

Coverage rate ready reckoner

The table below is designed to make things easier when working out the quantities needed for a contract. With any contract it is important that sufficient product is applied to ensure that the finishes behave in the manner which they are expected to during the levelling / drying phase, the appearance of the floor meets expectations and performs to a good standard over the following years.

Each quantity noted includes an additional 0.5 Lt of product. This has been added to take in to account the material which should be retained in the roller when taken from the floor and the small amount which would be left in any containers, trays, etc. It is important that the roller comes from the floor 'wet' to ensure that the coverage rate is met. Primers are quoted at the required rate and finishes at the middle point of the coverage range; therefore 8 -10 m² / Lt is calculated as 9 m²/Lt.

Using a 50 m² floor as an example it can be easy to see why wastage needs to be accounted for. It would seem logical that 5 litres of a finish will be enough for a final coat if you assume a coverage rate of 10 m² / Lt – 50 ÷ 5 = 10 m²/Lt. However, the roller must come off the floor containing product + there will be other wastage in the tray, etc. – approximately 0.5 Lt.

So now with only 4.5 Lt of product available for the floor the calculation looks like this – 50 ÷ 4.5 = 11.1 m²/Lt. The product is now covering 11 % more area than it supposed to at the highest coverage rate suggested. This brings a higher chance of seeing applicator marks, inconsistent sheen and potentially poor performance. particularly if the coverage is extended for all applications during the specification applied to the floor. The amount of product used on a floor directly impacts upon the performance of the coating system. With all application methods regular checks / calculations should be made to monitor coverage rates.

It is important however to remember that the figures below are a guide. You have to assess the site to determine if you may need slightly more or slightly less than the figure noted. Are there large gaps between the boards into which finish may fall? Is the floor dry or made from softwood and therefore likely to absorb lots of primer? Did the sanding leave the floor rather coarse so it will use more primer or does the wood have a tight grain that was sanded finely so it will use less? All of these factors can affect the quantity of product used.

Floor area – m ²	Prime Intense / Prime Classic UX / Prime Classic (8 m ² / Lt)	Bona White (12 m ² / Lt)	Traffic HD, HD Raw & HD AS / Traffic GO / Traffic / Wave / Mega / Mega One (9 m ² / Lt)
20	3	2.2	2.7
30	4.25	3	3.8
40	5.5	3.8	5
50	6.75	4.7	6.1
60	8	5.5	7.2
70	9.25	6.3	8.3
80	10.5	7.2	9.4
90	11.75	8	10.5
100	13	8.5	11.6
Amount per: 1 m ² 10 m ²	0.125 1.25	0.085 0.85	0.11 1.1

As with all finishes the application tools and methods can also affect the coverage rate achieved.

It is recommended that a **Bona roller** is used when applying Bona finishes. If other rollers are used they should be of a synthetic material with a minimum 10 - 12 mm nap. Wash rollers thoroughly before use to avoid shed fibres being left in the finish.

When using rollers, or bar applicators, ensure that the extension pole is held lightly, undue pressure is avoided and that the correct coverage is observed. When coating floor edges, stairs or areas inaccessible to a roller the finish should be applied generously, rather than being brushed too thinly, and the roller application taken across the join between application methods immediately.