

MSDS: Lafarge Rapid Deco® Level Five™ Joint Compound  
**Material Safety Data Sheet**

**Section 1: PRODUCT AND COMPANY INFORMATION**

**Product Name(s):** Lafarge Rapid Deco® Level Five™ Joint Compound  
**Product Identifiers:** Rapid Deco® Level Five™ Joint Compound, white and tinted  
**Manufacturer:** Lafarge North America Inc.  
 12018 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 500  
 Reston, VA 20191  
**Information Telephone Number:** 703-480-3600 (9am to 5pm EST)  
**Emergency Telephone Number:** 1-800-451-8346 (3E Hotline)  
**Product Use:** Joint Compound is used for gypsum board finishing in commercial and residential construction.

**Section 2: COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

Component	Percent (By Weight)	CAS Number	OSHA PEL -TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	ACGIH TLV-TWA (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	LD <sub>50</sub> Oral	LC <sub>50</sub> Rat, Inhalation
Calcium Carbonate*	30-70	1317-65-3	15 (T), 5 (R)	3 (R); 10 (T)	NA	NA
Talc*	0-20	14807-96-6	3 (T)	2 (R)	NA	NA
Mica *	0-20	12001-26-2	3 (R)	3 (R)	NA	NA
Acrylic Polymers	0.2-10	9003-01-4	NA	NA	2.5 g/kg, Rat	NA
Perlite*	0-10	93763-70-3	15 (T), 5 (R)	3 (R); 10 (T)	13g/kg, Mouse	NA
Attapulgate	0-10	12174-11-7	NA	NA	NA	NA
Crystalline Silica (as Quartz)	0-10	14808-60-7	[(10) / (%SiO <sub>2</sub> +2)] (R); [(30) / (%SiO <sub>2</sub> +2)] (T)	0.025 (R)	NA	NA
Starch	0-5	9005-25-8	15 (T), 5 (R)	10 (T)	6.6 g/kg (I, M)	NA
Cellulose	0-5	9004-34-6	15 (T), 5 (R)	10 (T)	>5 g/kg, Rat	>5.8 g/m3/4H
Triazine	0-2	4719-04-4	NA	NA	0.8 g/kg, rat	NA

Note: Exposure limits for components noted with an \* contain no asbestos and <1% crystalline silica  
 (I, M) = LD<sub>50</sub> Intraperitoneal and Mouse

**Section 3: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION**

	<b>WARNING</b>	 Respiratory Protection  Eye Protection  Gloves
	<p>Toxic - Harmful by inhalation.                      (Contains crystalline silica)</p> <p>Use proper engineering controls, work practices, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prevent exposure to dust.</p> <p>Read MSDS for details.</p>	

**Emergency Overview:** Joint compound is a paste that is white or beige in color. Joint compound has a slight odor. Joint compound is not combustible or explosive. A single, short-term exposure to joint compound and joint compound dust presents little or no hazard.

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**Section 3: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION (continued)**

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**Potential Health Effects:**

- Eye Contact:** Eye contact to airborne dust may cause immediate or delayed irritation or inflammation. Eye exposures require immediate first aid and medical attention to prevent significant damage to the eye.
- Skin Contact:** Direct, prolonged, or repeated contact may cause dry skin, discomfort, and irritation.
- Inhalation (acute):** Breathing dust may cause nose, throat or lung irritation, including choking, depending on the degree of exposure.
- Inhalation (chronic):** Risk of injury depends on duration and level of exposure.
- Silicosis:** This product contains crystalline silica. Prolonged or repeated inhalation of respirable crystalline silica from this product can cause silicosis, a seriously disabling and fatal lung disease. See Note to Physicians in Section 4 for further information.
- This product contains mica and talc. Prolonged and repeated inhalation of respirable mica or talc dust may cause lung disease (pneumoconiosis). The extent and severity of lung injury depends on duration and level of exposure.
- Carcinogenicity:** Crystalline silica is classified by IARC and NTP as a known human carcinogen.
- Autoimmune Disease:** Some studies show that exposure to respirable crystalline silica (without silicosis) or that the disease silicosis may be associated with the increased incidence of several autoimmune disorders such as scleroderma (thickening of the skin), systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis and diseases affecting the kidneys.
- Tuberculosis:** Silicosis increases the risk of tuberculosis.
- Renal Disease:** Some studies show an increased incidence of chronic kidney disease and end-stage renal disease in workers exposed to respirable crystalline silica.
- Ingestion:** Do not ingest joint compound. Ingestion of small quantities of joint compound is not known to be harmful; ingesting large quantities can cause intestinal distress.
- Medical Conditions Aggravated by Exposure:** Individuals with lung disease (e.g. bronchitis, emphysema, COPD, pulmonary disease) can be aggravated by exposure to dust.

