

Limestrong Tadelakt is inspired by traditional authentic Moroccan Tadelakt and has been adapted for modern use with US-sourced materials and techniques. We define authentic tadelakt as the materials, method, and finish that produces a calcium stearate chemical reaction resulting in a functional water-repellant seal and silky smooth patina. The aesthetic continuity and functional performance of a tadelakt finish are based on the methods utilized by the tadelakt artisan and care and maintenance by the owner; Limestrong Artisan Plaster cannot guarantee any finish outcomes with Limestrong Tadelakt products.

### TADELAKT SYSTEMS:

Limestrong Tadelakt has two different systems: one for WET areas where the tadelakt finish needs to be water repellant to be functional, and one for DRY areas where the tadelakt serves as a decorative finish only. While there are parallels to the systems, the WET and DRY systems are distinct with both materials and process. See [TADELAKT SYSTEMS PDF](#)

### PREREQUISITES: WET

Tadelakt for WET areas requires a properly waterproofed substrate. The tadelakt substrate waterproof membrane needs to be intact as a stand alone waterproof system. All plumbing needs to be roughed in to the appropriate depth and all finished plumbing hardware and escutcheons need to be on hand to ensure sufficient coverage. See [TADELAKT WET USE PREP STANDARDS PDF](#)

### PREREQUISITES: DRY

Tadelakt for DRY areas requires application over level 4 finished drywall and surface prepared with primer mixed with Limestrong GRIT. See [TADELAKT DRY USE GUIDE PDF](#)

**METHOD:** Limestrong Tadelakt refers to both the finish, materials, and method. The Limestrong Tadelakt method is labor intensive and requires meticulous understanding of the materials, sequencing, and timing, all while responding to ambient factors often out of the control of the plaster artisan, like temperature and humidity. Often learned with training and extensive experiential practice, DIYers are advised to account for this experiential learning process before doing a final project. See [TADELAKT WET USE GUIDE PDF](#) and [TADELAKT DRY USE GUIDE PDF](#)

**FINISH:** The appearance of tadelakt often has natural aesthetic variations. While many view these variations as character and complementary to the finish, some can perceive them as aesthetically unacceptable. While some variations are inside the control of the plaster artisan, some are not.

Variations may include:

**Color inconsistencies:** Mottling and non-uniform color and movement. Color inconsistencies are more often pronounced in darker colors. Color changes when wet: It is normal for tadelakt to darken when wet and return to baseline color when dry.  
**Microfissures:** Very fine cracks similar to porcelain that are normal and naturally occurring in tadelakt. These will darken and be visible when wet and may also be visible when dry. If the tadelakt has been applied correctly, microfissures will not impact the water-repellent functionality of the finish.

**CARE + MAINTENANCE:** Tadelakt is susceptible to damage from etching, staining, and chipping that can compromise water repellant functionality and aesthetic continuity. Depending on the level of damage, Tadelakt can be restored. See [TADELAKT CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE PDF](#)