

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

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1. Identification of the Material and Supplier

Product Name	MastaBlock
Other Names	Back-Block, Back Blocking Cement
Recommended Use	Used in securing the joints of plasterboard sheets to minimise/prevent cracking
Supplier Name	Knauf Plasterboard Pty Ltd 31 Military Road Matraville NSW 2036 1300 724 505 Monday – Friday [6am – 5pm]
Emergency Contact	National Poisons Centre 13 11 26

2. Hazards Identification

Classified as hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC Australia.
Not classified as a dangerous good by the criteria of the ADG Code.

Risk Phrase	May cause cancer by inhalation. Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin.
Safety Phrase	Avoid exposure - obtain special instructions before use. Do not breathe dust. Avoid contact with eyes and skin.

3. Information on Ingredients

Chemical Entity	CAS Number	Proportion
Plaster	10034-76-1	>90%
Cellulose Thickener		<5%
Binder		<5%
Crystalline Silica	14808-60-7	<0.3%

4. First Aid Measures

Swallowed	Wash mouth out with water. If actual ingestion has occurred, drink plenty of water and seek medical attention.
Eye	Flush with plenty of clean water. If irritation persists seek medical attention.
Skin	Wash with soap and water. Apply skin moisturiser.
Inhaled	Recover in fresh air. If discomfort persists seek medical attention.
Advice to Doctor	Treat symptomatically.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Not combustible. Fire fighters to wear self-contained breathing apparatus.

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6. Accidental Release Measures

Spills	Sweep up and place in waste containers.
Precautions for Clean-Up Crew	Avoid creating excessive dust. Wear Class P1 or P2 respirator.

7. Handling and Storage

Storage	Store in a dry well-ventilated environment fully protected from the weather.
Handling	Use safe work practices to avoid eye and skin contact and inhalation.

8. Personal Protection

Exposure Standards

- ▶ Crystalline Silica (quartz): 0.1 mg/m³ TWA (time weighted average) as respirable dust
- ▶ Plaster (Calcium Sulphate): 10 mg/m³ TWA as inhalable dust
- ▶ Dust NOS (not otherwise specified): 10 mg/m³ TWA as inhalable dust

Engineering Controls

Avoid generating dust. If dust is created when using power operated equipment for mixing the product in an enclosed or poorly ventilated area local dust extraction is recommended. Work areas should be cleaned regularly by sweeping or vacuuming.

Personal Protective Equipment

If dust is generated, use Class P1 or P2 respirator, which conforms to AS/NZS 1715 and 1716.

Note: Persons with facial hair will be unable to obtain a satisfactory face seal.

Wear goggles if dust is likely to cause irritation, e.g. high concentrations, draughty conditions.

Wear impervious PVC, Nitrile or Rubber gloves if dust causes irritation.

General work clothes are satisfactory.

9. Physical Properties

Appearance	Pink powder
Odour	Low odour
Boiling Point	Not applicable
Vapour Pressure	Not applicable
Specific Gravity	2.5
Solubility in Water	Partly soluble
Flammability	Non-flammable

10. Stability and Reactivity

Avoid contact with acids and other chemicals. Not combustible although decomposition in fire may release toxic fumes.

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11. Toxicological Information: Low Toxicity

Swallowed	Unlikely under normal conditions of use but swallowing this product may be harmful or result in abdominal discomfort.
Eye	Dust from this product may irritate the eyes, causing watering and redness.
Skin	Dust from this product may cause irritation of the skin from friction but is not absorbed through the skin.
Inhaled	Dust from this product may cause irritation of the nose, throat and lungs, causing coughing and sneezing.
Chronic	Repeated inhalation of dust containing crystalline silica (quartz) may cause bronchitis, silicosis and lung cancer. It may also increase the risk of scleroderma, a disease affecting the connective tissue of the skin, joints, blood vessels and internal organs. In June 1997 silica was evaluated by the International Agency Research on Cancer (IARC): "Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1)." Studies have shown that smoking increases the risk of bronchitis, silicosis and lung cancer in persons exposed to crystalline silica.

12. Ecological Information

Causes no adverse environmental effects.

13. Disposal Considerations

For any unused product empty into waste containers. Dispose in accordance with local authority regulations. Contact local waste disposal authority.

14. Transport Information

Not regulated for transport purposes.

Hazchem Code None allocated.

15. Regulatory Information

No poison schedule number has been allocated.

16. Other Information

This MSDS summarises at the date of issue our best knowledge of the health and safety hazard information of the product, and in particular how to safely handle and use the product in the workplace. Since Knauf Plasterboard Pty Ltd cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which the product may be used, each user must, prior to usage, review this MSDS in the context of how the user intends to handle and use the product in the workplace.

If clarification or further information is needed to ensure that an appropriate assessment can be made, the user should contact this company.