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**Section 4: FIRST AID MEASURES**

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- Eye Contact:** Rinse eyes thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes, including under lids, to remove all particles. Seek medical attention for abrasions.
- Skin Contact:** Wash with cool water and a pH neutral soap or a mild skin detergent. Seek medical attention for rash or irritation.
- Inhalation:** Move person to fresh air. Seek medical attention for discomfort or if coughing or other symptoms do not subside.
- Ingestion:** Do not induce vomiting. If conscious, have person drink plenty of water. Seek medical attention or contact poison control center immediately.
- Note to Physician:** The three types of silicosis include:
- Simple chronic silicosis – which results from long-term exposure (more than 20 years) to low amounts of respirable crystalline silica. Nodules of chronic inflammation and scarring provoked by the respirable crystalline silica form in the lungs and chest lymph nodes. This disease may feature breathlessness and may resemble chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

**Section 4: FIRST AID MEASURES (continued)**

- Accelerated silicosis – occurs after exposure to larger amounts of respirable crystalline silica over a shorter period of time (5-15 years). Inflammation, scarring, and symptoms progress faster in accelerated silicosis than in simple silicosis.
- Acute silicosis – results from short-term exposure to very large amounts of respirable crystalline silica. The lungs become very inflamed and may fill with fluid, causing severe shortness of breath and low blood oxygen levels.

Progressive massive fibrosis may occur in simple or accelerated silicosis, but is more common in the accelerated form. Progressive massive fibrosis results from severe scarring and leads to the destruction of normal lung structures.

**Section 5: FIREFIGHTING MEASURES**

<b>Flashpoint &amp; Method:</b>	Non-combustible	<b>Combustion Products:</b>	None.
<b>General Hazard:</b>	Avoid breathing dust.	<b>Firefighting Equipment:</b>	Joint compound poses no fire-related hazard. A SCBA is recommended to limit exposures to combustion products when fighting any fire.
<b>Extinguishing Media:</b>	Use extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.		

**Section 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

<b>General:</b>	Shovel or scoop up material from spilled joint compound into a container. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Avoid inhalation of dust. Wear appropriate protective equipment as described in Section 8.
<b>Waste Disposal Method:</b>	Dispose of joint compound according to Federal, State, Provincial and Local regulations.

**Section 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE**

<b>General:</b>	Stack containers of material in a secure manner to prevent falling. Do not stack more than 4 boxes or 3 pails high to prevent container failure. Joint compound containers are heavy and pose risks such as sprains and strains to the back, arms, shoulders and legs during lifting and mixing. Handle with care and use appropriate control measures.
<b>Usage:</b>	<p>Cutting, crushing, sanding or grinding joint compound, drywall or other crystalline silica-bearing materials will release respirable crystalline silica. Use all appropriate measures of dust control or suppression, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) described in Section 8 below.</p> <p>Do not use if material has spoiled and is moldy or has an unpleasant odor. Close container and discard properly. Keep tightly sealed following use.</p>
<b>Housekeeping:</b>	Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne during sanding and clean-up such as dry sweeping or using compressed air. Use HEPA vacuum or thoroughly wet with water to clean-up dust. Use PPE described in Section 8 below.
<b>Storage Temperature:</b>	Store at room temperature in a dry location. Protect from freezing, extreme heat, or direct sunlight.
<b>Storage Pressure:</b>	Unlimited.
<b>Clothing:</b>	Remove and launder clothing that is dusty before it is reused.

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**Section 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION**

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**Engineering Controls:** Use local exhaust or general dilution ventilation or other suppression methods to maintain dust levels below exposure limits.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**

**Respiratory Protection:** Under ordinary conditions no respiratory protection is required. Wear a NIOSH approved respirator that is properly fitted and is in good condition when exposed to dust above exposure limits.

