

BUILDER'S MATE

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Sealing it up



Choosing the right sealant and applying it the right way are crucial to the effectiveness of the seal.

Sealants are used in joints to keep out moisture and air. The continued effectiveness of a sealant joint depends on the choice of sealant for the substrate and the exposure conditions, the joint dimensions and the soundness of the material it is applied to.

Choice may be limited by compliance documents to the New Zealand Building Code, which incorporates specific requirements for certain uses. For example, an ISO 11600: 2002 compliant neutral-cure sealant is prescribed in section 9.2.4.1 of E2/AS1 for control joints in bricks and in 9.9.8 for penetrations through EIFS. Generally, however, the applicator should use the sealant specified by the designer.

Sealants are usually classified by chemical or movement type. The manufacturer's recommendations should be carefully

followed because sealants may vary widely in formulation and performance between manufacturers. Recent research (BUILD April/May 2006, pages 94–95) compared the performance of several modified silicone sealants with silicone, polyurethane and polysulfide sealants. The study showed that modified silicone performs very well after exposure and can be substantially more durable than polyurethanes.

Design of the joint is also critical, particularly the width-to-depth ratio. Joint design including joint preparation, priming, application and maintenance is covered in detail in BRANZ *Bulletins* 440 and 441.

Check the soundness and priming of the substrate material before application. ➤

INDUSTRY NEWS

Building consent help

The Department of Building and Housing has released a new publication aimed at helping designers, builders and homeowners' agents work through the building consent process. It is called *Guide to applying for a building consent (simple residential buildings)* and is available free either in hard copy, or by downloading a PDF from www.dbh.govt.nz.

It covers issues to consider and describes the minimum documentation that should be supplied with an application to demonstrate compliance with relevant clauses of the Building Code. There are sample drawings of site plans, foundation plans, floor plans, elevations, sections, and construction details, plus a design summary check sheet.

HAMMER 'N' NAILS

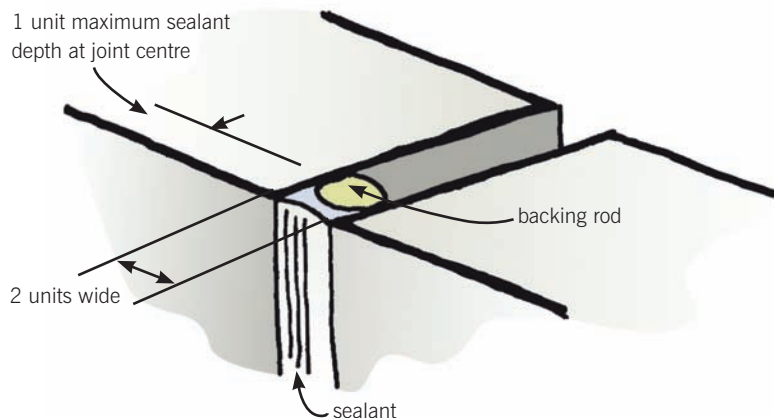
IT SAYS IF YOU SUPPLY THE TOOLS, I AM AN EMPLOYEE AND ENTITLED TO HOLIDAYS.



Win!

An Arges 82 mm 1100 W planer
worth \$199





Sealant joint profile.

Continued from previous page

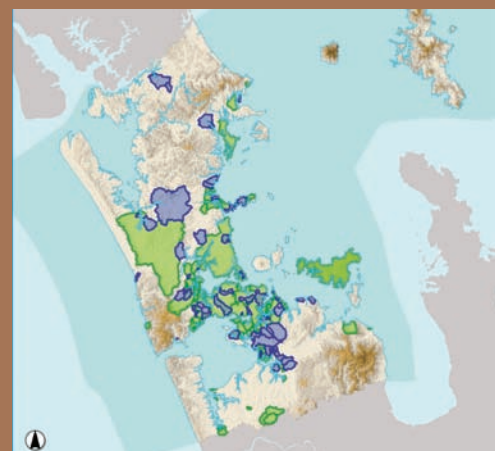
Loose substrate material should be removed and surface contamination cleaned off. Use masking tape to prevent contamination of adjacent surfaces, and remove it immediately after tooling. If a primer is used then the sealant must be applied to the joint within the time noted on the primer container.

The best way to apply sealant is to push the gun in the direction in which the sealant

is applied, as illustrated in the front page photograph. Pulling the gun during application is more likely to leave trapped air and points of weakness.

Finally, tool the joint to ensure that the sealant completely fills the joint to the required depth. No air should be trapped in the joint if it is to remain effective. The joint may require protection until the sealant cures.

PRODUCT INFORMATION



The Auckland Regional Council now has a stormwater discharge consents mapping system live on its website. This mapping system shows the location of stormwater consent applications, as well as stormwater networks discharge consents, anywhere in the Auckland region. You can find it in the maps section at www.arc.govt.nz.

Dribblings from the Old Geezer



So often I hear from older chippies that they are not going to bother trying to become a Licensed Building Practitioner. "Bugger that", they often eloquently acclaim, going on to tell how they're going to go under the radar until they retire.

It will be a sad loss if the experienced of our industry are allowed to just skulk off this way. We hear anecdotes about cowboys in the industry and how we need to get them out. Yep ... couldn't agree more, but for God's sake, don't drive out the older workers.

Think about it – not many of them are the cowboys that we need to purge. Those are usually the boys in a hurry who do need to be slowed down a bit.

The LBP regime needs to be sold not only to the general public so they are enthused about it, but also to our own people to embrace it. So far I am not convinced that this is being done very well. We're all in this together and we all should be proud of our skills and not be scared to show it.

