

SpiderLath FAQ

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1. Q. Is SpiderLath code approved?

A. Spider lath's testing is written by ICC-ES. The ES report is AC 275. The evaluation was performed by ANSI accredited test facility Iamp-ES (www.iampoes.org). The report number is 0141. SpiderLath also meets the installation criteria of the Masonry Veneer Manufacturers Association (www.masonryveneer.org) which is comprised of the largest stone veneer manufacturers in the USA.

2. Q. What is code approved lath?

A. Any product that is approved by the local code official.

3. Q. Is SpiderLath approved for use with manufacture stone veneer and stucco?

A. Yes,

4. Q. Do all manufactured stone veneer manufacturers approve of SpiderLath?

A. The 13 largest stone manufacturers in the USA are members of the Masonry Veneer Manufacturers Association (MVMA). The MVMA has published an installation guideline for use with their perspective stone products that says "Alternate lath acceptable with a product evaluation acceptance report showing compliance to ICC-ES AC 275". SpiderLath meets those criteria. Refer to question 1. Go to www.masonryveneer.org for a listing of the stone manufacturer members.

5. Q. Do I use flat or self-furred lath?

A. The standards for ASTM and the MVMA call for the use of self-furred or a means to furr the lath for embedment of ¼ inch and ¼ inch top coat.

ASTM Designation: C 1063 – 06

Standard Specification for

Installation of Lathing and Furring to Receive Interior and Exterior Portland Cement-Based Plaster

13.2.4 self-furring—a metal plaster base manufactured with evenly-spaced indentations that hold the body of the lath approximately 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) away from solid surfaces to which it is applied.

TABLE 3 Types and Weights of Metal Plaster Bases and Corresponding Maximum Permissible Spacing of Supports

B. Metal plaster bases shall be furred away from vertical supports or solid surfaces at least 1/4 in. Self-furring lath meets furring requirements...

Masonry Veneer Manufacturers Association

2.5 lb. or 3.4 lb. self-furred corrosion resistant lath (ASTM C 847)

Mortar Scratch Coat

After the lath is installed, apply a nominal 1/2" thick layer of mortar over the lath, ensuring the lath is completely covered with mortar to allow for scoring of the surface. The mortar should be applied with sufficient pressure and thickness to fully embed the lath in mortar.

6. Q. What kind of building projects can I use Spiderlath with?

A. SpiderLath can be used on any project that would use a lathing material for cementitious exterior wall coatings or exterior cement plaster (stucco). It is also used for reinforcement in GFRC projects such as concrete counter tops and floor overlays.

7. Q. How long has SpiderLath been on the market?

A. SpiderLath has been on the market since 2003 and received an evaluation report January, 2010. Fiberglass has been used to reinforce concrete (GFRC) since the 1960's.

8. Q. Why should I use SpiderLath instead of other types of lathing material?

A. SpiderLath is made with alkaline resistant fiberglass that will hold up in a highly corrosive alkaline environment such as stucco, a cementitious material. SpiderLath fiberglass material is also compatible with cementitious material. The advantages are that the cementitious material will adhere to the fiberglass enabling the fiberglass mesh to strengthen the cementitious material. Other types of lathing material currently being used do not have the properties associated with compatibility of cementitious material. Other types of lathing material rely on the "keying" of the cementitious material once it has hardened. After the cementitious material has hardened it pulls away from the lathing material therefore unable to transfer the strength of the lathing material to the cementitious material.

9. Q. What size and weight are SpiderLath rolls?

A. 4 x75 feet, 300 square feet, 20 pounds per roll

10. Q. Is SpiderLath easier to use than other types of lath?

A. Because SpiderLath is made from fiberglass it is lighter, 20 pounds per 4' tall by 75 feet long roll(300 square feet) , making it easier for one person to handle large amounts and easier to cut using only a utility knife or common scissors .

11. Q. Does it take 2 installers to apply SpiderLath?

A. One installer can easily install SpiderLath efficiently and effectively.

12. Q. Is more cementitious material needed for a scratch coat with SpiderLath vs. other types of lath?

A. No, code states that ½ inch min. coating for scratch coat. ½ inch is the same regardless of what type of lath is used.

13. Q. Can I use SpiderLath for inside and outside applications?

A. Yes

14. Q. Why does SpiderLath have foam strips attached to the mesh?

A. Act as furring strips to ensure the fiberglass mesh stands off the wall substrate ¼ inch to achieve the proper embedment specified by code.