**Eye Protection:** Wear ANSI approved glasses or safety goggles when handling or sanding joint compound to prevent dust coming in contact with eyes. Wearing contact lenses when using joint compound under dusty conditions, is not recommended.

**Skin Protection:** Wear gloves when handling joint compound. Remove clothing and protective equipment that becomes dusty and launder before reusing.

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**Section 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

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<b>Physical State:</b>	Paste	<b>Evaporation Rate:</b>	NA.
<b>Appearance:</b>	White or beige.	<b>pH (in water):</b>	7-10
<b>Odor:</b>	Little	<b>Boiling Point:</b>	212°F (100°C)
<b>Vapor Pressure:</b>	17 mm Mercury at 20° C	<b>Freezing Point:</b>	32°F (0°C)
<b>Vapor Density:</b>	Based on water, 0.62	<b>Viscosity:</b>	About 500 Brabender units
<b>Specific Gravity:</b>	0.9-1.7	<b>Solubility in Water:</b>	Completely dispersed
<b>Percent Volatile:</b>	30-60% by volume		

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**Section 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

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**Stability:** Stable. Avoid contact with incompatible materials.

**Incompatibility:** Avoid all products that may react with water. The components of joint compound are incompatible with strong oxidizers, strong acids, diazomethane, ammonium salts, aluminum, fluorine and red phosphorous.

**Hazardous Polymerization:** None.

**Hazardous Decomposition:** Thermal decomposition may yield acrylic monomer vapors (above 177°C/350°F), sulfur oxides, and calcium oxide fumes (above 825°C). Formaldehyde will be generated when exposed to acidic conditions.

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**Section 11 and 12: TOXICOLOGICAL AND ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

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For questions regarding toxicological and ecological information refer to contact information in Section 1.

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**Section 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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Dispose of waste and containers in compliance with applicable Federal, State, Provincial and Local regulations.

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**Section 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

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This product is not classified as a Hazardous Material under U.S. DOT or Canadian TDG regulations.

**Section 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION**

<b>OSHA/MSHA Hazard Communication:</b>	This product is considered by OSHA/MSHA to be a hazardous chemical and should be included in the employer's hazard communication program.
<b>CERCLA/SUPERFUND:</b>	This product is not listed as a CERCLA hazardous substance.
<b>EPCRA SARA Title III:</b>	This product has been reviewed according to the EPA Hazard Categories promulgated under Sections 311 and 312 of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 and is considered a hazardous chemical and a delayed health hazard.
<b>EPCRA SARA Section 313:</b>	This product contains none of the substances subject to the reporting requirements of Section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 and 40 CFR Part 372.
<b>RCRA:</b>	If discarded in its purchased form, this product would not be a hazardous waste either by listing or characteristic. However, under RCRA, it is the responsibility of the product user to determine at the time of disposal, whether a material containing the product or derived from the product should be classified as a hazardous waste.
<b>TSCA:</b>	Crystalline silica is exempt from reporting under the inventory update rule.
<b>California Proposition 65:</b>	Crystalline silica (airborne particulates of respirable size) is known by the State of California to cause cancer.
<b>WHMIS/DSL:</b>	Joint compound products containing crystalline silica, and calcium carbonate are classified as D2A and are subject to WHMIS requirements.


**Section 16: OTHER INFORMATION**
**Abbreviations:**

>	Greater than	NA	Not Applicable
ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
CAS No	Chemical Abstract Service number	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act	NTP	National Toxicology Program
		OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CFR	Code for Federal Regulations	PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
CL	Ceiling Limit	pH	Negative log of hydrogen ion
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation	PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
EST	Eastern Standard Time	R	Respirable Particulate
HEPA	High-Efficiency Particulate Air	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
HMIS	Hazardous Materials Identification System	SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
		T	Total Particulate
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer	TDG	Transportation of Dangerous Goods
LC <sub>50</sub>	Lethal Concentration	TLV	Threshold Limit Value
LD <sub>50</sub>	Lethal Dose	TWA	Time Weighted Average (8 hour)
mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Milligrams per cubic meter	WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration		



**Section 16: OTHER INFORMATION (continued)**

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This MSDS (Sections 1-16) was revised on March 1, 2011.

An electronic version of this MSDS is available at: [www.lafarge-na.com](http://www.lafarge-na.com) under the Sustainability section.

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