



## **FIREFREE CLASS A**

*FfA meets the Class "A" rating with 6mils dry. It also complies with ASTM E84 Extended 30 minute test.*

# **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Firefree® Class A ("FfA") is a water based, single component, self- priming, flame retardant paint and its application is similar to applying a regular water-based latex (except for the thickness recommended by Firefree Coatings which needs to be precisely complied with for adequate performance). Firefree Class A is listed by the California State Fire Marshal and is listed and inspected by the International Code Council ("ICC").

FfA is designed for interior use. However, FfA can be used for Exterior applications, including as part of the Firefree Exterior System for wildfires. **When FfA is used in such exterior applications it must be protected by Firefree Exterior ("FfE") acrylic topcoat, see Exterior Application below.** There is no substitution of the FfE as this acrylic topcoat has passed the weatherization test (ASTM D2898, method B) over the Firefree intumescent coatings. Any substitution of either FfA or FfE would void any warranty express or implied.

**It is the sole responsibility of the customer to choose a qualified applicator for the Product and ensure that such applicator applies the Product in strict compliance with the Application Instructions and applies the recommended thickness.**

### **SURFACE PREPARATION**

Firefree Class A can be used as a primer on most combustible materials. All surfaces to be coated must be clean, cured, firm, dry and free of dust, dirt, oil, wax, grease, mildew, loose flaking paint, efflorescence or any other contamination or condition that would adversely affect the performance of the coating. Etch or prime (with a latex primer or fast dry oil base primer/sealer) glossy, glazed or dense surfaces. Always prime oil-based finish coatings with fast dry primer/sealer. Fill holes and surface irregularities with a suitable patching compound to match surface profile. Spot prime all patched areas with appropriate primer. **Do not commence work until such defects have been corrected.**

- For enamel/oil finish: Test for adhesion. If necessary, apply one (1) coat of a latex primer/sealer before applying FFA.
- Glossy surfaces: Test for adhesion. If necessary, lightly sand, use etching liquid or apply a primer.
- Cement board based and concrete surfaces and trim must be primed with a cement type primer compatible with high pH. Contact your local paint store for more information.

### **DRYING TIME**

Drying times depend on several factors, including those below, and can vary from 4 to 48 hours, or longer for each coat:

- **Temperature.** Do not apply FfA if air and surface temperature is below 50°F (10°C) or above 95°F (35°C).
- **Air movement.**
- **Humidity.** We do not recommend applying the coating if relative humidity exceeds 75%.
- **Moisture.** Measure the moisture content of surfaces using a moisture meter. Do not apply FfA to wood if the moisture content is more than 17%.
- **Thickness of product applied.**
- **Method of application.**

For more information, please contact Firefree Coatings.

### **MULTIPLE COATS**

Make sure that each coat of FfA is **thoroughly dry to the touch** before applying the next coat.

## APPLICATION METHOD

FFA can be applied by airless sprayer, roller, or brush. If you need to strain FFA only use a gauze the size used in fly screen doors. DO NOT THIN FIREFREE CLASS A.

**Spray-Airless:** Capable of a pressure range of 780 to 3300 psi. Tip .015 to .023 heavy duty 4" to 12" (10.16 cm to 30.48 cm) fan width recommended.

Firefree Class A can be stirred with a paint wood-paddle (this is the similar procedure like paint). Apply at can consistency. Use of airless sprayer is recommended (use of a dedicated spray line is required)

**Roller:** Use a 1-1/4" (20-25mm) nap synthetic cover for heavy application. Other rollers may be used depending on desired finish.

**Brush:** For brush application, a nylon/fully loaded brush should be used. A laying on technique will reduce the brush marking.

## COVERAGE/SPREAD RATE

The recommended dry film thickness will determine the coverage rate. Please reference Appendices for coverage rate. The coating is made up of about 67% solids and thus, on average, the ratio of wet thickness to dry thickness is 1.5 to 1. Any consideration for quantity and waste or overspray is the sole responsibility of the end user. Waste factor will depend on the method of application (brush, roll or spray), job site conditions and other factors and should be based on the applicator's experience.