B. Act as a fastening guide; fasteners should be applied vertically every 6 inches on 24 inch stud spacing.

C. Act as a gasket to seal intrusion made by the fastener into the building wrap

D. Act as a shock absorber to minimize the impact from the fastener to the mesh

15. Q. What direction do I run the strip?

A. SpiderLath can be installed any direction, horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Running the strips horizontally and diagonally will cover the studs in 16" and 24" OC. vertically they will only cover 24"OC.

16. Q. What side of the mesh goes against the wall?
A. The strips go against the wall with the mesh facings out.
17. Q. What type of fastener is used to fasten SpiderLath to the wall?
A. The fastener used must cover at least 3 strands of mesh material using a washer or similar hardware. In wood structures the fastener must penetrate the stud member at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Concrete masonry units and steel framing refer to fastener manufactures recommendations for penetration. The preferred fastener is a corrosion resistant nail with a flat washer 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter. Other types of fasteners include wide crown staples and screws with washer.
18. Q. What is the fastener placement?
A. Every 6 inches vertically into the stud. If additional fasteners are needed in the field a slap stapler, hammer tacker can be attached into the strips where necessary. For detailed installation instructions refer to our Installation guide line at www.spiderlath.com
19. Q. Do I overlap SpiderLath?
A. Overlap 2 inches. The top strip of the bottom course does not need to be fastened if overlapping strip is fastened.
20. Q. How do I apply SpiderLath on corner applications?
A. wrap corner 16 inches from corner to stud. Do not terminate lath at corners.
21. Q. What kind of mortar do I use to scratch-coat with?
A. any code approved, examples are Type s,n,m
22. Q. Does SpiderLath add strength to the scratch-coat?
A. SpiderLath mesh material is made of fiberglass. Cementitious material will adhere to Fiberglass thereby allowing transfer of stress placed on the cementitious material to the fiberglass material. SpiderLath mesh material is stronger than the cementitious material adding tensile strength to the cementitious material which will reduce cracking.
23. Q. When scratch-coating do I need to force mortar thru the fiberglass mesh openings to fill the $\frac{1}{4}$ " space between the mesh and the wall?
A. Yes, That is the purpose of the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch strips and is the embedment that is referred to in ASTM CODE
24. Q. How does mortar "catch" without cups?
A. When the cementitious is embedded behind the mesh it is "keyed" encapsulating the outside mortar with the reinforcing mesh.
25. Q. After filling in the $\frac{1}{4}$ "space behind the lath, what thickness of mortar do I put on the outside of the SpiderLath lath?
A. $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

26. Q. How is the scratch coat applied?

A. It is very important that the mortar is forced thru the mesh to fill the ¼ inch space made by the foam strip. This is best done in two steps. First, force the mortar thru the fiberglass mesh filling up the ¼ inch space behind the mesh and leaving a thin layer over the mesh material. Next while the mortar is still wet apply a nominal ¼ inch of mortar to the outside of the lath for a minimum thickness of ½ inch.

27. Q. What do I do when the lath has bubbles?

A. Bubbling does not cause any structural problems with the scratch coat. Code states embedment of 50 percent of the lath surface must be embedded ¼ inch. Bubbles will usually be covered up with the top coat. If bubbles are a problem a slap stapler can be used to fasten in the field of the lath into the strip.

28. Q. After scratch-coating how soon can I start applying stone or stucco to the wall?

A. Refer to local building code or ASTM. ASTM C 926 X1.4.2.2 states, " In order to provide more intimate contact and bond between coats and to reduce rapid water loss, the second coat should be applied as soon as the first coat is sufficiently rigid to resist cracking, the pressures of the second coat application, and the leveling process".

29. Q. Does the foam strip leave a void where cracking could propagate from?

A. Independent testing on stucco projects has shown the strips do not cause cracking with a correctly applied scratch coat. ¼ inch embedment and ¼ inch top coat.

30. Q. Does SpiderLath have a warranty?

A. SpiderLath has a 50 year limited warranty.

31. Q. Where can I get information and purchase SpiderLath

A. Information on SpiderLath and SpiderLath dealers in your area can be obtained on our website at www.SpiderLath.com or by calling us at 870-725-3902