More than just render...

When specifying a new project, insist on **FLEXIBLE ACRYLIC TEXTURE**, not just painted cement render.

The AcraTex® 3 step system encapsulates the walls in a membrane envelope acting as a barrier against adverse weather conditions for years longer than cement render.

Available across the full Dulux® Exterior colour range.

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The AcraTex® 3-step coating system

- **Suitably prepared masonry substrate** (refer to AcraTex® system guides for detail)

- **AcraTex® AcraPrime™**
  - More than just a “first coat” AcraPrime™ consolidates the substrate providing a stable base for long term integrity.

- **AcraTex® Coventry™ (Range)**
  - High Build Acrylic Texture 50 times thicker than paint, providing feature style and Acrylic Texture durability with colour integrated throughout.

- **AcraTex® AcraShield®**
  - Elastomeric Barrier coat protection 4 times thicker than paint – AcraShield® is the system lock that ensures maximum resistance to the elements and extended system life cycle.

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The AcraTex System with it’s flexible Acrylic Texture coating guards against degradation. Ordinary painted cement render is hard and brittle leading to typical problems like these.

- **CRACKING**
  - Cement shrinks as it hardens & expands/contracts with temperature change.

- **EFFLORESCENCE**
  - Salt blooming over the surface & concentrated leaching at cracks occurs.

- **STAINING**
  - Interior paint systems hold dirt and allow moisture ingress.

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For further information go to: acratex.com.au
Dulux Customer Service: 13 23 77

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What you really need to know about Coating Systems for Cement Render

At Dulux® AcraTex® we’ve been designing specialist finishing systems for new construction for over 3 decades and working with Building Partners to deliver total peace of mind with fit for purpose coatings specifications.

Traditional masonry construction has stood the test of time supported by dedicated trades however, increasingly the need for Efficiency and Fast Track projects push Designers and Builders to challenge finishing processes to deliver projects on time and on budget particularly in Residential construction.

Inherently cement render forms a strong but rigid matrix requiring specific attention to maintain durability and aesthetics. Through the 1970’s the evolution of what we now term “Acrylic Textures” occurred to meet the demands of rigid sand and cement where low build paints failed. Fast forward to today and the lessons of the past are repeating where paint systems are inappropriately specified.

Quality Builders specify flexible acrylic texture

Architectural trends today see more “Coloured Render” facades and Acrylic Texture options now include flexible trowel applied coatings that deliver proven performance with the traditional look of rendered surfaces. It’s critical in specifying such finishes to understand the performance the industry has come to rely on is delivered through Flexible Acrylic Texture and not to generalise with specification clauses such as “Rendered Facade” or “Coloured Render” allowing low build painted render systems to be substituted.

What Experience tells us

1. Cement Render is hard and brittle and forms cracks over time due to both cement shrinkage and expansion & contraction. Pre-bagged cement renders, some termed Acrylic or Polymer Renders, are often specified with the expectation that they are flexible however typically the polymer content is too low to significantly change the properties of the cement binder.

2. Cement Render is suitable as a base levelling layer over stable porous masonry prior to subsequent high build Acrylic Texture and Elastomeric coating systems. Low build (paint) systems over new cement render are prone to cracking and are not recommended by Dulux®.

3. Fresh Cement Render is highly alkaline and subsequent Efflorescence must be controlled. A S2311, Guide to Painting of Buildings defines a min. 28 day “wait” time before coating which is often impractical. Dulux® AcraTex® Green Render Sealer allows painting over cement render after only two days (subject to drying) and chemically restricts efflorescence staining.

4. Where weatherproofing Topcoats are installed over Flexible Acrylic Texture, scheduling and colour consistency across the project is simplified and system durability is extended. Upper and lower storey work is sometimes staged weeks or months apart leading to colour inconsistencies of un-top coated texture.

You can trust Dulux® AcraTex® to deliver

The AcraTex® texture system from Dulux® delivers proven performance through these attributes:

- Acrylic Texture and Weatherproofing Topcoat
- Dulux® Trained Installer Network
- Dulux® Confidence - Quality Assured

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Flexible Acrylic Texture system with Weatherproofing Topcoats guard against problems like:

**CRACKING**

Cement shrinks as it hardens & expands/contracts with temp. Low build paint systems are NOT able to bridge render cracking.

**EFFLORESCENCE**

Salt blooming over the surface & concentrated leaching at cracks occurs leading to discoloration and potentially peeling.

**STAINING**

Unsealed systems hold dirt & allow moisture ingress. Moisture attracts and magnifies surface contaminants.

**MOULD**

Un-top coated and porous surfaces hold moisture and trap nutrient sources providing ideal conditions for fungal & algal growth.