

KA Tanking Slurry

Skimming & Decorating Guide

Professional application guidance for skimming and decorating over KA Tanking Slurry waterproofing systems.

Document Type	Technical Application Guide
Product	KA Tanking Slurry
Application	Skimming and decorating over tanked surfaces
Key Requirement	Always use a suitable bonding/render layer before applying gypsum skim
Issued By	Kenyon Agencies Ltd / KA Building Products

Purpose: This guide provides a clear, compliant method for skimming and decorating surfaces treated with **KA Tanking Slurry**, supporting long-term adhesion, moisture control and compatibility with appropriate finishing systems.

1. Pre-Skim Requirements

Critical: Never skim directly onto KA Tanking Slurry. A suitable bonding/render layer is required before gypsum skim is applied.

- Ensure **KA Tanking Slurry** is fully cured:
 - *Minimum 24 hours at 20 °C*
 - Longer in cold or damp conditions
- Surface must be:
 - Clean
 - Dry
 - Free from dust, laitance, or loose material
- **Never skim directly onto tanking slurry.** A bonding/render layer is always required.

2. Required Intermediate Layer — Render Coat

Preparation note: The render layer provides the receiving surface for skim, protects the waterproof barrier and helps avoid direct gypsum contact with the tanking system.

Before skimming, apply:

✓ SBR-modified sand/cement render

Recommended mix:

- 4 parts sharp sand
- 1 part cement

- KA SBR added per TDS
- Apply at **8–12 mm** thickness

Why this layer is essential

- Provides mechanical key
- Prevents gypsum contamination
- Protects the waterproof barrier
- Ensures skim coat adhesion

Allow render to cure fully before skimming.

3. Skimming Procedure

Step 1 — Prime (if required)

Use a gypsum-compatible primer if the render is highly absorbent.

Step 2 — Apply skim coat

- Use standard gypsum finishing plaster
- Apply in **two passes**
- Maintain a smooth, even finish
- Avoid over-polishing (can cause delamination)

Step 3 — Drying

- Allow skim to dry naturally
- Do **not** force-dry with heaters
- Avoid rapid drying which can cause cracking

4. Decorating Over Skim

✓ Suitable finishes

- Emulsion paints
- Breathable paints
- Vapour-open coatings
- Light-texture finishes

✗ Avoid

- Vinyl paints in damp environments
- Non-breathable coatings
- Solvent-based paints directly on fresh skim

Timing

- Allow skim to dry fully (typically 2–7 days depending on conditions)

5. Fixings & Penetrations

Critical: Do not drill through the waterproof tanking layer unless the fixing detail has been specifically designed and sealed.

- **Do not drill through tanking slurry.**
- Fixings must be installed **into the render layer only**, not the waterproof barrier.
- For heavy fixings:
 - Use surface-mounted rails or battens
 - Seal any unavoidable penetrations with **KA FlexSeal PUM-30**

6. Moisture & Damp Considerations

- Ensure the area is well-ventilated during drying
- Avoid condensation forming on fresh skim
- If damp patches appear:
 - Check for external moisture sources
 - Confirm render thickness
 - Verify tanking continuity at junctions

7. Compliance Notes

This method aligns with:

- **BS 8102:2022** (internal waterproofing)
- **KA Tanking Slurry PRO-Series** installation standards
- KA technical guidance for gypsum finishes

8. Recommended KA System Integration

Component	Function	Product Reference
Waterproof base layer	Primary waterproof barrier	KA Tanking Slurry PRO-Series
Intermediate render	Receiving layer and key for skim finish	KA SBR-modified sand/cement render
Sealant	Junction protection and sealing of unavoidable penetrations	KA FlexSeal PUM-30
Finishing system	Skim coat and decorative finish	Gypsum skim with suitable breathable paint system

9. Technical Support

For site-specific advice, contact KA Building Products Technical Team:

Telephone: 01209 313 598

Email: sales@kabuildingproducts.co.uk

Hours: Monday–Friday, 08:00–17:00

Technical Note: Site conditions, substrate condition, ventilation, temperature and moisture levels can affect curing times, drying performance and final decorative finish. Always confirm the tanking system and intermediate render layer have cured sufficiently before applying gypsum skim or coatings.

Disclaimer: The information in this guide is provided in good faith based on typical application conditions. It does not replace site-specific assessment, professional judgement, product manufacturer guidance or compliance with relevant building regulations and project specifications. If in doubt, carry out a trial area before full application.