## WET FILM THICKNESS (WFT)

Always use a wet mil film gauge to measure each wet coat application. Each coat application can be built up to different levels of wet mil thicknesses using multiple passes of coating with an airless spray gun, brush, or roller. To measure the desired film thickness required, during application process, use a wet film thickness gauge to monitor the wet film thickness being applied.



Read instructions on gauge for proper use.

## DRY FILM THICKNESS (DFT)

The dry film thickness recommended by Firefree needs to be precisely complied with for adequate performance, thus during application, the wet film thickness should be checked using a wet film thickness gauge. See *Appendixes to the FFA Product Data Sheet* for recommended DFT.

## PAINTED SURFACES & PRIMERS

When painting over existing painted surfaces, check for any reactions between FFA coating and the existing paint, if any reaction should occur, apply a primer over the existing paint prior to applying FFA. For information on compatible primers, contact Firefree Coatings.

## **COLOR, FINISH AND TOPCOAT OVER FfA**

FfA comes in a white color with a flat finish and is tintable to most colors (not exceeding 8 oz of tint/gal). For interior use, if a different color or finish is desired, FfA can also be top coated with most premium latex paints to achieve a different color and finish. Contact your local paint store for assistance with tinting or choice of topcoat.

## **EXTERIOR APPLICATION**

When FfA is used as part of the Firefree Exterior System, it must be protected by Firefree Exterior (“FfE”) acrylic topcoat. There can be no substitution of the FfE as this proprietary acrylic topcoat has passed the weatherization test (ASTM D2898, method B) over the Firefree intumescent coatings. Any substitution of either FfA or FfE would void any warranty express or implied.

## **THIRD PARTY INSPECTION**

All surfaces to which FfA have been applied should be inspected by an accredited special inspection agency, or ICC certified professional, or a Firefree Coatings QA/QC qualified inspector to verify that FfA has been properly applied in the required uniform film thickness. If an independent third-party inspector is retained, it should ensure that the wet to dry film thickness of the intumescent coating/paint complies with Firefree’s specifications/requirements.

## **MAINTENANCE**

Surfaces which have been coated with FfA should be protected from abuse and abrasion. Damaged surfaces should be repaired and FfA should be reapplied to the original specified dry film thickness to maintain specific rating.

## **CLEAN UP**

Wash brushes, rollers, spray guns & pumps and other painting tools in COLD clean water promptly after painting. Clean and remove any dried product. Use all products completely or dispose of properly. Local disposal requirements vary; consult your sanitation department or state-designated agency for more information on disposal options.

## **SAFETY**

Use personal protective clothing, including safety glasses to prevent any particles of paint from entering the eyes. Protective gloves are recommended for prolonged contact exposure. Respiratory protection is recommended, but not required; however, make sure plenty of ventilation is allowed when spraying.

## **STORAGE & TEMPERATURE**

FfA cannot be exposed to freezing temperatures. It is important to maintain storage temperatures above the freezing point. FfA should be stored at recommended temperatures between 50° F to 85° F (10°c to 29°c).

Expected shelf life: (2) years from the date of manufacture (DOM). Product must be kept at recommended storage conditions and in original unopened containers.

## **ABOUT THE COMPANY**

FIREFREE® Coatings, Inc is the leading developer of high-quality fire retardant and fire-resistant intumescent coatings that will help reduce the spread of fire, minimize smoke and toxic gases that would occur during a fire, thus giving occupants extra time to evacuate a building safely and limiting destruction of property. Our products are fire tested at a third-party accredited International Accreditation Service (IAS) testing laboratory. Firefree Class A is listed by the California State Fire Marshal, listing #2280-2112, and is ICC Listed/Inspected.

Firefree Coatings is deeply committed to human safety and environmental issues and is strongly positioned to meet the increasing demand for fire safety benefits for commercial, governmental, residential, and other advanced markets. Firefree Coatings is a member of NFPA, ICC and ASTM E-05 Committee.

**MAIN OFFICE:**

**Address: 8 Commercial Blvd, Suite E, Novato, CA 94949.**

**Toll Free: 888-990-3388 • 415-459-6488 • fax 415-459-6055**

**info@firefree.com    www.firefree.com**



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