Des Molloy

BRANZ

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Calls cost \$1.99 per minute plus GST

www.branz.co.nz

At a glance

Scribing to bevel-back weatherboards



1. Tack the scribe blank to the side of the facing board. Make sure it is 75 mm or so overlength. A handy hint is to remove the head of a panel pin and drive it home as the fixing. This means that there is nothing to get in the way of the marking process.



2 and 3. Using the leaf of a builder's rule, transfer the profile of the weatherboard to your scribe.



4. Set your jigsaw to undercut.



5. Note that both cuts are undercut in opposing directions so it is more efficient to do one cut on each scribe before changing the blade angle. In other words, do the short cuts on one scribe and the long cuts on the other, then change.



6. Trim the top off the scribe by the same amount as you have been off-setting the short cut and trial fit. Adjust by trimming any "mouth" that doesn't fit well. Fit again and trim bottom of scribe to fit. Prime and finally fix.

Lead paint

If a building is over 30 years old, the original paint on it was probably lead-based. This paint can be harmful to your health if you ingest dust or flakes of it when you're preparing the building for repainting.

Often, a structure will be repainted several times before a very thorough job is done of removing all the layers of paint and starting again with a clean surface. This usually means that the lead-based paint layers will be disturbed and there is potential harm to both the person doing the work and the occupants of the building.

Whether you intend removing the paint by scraping, sanding (wet or dry), using heat, chemicals or water blasting, there are some common precautions you should take.

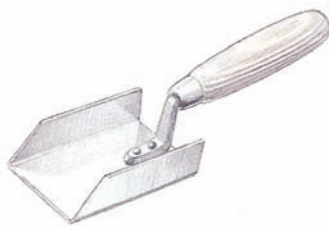
- if sanding or burning off very old paint, wear a good-fitting respirator
- use clothing or overalls that are for this use only and wash separately
- close all windows and doors to prevent contamination of the inside from work being done outside
- have a drop sheet under the work being carried out – even when water blasting you should catch all flakes from the area
- if using a vacuum cleaner to clean up debris, make sure it is a commercial machine or a high-end domestic machine with a HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filter
- don't burn paint debris
- keep pets and children away from work areas
- wet-wipe surfaces after working to collect dust
- wrap up all paint debris securely and tape the package
- if working inside, remove curtains and furniture from the work area and cover floor coverings with taped-down plastic sheet
- keep your hair covered
- wash your face and hands well before eating.

Lead-based paints should never be removed by sand or grit blasting because of the large amount of dust that is created.

COMPETITION



What is the name of this pictured tool and what is it used for?



Win! An Arges 82mm 1100 W planer worth \$199

This quality planer has an 82 mm x 3 mm double sided blade, planing depth of 0 – 3 mm, and rebate capacity of 0 – 18 mm. It features an aluminium base, safety lock button, ratcheting depth knob, guide fence, and comes complete with dust bag.

The prize is provided courtesy of The Tool Shed.

1. All you need to win is tell us the name of the mystery tool and what it's used for.
2. Send us your answer plus your name, address and telephone number on the back of an envelope. Post it (you don't need a stamp) to: Builder's Mate 23, Mystery Tool Competition, FREEPOST BRANZ, Private Bag 50908, Porirua City 5240. One entry per entrant please.
3. Don't forget to tell us where you picked up your copy of *Builder's Mate*! The winner will be the first correct entry drawn at 9am on Friday 29 June 2007. Details will be posted on the BRANZ Ltd website (www.branz.co.nz) and in the next edition of *Builder's Mate*, due out on 1 August 2007.

Terms and conditions:

Entry is open to all New Zealand residents except employees and immediate families of BRANZ Ltd,

BRANZ Inc, BRANZ Pty and The Tool Shed shops. The competition will close on Friday 29 June 2007. The prize is not transferable for cash. The judge's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. BRANZ Ltd may, from time to time, send you information about our products. You can contact us at any time if you do not wish to receive this information.



BUILDER'S MATE WINNERS

The winner of the BM 22 competition was Linda Glimour of Royal Oak, Auckland. The mystery tool was a cramp for large objects which uses a length of 100 x 50 to space the sliding jaws.

BLOKES on the job

TODD MURLAND

Finishing off a cafe in Waikanae.



Favourite tool

Paslode nail gun (but also likes a good builder's pencil).

Favourite tip

Get it right first time so you don't get a bollocking from the boss!

TONY GEANGE

of Remuera.



Favourite tool

Anything with power.

Favourite tip

Be honest, be reliable.

JULIO AND CODY

building a grain store in Oakes, North Dakota (USA).



Favourite tool

Arc welder, electric rattle gun.

Favourite tip

Don't be afraid of heights.

EXCITING NEW PUBLICATION!

Cover all your plastering needs

Good Practice Guide Texture-coated claddings provides wide-ranging information on texture-coated cladding design and installation. It covers the systems and performance requirements for texture-coated claddings, EIFS (Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems), and texture-coated fibre-cement. It also provides detail on the weatherproof coating application and textured-coating application to both EIFS and texture-coated fibre-cement.

Order your copy today for only **\$59.95** (plus \$8 p&p) by calling **0800 80 80 85 press 2**, or visit **www.branz.co.nz** for more information or to place your order.

\$59.95

inc GST

(plus \$8.00 p&p)



GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE TEXTURE-COATED CLADDINGS



Although BRANZ has made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of its information, it provides generic advice only and BRANZ accepts no liability for any loss or damage incurred. Opinions expressed in *Builder's Mate* do not necessarily reflect the views of BRANZ.

Standards referred to can be purchased from Standards New Zealand.

Tel: 04 498 5991 or www.standards.co.nz.

www.branz.co.nz

04 237 1170



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Know someone on the job? Send us details of his or her favourite tip and tool and you could win \$50-worth of BRANZ books.