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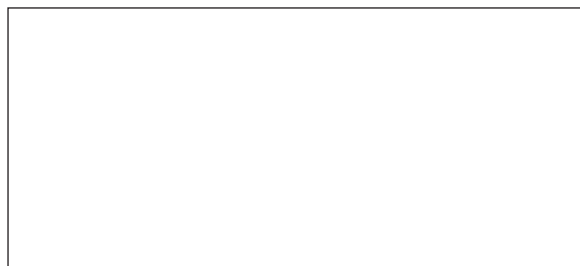
Plants

Riverside, CA
French Camp, CA
Albuquerque, NM
Colorado Springs, CO
San Antonio, TX
Redan, GA
Wilkes Barre, PA

Warehouses

Anaheim, CA
North Hollywood, CA

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For more information on our products (including MSDS sheets, all literature and company, log on to our site: www.lahabrastucco.com

For any inquiry or technical support, you can contact us by phone or email us at: info@lahabrastucco.com

LaHabra® Efflorescence

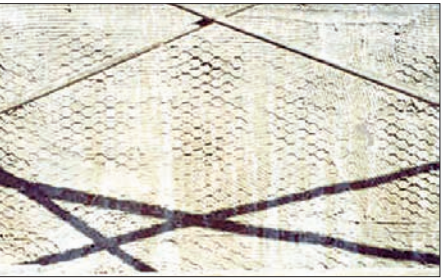


LaHabra

LaHabra® Efflorescence

During periods of rainy damp weather, home and building owners may notice a white powder on their stucco walls. Efflorescence is the term used to describe the whitish bloom or salts that sometimes appear on exterior stucco, concrete walks, driveways, and masonry surfaces when they are exposed to moisture. Water is the vehicle for the salt migration to the surface.

Efflorescence is the growth of salt crystals on the surface due to the evaporation of salt laden water.



This condition may appear during wet weather or when a concrete masonry surface

receives water from a concentrated source such as a sprinkler.

When this condition appears on stucco, it is important to realize that the efflorescence is not the result of faulty stucco or improper application by the plastering contractor. It is a deposit of mineral salts from a variety of possible sources.

Efflorescence often occurs during damp, wet, rainy weather. These conditions provide water and moisture for the migration of salts.

The following compounds might be found in efflorescence:

- Calcium Carbonate
- Potassium Sulfate
- Sodium Carbonate
- Calcium Sulfate
- Sodium Silicate
- Sodium Bicarbonate
- Magnesium Sulfate
- Sodium Sulfate

There also can be chlorides, nitrates, and other salts.

Remedies for Efflorescence

Pressure washing may be required to dislodge the salt build up; however, if the wash water contains salts or if there are still salts in the stucco material, the water may deposit them on the surface.

Severe cases may require brushing to remove or loosen the build up of efflorescence. A diluted acid solution can be used followed by flushing with plenty of water. Vinegar or a dilute (5% acid to water) solution of muriatic or phosphoric acid can also be used. Acid may have corrosive fumes or attack metal windows and plating. The manufacture 's directions,



cautions, and instructions should be followed. If staining is still present, walls should be coated with La Habra Allegro cement coating.

A protective water repellent agent designed for stucco, such as La Habra Pro-Tect, may be applied to the finished wall to make it water resistant and reduce staining. Contact Technical Services for more information.

Efflorescence has been a common issue for many years in stucco, brick, masonry, and concrete. In dry arid areas, we tend to forget about it until we have periods of heavy rain and efflorescence occurs. Efflorescence is not due to application or faulty materials, but rather the natural migration of mineral salts from a wide variety of sources including soil, rain, and mix water.

