

HARD-N-FAST and HARD-N-FAST MINI CHLORIDE-FREE POWDER SET ACCELERATOR

1. Product Name

Hard-N-Fast and Hard-N-Fast Mini chloride-free powder set accelerator

2. Manufacturer

Illinois Products Corporation (IPCO)
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3. Product Description

Hard-N-Fast and Hard-N-Fast Mini chloride-free powder set accelerator for mortar is an admixture for mortar designed to allow for more effective construction of masonry walls in cold temperatures. It is a pre-measured, white dry powder proportioned for each mortar batch. Each foil bag is preprinted with instructions.

Hard-N-Fast is not an "antifreeze", and therefore will not appreciably lower the freezing point of mortar or water. The chemical reaction between the portland or masonry cement and water accelerates the setting time of the mortar.

Accelerating the setting time of the mortar increases the early strength development. The faster set helps provide protection against frost damage in freezing weather. The result is that masons proceed in a normal manner in cold weather with less concern about frozen mortar. With no delays, production rises.

Hard-N-Fast will not change the color of mortars, nor will it contribute to efflorescence.

Hard-N-Fast can also be used in all temperatures to anchor "floaters" (dense, non-absorptive units that "swim" or "float" on the mortar bed), including glass block, stone and low-absorptive brick. Hard-N-Fast allows the mortar to stiffen early, thereby eliminating the problems caused by these masonry units.

Independent laboratory reports show that at 40° Hard-N-Fast mortar reaches final set in substantially faster time than that of standard mortar. The report, which includes tests of other properties, is available upon request.

4. Technical Data

- Material: Chloride-free white powder accelerator
- Packaging: Foil pre-measured bags with printed instructions

MSDS available upon request

5. Installation and Suggested Proportions

Hard-N-Fast powder is added to the mixing water prior to the addition of portland and/or masonry cement and sand or preblended mortar. Hard-N-Fast Powder should be completely dissolved prior to adding dry materials. Do not attempt to mix Hard-N-Fast Powder with the dry materials unless the Hard-N-Fast has been dissolved in water first.

Mixing instructions are as follows:

HARD-N-FAST (Standard)

Cold weather between 15° and 32°

For portland cement-lime mortars:
Use two (2) bags of Hard-N-Fast with each bag of portland cement.

For masonry mortars:
Use one (1) bag of Hard-N-Fast with each bag of masonry cement.

Cold weather above 32° and floaters in warm weather

Begin by using 1/2 the suggested cold-weather proportion and adjust as necessary for the best results.

HARD-N-FAST MINI (for preblended mortars)

Cold weather between 15° and 32°

For preblended portland cement-lime mortars:
Use one to two (2) bags of Hard-N-Fast Mini with each bag of preblended portland cement mortar.

For preblended masonry mortar:
Use one (1) bag of Hard-N-Fast Mini with each bag of preblended masonry mortar.

Cold weather above 32° and floaters in warm weather

Begin by using 1/2 the suggested cold-weather proportion and adjust as necessary for the best results.

6. Availability and Cost

All Illinois Products Corporation masonry products and cost information are available through a nationwide network of masonry and building supply distributors.

7. Warranty

The recommendations and properties attributed to the products are based upon what is believed to be reliable information. Illinois Products Corporation warrants materials to be of good quality and will replace unused material proven to be defective. No expressed or implied warranty of installed material is made because satisfactory results depend not only on product quality but also upon factors that are beyond IPCO's control.

Even though mortar with Hard-N-Fast is better protected from the effects of cold weather than mortar without the benefit of acceleration, the use of Hard-N-Fast does



not eliminate the need for common sense, good construction practice, or standard winter precautions. It will, however, reduce the severity of the effect that winter and cold weather has on the ability of the masons to perform their duties and the negative impact cold weather has on mortar.

8. Maintenance

No maintenance is required after proper installation.

9. Technical Services

Contact the manufacturer for any required technical services. IPCO Material Safety Data Sheets should be read and understood by all personnel before using the products.

10. Filing Systems

Product information is available from the manufacturer in the following formats:

- Complete IPCO product line catalog in printed and CD formats
- Online access to all data sheets at: www.illinoisproducts.com

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