

Frequently asked questions about Alcolin NC120

1. How do you solve a damp problem?

As a general rule, it is always best to call in a waterproofing specialist. If you must do it yourself, this guide will help you find the source of the leak and how to solve it.

If damp is coming through from the outside due to rain, then the outside walls need to be treated. Generally speaking, damp coming through an outside wall is usually indicative of a structural / design fault – exterior walls should be a “cavity wall” i.e. two walls of bricks with a gap between each, to prevent water that penetrates the outside brick layer from penetrating through the inside brick layer. So a problem of rain penetrating through the outside wall usually indicates that the exterior wall is only a “single wall”, or if the exterior wall is a “cavity wall”, then the builders at the time of construction probably failed to clean all the cement / rubble build up from the cavity.

Face brick can be treated with Alcolin NC120. *Plastered walls* – repair and fill cracks with crackfiller. Paint exterior with waterproofing grade paint. Prime surface with diluted Alcolin Permobond 1:3 with water prior to applying the waterproofing paint. If re-plastering, clean the wall, remove loose paint and apply a priming coat of diluted Alcolin Permobond 1:3 with water prior to re-plastering with a plaster constituted by replacing the water component with a 1:3 Permobond dilution.

If damp is on the upper inside walls, this is often due to a fault on the roof e.g. cracked or missing roof tile. Use Alcolin Rainseal or Alcolin Vinoseal and a membrane to cover faults at parapets, chimneys, broken tiles and gaps.

If damp is starting at the bottom of the inside walls, this is due to rising damp.

Again usually a design problem – is there damp proofing in place (black plastic sheet, just above ground level – should see it sticking out by a cm or so if it is present). If there is no damp proofing in place, or if it is damaged, use Alcolin NC120. Drill holes along the bottom at an incline, $\frac{3}{4}$ through the wall, about 12cm apart. Inject Alcolin NC120 under low pressure. It is best that a professional do this application

Also look for weeping holes – that drains water that gets into the cavity gap. If there are no weep holes, drill your own into the brickwork.

If the damp is on a wall that is not connected to the outside of the house, then possibly one is dealing with a leaking pipe within the wall. Also check what is the other side of the wall – perhaps a shower, in which case the shower needs to be re-waterproofed.

And finally, one of the most common and frequently overlooked causes of damp problems, the blocked gutter or downpipe. Always ensure that these are unblocked. If they are blocked, water dams up behind them, and has great potential to cause damp problems.

2. How do you prevent rain coming through brickwork?

Coat with Alcolin NC120.

3. Can Alcolin NC120 be used on a stone floor?

Yes. This will make the stone tiles water repellent and improve dirt protection and prevent algae / mildew growth. The floor will not be oil resistant. If a floor area is heavily trafficked, NC120 may need to be re-applied more frequently. The Alcolin NC120 will give a slight colour enhancement, which will vary depending on the porosity and grain in the natural stone, as well as the amount of NC120 applied onto the surface.

4. What is the coverage of Alcolin NC120?

Depends on the absorbency /porosity of the surface. 1-Litre will give approximately 1.5m² as a general rule. Apply the product so that it completely wets and soaks the surface.

5. Can I apply NC120 to a floor under a braai unit to give the floor oil / fat resistance?

No. NC120 only provides water resistance

