

# USG SHEETROCK® BRAND READY-MIX JOINT COMPOUND

## FROZEN MATERIAL GUIDELINES

All USG Sheetrock® and Beadex® Brand ready-mix joint compounds are water-based materials. Because they contain water and water-soluble ingredients, they're susceptible to freezing. As a best practice, USG water-based ready-mix products should be stored between 55-95°F (13-35°C) in a dry location. Protect from freezing, extreme heat and exposure to direct sunlight. Do not use if material is discolored or has an unpleasant odor.

Where the potential for exposure to freezing conditions exist, USG recommends that these water-based materials be handled, transported and stored to prevent exposure to below freezing temperatures for an extended period of time. The amount of time the material is exposed before it freezes is dependent on the temperature, humidity and other conditions of that exposure.

**USG does not guarantee the performance of the material once it's been frozen.** The actual temperature, severity, length of exposure at freezing conditions and number of freeze/thaw cycles are all variables that may affect the ability of the material to recover to normal consistency and performance. In many cases, frozen material will perform as expected if steps are taken to slowly thaw the material properly and evaluate if it is acceptable to use.

If you discover material is frozen or suspect it has been frozen:

1. Allow the material to thaw at room temperature (minimum 55°F (13°C) ) for at least 24 to 48 hours before evaluating if material is acceptable for use.
2. **Do not** attempt to apply artificial heat or expose the container to direct heat by placing it in close proximity to the path of a heater's output, exposing container to hot water or other means.
3. Open the container(s) carefully. This is to prevent spilling any liquid that may have separated. **This liquid material is not water and must be remixed into the compound.**
4. Carefully mix the separated liquid, with either a hand mixer or electric drill, into the solid material without losing or spilling any of the liquid. Continue to mix, using an electric drill and mixing paddle, until the compound is smooth and lump free.
5. No water should be added until the material is fully remixed to determine if it is suitable for use (see #7). Once the material remixes to a smooth, lump-free consistency, water may be added per USG recommendations to obtain the desired working properties.
6. If the material is not smooth and lump-free within a minute, check compound to ensure it has completely thawed. It may still contain ice crystals that are preventing the material from returning to its pre-frozen state. If not completely thawed, allow more thawing time and attempt to remix.
7. Any material that is completely thawed and will not return to a smooth, lump-free consistency after mixing in this manner should be discarded.

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION

See [usg.com](http://usg.com) for the most up-to-date product information.

#### TRADEMARKS

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#### NOTE

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your USG Company sales office or representative for information.

#### SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety/industrial hygiene practices during installation. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Read SDS and literature before specification and installation.

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