



GFRC
Cladding

Glass
Fiber
Reinforced
Concrete

118 North Shiloh Rd.
Garland, Texas
75042
www.gfrccladding.com

Telephone:
972-494-9000
Fax:
972-494-1900

O & M

MANUAL



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MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF GFRC

CLEANING

Many GFRC panel projects will require only spot cleaning with soap and water in isolated areas while other projects may require a general cleaning. More stubborn dirt may require a commercial cleaning compound or a diluted solution of muriatic acid. Other methods may be used, and all methods should be performed on a small, obscure area before proceeding with full scale work. The GFRC surface should be wetted in advance to prevent deep absorption of strong cleaners. A 3% to 5% phosphoric acid solution may be more effective on white concrete and also helps to avoid a yellow stain. When using acids, special care is required in masking and protecting adjacent materials to avoid damage. A thorough rinsing with water after use of a strong cleaner is required to neutralize the panel surface. To avoid prolonged staining, it is recommended that the panels be cleaned on an annual basis.

PATCHING AND REPAIR

A certain amount of repair of product is to be expected as a routine procedure. Production blemishes should have been corrected at the plant. Since patching and repair of GFRC is a specialized activity, it is recommended that the manufacturer's personnel be used for repair work. They understand the use of bonding agents and shading or texturing techniques. It may even be necessary to prepare a composite patching mix reinforced with glass fibers. Damage that affects the structural capacity should be discussed with the design engineer. In general, the extent of patching and repairing required should be minor.



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PROCEDURE TO CLEAN PANELS

MATERIAL REQUIRED:

5-Gallon Bucket

Toilet Bowl Cleaner (Ball Heavy Hitter or SSS Emulsion Bowl Cleaner)

Acid Brush and Handle

Pressure Washer

Water

PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

In 5-gallon bucket, mix one part toilet bowl cleaner to five parts clean water.

Wet GFRC panel thoroughly with pressure washer or a hose.

Apply mixture by spraying over wet GFRC; cleaning mixture should produce a mild level foaming action. If the foaming level is too low or too high, adjust the amount of water or the amount of 600 cleaner. For areas with stubborn stains, use the acid brush and scrub panel.

Rinse well with pressure washer, keeping the wand approximately 18-24 inches from the surface. If the wand is held closer than 18-24 inches, the spray will leave marks on the panel. ****Note: Use 60 degree tip in pressure washer to create a wider, less damaging force.****

Repeat procedure as necessary to remove efflorescence and accumulated soiling.

Be responsible, keep all materials including surrounding materials wet and fully rinsed to prevent possible damage or staining.



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATCHING

MATERIAL REQUIRED:

Bags Patch mix

1 Qt. Forton/Water (3 parts water, 1 part Forton)

Sponge/Tape/Trowel

Sandpaper

Honing Stone

PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

Mix small amount of patch mix with fortion/water into a thick but workable mixture. Apply to chipped area, leaving an excessive amount piled. After 24 hours, hone the area with honing stone. Use sandpaper to achieve the desired texture.

With small chips or holes, it is not necessary to apply an excessive amount to the area to attain the proper texture.

Texture can be attained by working the patch with a damp sponge; care must be taken not to create a “halo” around the patch area. In some instances, applying blue tape adjacent to the patch can prevent “halos” from forming.

Light pencil blast with either sand or baking soda can bring the patch to the proper texture and finish to match the original panel finish.



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Floating or Large Area Repairs:

With a sponge or hose, wet the area to be floated, not saturated but damp. Mix straight Forton with White Portland Cement and make a slurry mixture that is brushed onto the damp GFRC surface. This becomes the bonding agent.

Mix the patch mix with the Forton/water mixture to achieve a workable consistency. Generously apply the concrete mix over the bonding agent using a sponge, trowel, or blue insulation board. Work the mix to a uniform finish.

Washing with Sure-Kleen 600 detergent or a light sand/soda blast will produce the original finish.