

## Repointing with lime mortar

**Assess the weather conditions before starting work and do not attempt to re-point if there is a strong chance of rain, high wind or the temperature is below 5 degrees Celsius.**

- **Remove existing mortar back to a depth of not more than twice the joint width using a masons mortar pick or plugging chisel and lump hammer.**
- **Thoroughly clean out the joints with clean cold water to free the surface from debris and dust. A hose pipe or nap sack sprayer is ideal. Allow any standing water to evaporate before placing the mortar. The joints must be damp (not wet) before placement.**
- **Install moisture control fastening systems and set up mortar fleece sheeting. On scaffolding this will need to move down the building lift by lift.**
- **Install catchment sheeting to the areas immediately under the areas to be repointed. Droppings can then be regularly collected and remixed in with fresh mortar minimising waste.**
- **Apply the lime mortar by forcing the material into the mortar joints. Masons “Hawk Board” and “Small Tool” are ideally suited to this work a pointing trowel will also suffice.**
- **Fill the joints to the surface (FLUSH) and allow drying for aprox 20 mins until stiff.**
- **Using masons bassin or bristle hand brush, vigorously stipple or flog the surface. This will raise the aggregate to the surface and compact the joint.**
- **A masons phosphor bronze brush is generally used to clean down the re-pointed areas once the areas has initially set.**
- **Employ moisture control measure including any light spraying of water during or at the end of the day as site conditions demand.**
- **Close over the mortar fleece sheeting as necessary during the course of the day and at the end of each working day. It may be necessary to close the sheeting as the works progress, especially in strong sunlight.**
- **Thoroughly clean away any rubbish and turn back any scaffold boards away from the wall at the end of each day.**

Weathered areas of masonry should be repointed then slightly recessed before stippling. At no point should the mortar encroach onto the surface of the masonry.