



TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

PURPOSE  
AQUA ETCH PRIMER



REVISION DATE: July 2024  
(Supersedes all previous publications)

PRODUCT INFORMATION

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

**AQUA ETCH METAL PRIMER** is an excellent quality water-based, rust inhibiting metal primer formulated with anti-corrosive pigments. AQUA ETCH METAL PRIMER is environmentally friendly, lead free and quick-drying.

PRODUCT USES

Suitable as a primer for prepared mild steel, aluminum and new or old galvanized surfaces. Can be over-coated with acrylic emulsion and enamel-based paints.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

GENERIC TYPE

Acrylic based emulsion

FINISH

Matt

VOLUME SOLIDS

35 ± 1%

SPECIFIC GRAVITY

1.28kg/litre (typical)

RECOMMENDED DFT

35 - 40 microns. One to two coats required.

RECOMMENDED WFT

100 - 125 microns: One to two coats required.

SPREAD RATE

Smooth Surface	Rough Surface
8 - 10 m <sup>2</sup> /ℓ	6 - 8 m <sup>2</sup> /ℓ
Surface porosity, profile, application tools and technique will affect practical spread rate	

GREEN PROPERTIES

- Lead Free
- Zero VOC (White and factory tinted colours)
- Glycol free (White and factory tinted colours)
- APEO free
- Formaldehyde free

FLASH POINT

Non-flammable

COLOURS

Red Oxide, Black, White and Grey

PACK SIZE

1ℓ, 5ℓ and 20ℓ

STORAGE

Store away from direct sunlight, heat and severely cold or damp conditions. Ensure that containers are properly sealed before storage.

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## APPLICATION DETAILS

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### PRIOR TO USE

Mix well using a flat paddle to ensure that no settlement is present at the bottom of container.

### APPLICATION METHOD

Brush, roller or airless spray

### THINNING

Ready for use – Do not thin

### CLEANING OF EQUIPMENT

Water (immediately after use)

### DRYING TIME (@ 23°C & 50% RH)

Touch dry 30 minutes

Over coating 4 hours for Acrylic Emulsions

24 Hours for Enamels

*Note: higher temperatures will accelerate the drying times (approximately halved for every 10°C increase), whilst lower temperatures will retard the drying times (approximately doubled for every 10°C decrease).*

### APPLICATION CONDITIONS

	MIN	MAX
Surface Temp (°C)	10 °C	40°C
Ambient Temp (°C)	10 °C	40°C
Relative Humidity	10%	85%
<i>or 4°C minimum above dew point</i>		

### SUBSTRATE CONDITIONS

Substrate must be clean, dry, and free of rust, oil, grease and sound for painting. Rusted metal must be prepared to ISO 8501-01:1988 – St 3 to attain a bright metal finish before application. Ensure that the surface is water-break free before application.

### LIMITATIONS

SABRE AQUA ETCH PRIMER is only suitable for the following ISO environmental categories: C1 – C3. For C4 – C5, make use of SABRE CHLORPRIME in accordance with the product data sheet.

### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Ensure good ventilation during application and curing process.

Keep out of reach from children.

In case of skin contact, wash with soap and water.

In case of eye contact rinse immediately with running water and seek medical advice if eyes are irritated.

If swallowed, do not induce vomiting and seek medical attention.

Always wear the appropriate protective clothing during product handling and application.

Refer to Material Safety Data Sheet on our website for more detailed safety information.

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## SURFACE PREPARATION

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Ensure that all surfaces are clean, dry and free of rust, oil, grease and in accordance with above SUBSTRATE CONDITIONS. Ensure that the surface is water-break free before painting.

- Remove all loose and flaking surface rust by means of sanding, chipping or wire brush.
- Sand rusted areas to ISO 8501-01:1988 – St 3 to attain a bright metal finish. Severely rusted areas that are difficult to reach should be treated with a suitable Rust Converter or a 50% solution of Phosphoric Acid in water before further surface preparation.
- Mild steel, Aluminium: Degrease with SABRE DEGREASING SOLVENT or POWER PARIFFIN. Scrub thoroughly with abrasive pads and wash down with running tap water. Allow to dry.
- New & Weathered Galvanized Iron: Apply SABRE GI PRE-CLEANER in accordance with product data sheet. Allow to react for 10-15 minutes. Wash down with running tap water and repeat if necessary until a water break-free surface is attained. Allow to dry.
- To prevent flash rust, ensure to overcoat the surface soon after preparation and drying.
- Apply one to two coats SABRE AQUA ETCH PRIMER at a spread rate of 8 – 10 m<sup>2</sup>/ℓ and allow 4 hours drying time before applying the selected finish coats.

Please note: On redecoration projects we can only ensure adequate rust inhibition in areas that are stripped to bare metal. For optimal results we advise the application of two coats SABRE AQUA ETCH PRIMER on ferrous-metal surfaces.

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## DISCLAIMER

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*The technical information contained in this document are given in good faith and are meant to be used as a guideline by the specifier or user. Whilst we are confident about the quality of our products, we cannot accept any liability for the incorrect use or application of our products. Surface preparation forms an integral part of the scope of works and it is expected that the highest standards are maintained during surface preparation and application, to ensure that our products perform as intended. Always ensure to use the same product batch numbers, refrain from doing spot touch-ups and paint surfaces from corner to corner to prevent colour and sheen variance.*

Please note that all our latest Product Data Sheets and Material Safety Data Sheets are available for viewing on our website at [www.sabre.co.za](http://www.sabre.co.za)

**SABRE PAINTS (PTY) LIMITED**