – see Section 8 for recommended personal protective equipment, and Section 2 for hazards identification.

P264 - Wash hands thoroughly after handling  
P270 - Do not eat, drink or smoke when handling this product  
P271 - Use only outdoors or in a well ventilated area

**Manual handling** – Supplied in approximately 25kg bags – use an appropriate lifting technique.

Thistle UniFinish weights:

Bag weight kg	Bags per pallet No.	Pallet weight kg	Pallet weight tonnes
25	56	1400	1.4

**(NB)** All weights are approximate.

**Mechanical handling** – To avoid potentially overloading a lift truck, it is important that any effect on load centres is considered. The nominal weight of each palletised load is given within the weights table in this section of this document.

**Storage** – Store in dry conditions. All powdered products can settle in transport. To maintain stability, place pallets on firm level ground, and ensure that stacks are both level and vertical. Do not stack more than one lift high.

P403 + P233 - Store in a well ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed

P405 - Store locked up

## Health & Safety (continued)

### 8. Exposure control / personal protection

#### 8.1 Workplace exposure limit

Substance	Total inhalable	Respirable
Calcium Sulphate Hemihydrate	10mg/m <sup>3</sup> 8hr TWA	4mg/m <sup>3</sup> 8hr TWA
Hydrated Lime	5mg/m <sup>3</sup> 8hr TWA	-
Quartz (silica)	-	0.1mg/m <sup>3</sup> 8hr TWA

#### 8.2 Exposure controls

Ensure adequate general ventilation of work areas to keep dust levels as low as possible. Do not eat, drink or smoke during use. Use personal protective equipment that is clean and has been properly maintained – store in a clean place away from the work area.

#### Personal protection

**Eye / face protection** - Avoid contact with eyes. Wear Eye protection to *EN166* standard Category 5-K.

**Hand protection** - Wear suitable protective gloves to prevent prolonged or repeated skin contact. Recommended properties – impervious gloves to *EN374* standard.

**Body protection** - Work clothing worn by personnel should be laundered regularly.

**Respiratory protection** - Avoid breathing dust P285 : In case of inadequate ventilation, wear respiratory protection *EN149:2001* – minimum recommended FFP2.

### 9. Physical and chemical properties

#### 9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

**Appearance** Dry powder.

**Odour** Odourless.

**pH** As wet plaster mix-neutral 7 to alkaline 13.

### 10. Stability and reactivity

#### 10.1 Reactivity

No data available.

#### 10.2 Chemical stability

This preparation is stable under the recommended handling and storage conditions in section 7.

#### 10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

None under normal conditions of use.

#### 10.4 Conditions to avoid

Avoid dust formation.

#### 10.5 Incompatible materials

No specific restrictions regarding incompatible materials.

### 10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

No data available.

### 11. Toxicology information

**Inhalation** Plaster dust may irritate the respiratory system. No known long term effects.

**Skin contact** Wet plaster may form an alkaline solution and irritate the skin. Dry powder can cause irritation.

**Eye contact** Wet plaster may form an alkaline solution and cause eye irritation. Dry powder can cause irritation.

**Ingestion** Small quantities of plaster should not cause any significant reaction or long term effect.

### 12. Ecological information

Slightly soluble in water, forms a suspension and solidifies.

### 13. Disposal consideration

#### 13.1 Waste treatment methods

Do not pour into drains or waterways.

Wastes from gypsum products are normally classified as 'non-hazardous' but should not be co-disposed with municipal waste.

P501 - Dispose of contents of containers at an authorised landfill site in accordance with the Waste Management Licensing Regulations. (See Section 16 Other Information).

### 14. Transport information

Not classified as hazardous for transportation.

### 15. Regulatory information

Not classified as dangerous according to EC regulation 1272/2008 and its amendments.

### 16. Other information

H302 - Harmful if swallowed

H319 - Causes serious eye irritation

H332 - Harmful if Inhaled

H335 - May cause respiratory irritation

EUH066 - Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking.

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations  
The Manual Handling Operations Regulations  
HSE Guidance Note EH40: Workplace Exposure Limits  
Gypsum Wastes – Environment Agency Information Sheet  
The British Gypsum **White Book**  
The British Gypsum **Site Book**  
The British Gypsum website: [www.british-gypsum.com](http://www.british-gypsum.com)

## Health & Safety (continued)

**Note to user:** This Safety Data Sheet does not constitute a workplace risk assessment for COSHH.

There are a number of situations where the approach to manual handling of British Gypsum products should be considered. For further guidance, please refer to the Manual Handling Section of the **Site Book**, available to download from [www.british-gypsum.com](http://www.british-gypsum.com).

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