



# ETCH-I-M™

Water Based, Brushable, Reusable  
Acid Etch For Porcelain Product #4408

## Etching Cream

PATENTED FORMULA



### Applications:

For Etching Hard  
Silica-Based Materials  
Alternative to Sanding

Preparation For Painting  
Porcelain  
Tile  
Glazed Block  
Porcelainized Steel  
Glass

### Features & Benefits:

Easier Than Sanding  
Saves Time  
Brush-On Cream  
Works In Minutes  
Gives a Uniform, Dull  
Surface Without  
Scratch Marks  
Can Be Reused  
Cleans Up With Water  
Does Not Affect Most  
Plastic Materials  
(Always Test First)

### Cautions:

Contains Salts of  
Hydrofluoric Acid  
Handle With Care  
Wear Protective  
Gloves, Glasses, and  
Clothes  
Read All Cautions and  
Material Safety Data  
Sheet Before Using

**Product Description:** XIM Etch-I-M is a brushable etching cream that will dull or etch the surface of hard, silica based materials such as porcelain, porcelainized steel construction panels, tile, glazed block and glass. It actually removes the glossy surface glaze. It is formulated into a thick brushable cream to minimize runs, drips and splashing. Etch-I-M is used as an alternative to the hard work of manual or machine sanding when the surface must be dulled for paint adhesion. Since Etch-I-M works in minutes, its use can shorten surface preparation time by up to 80%. Etch-I-M leaves a uniform, dull surface without the problem of deep sanding scratch marks that could show through the final finish.

It can be reused over and over and cleans up with water. Note: Etching is defined as the chemical corrosion of the porcelain or glass surface. XIM's Etching Cream contains fluoride salts. It can be considered a dilute solution of hydrofluoric acid and must be handled with care. Hydrogen fluoride is used in the steel industry to pickle stainless steel, aluminum and titanium. It is used in the glass industry as an etchant.

**Product Preparation:** XIM Etch-I-M Etching Cream is used as is from the container. During storage Etch-I-M can form a gel or separate and crystallize. This is expected. Mix or Stir to a brushable consistency before using. Note: Keep from freezing. Keep the container tightly closed when not in use. Store at room temperature. **Keep away from children.**

### Packaging Data:

|        |                     |         |
|--------|---------------------|---------|
| Quarts | - 6 Per Carton      | # 44082 |
| Pails  | - 5 Gallon Capacity | #44086  |

**Technical Service Information:** For further information about this or any other XIM product, contact our Technical Service Staff toll free at (800) 262-8469.

**Surface Preparation:** Careful surface preparation and cleaning is the key to good results. Before using the XIM Etching Cream be sure the surface is thoroughly clean and free from all grease, wax, oil, and dirt, mildew, rust and soap residues. Soap residues are not easily seen, but must be removed completely. Clean the surface with a strong abrasive detergent using an abrasive pad or steel wool. Rinse well and allow to dry. Moldy or mildewed surfaces should be scrubbed with a mixture of one quart bleach and three quarts water and then thoroughly rinsed with clean water. Never mix bleach with detergents that contain ammonia. Note: The surface must be free from all contamination for the Etching Cream to "wet" and react with the surface. After removing all contamination, tape off all areas not to be etched. XIM's Etching Cream is an acid and will attack and etch (dull) aluminum and other metals.

**How to Apply:** XIM's Etch-I-M Etching Cream is best applied by brush. Apply a medium to heavy quantity of the Etching Cream over the surface to be dulled. It is recommended that you work only in small sections of a few square feet at a time. It is best to work at a temperature of 70 - 75 deg. F. After applying the Etching Cream allow it to work for about 5 minutes. Different types of glass and porcelain require somewhat different etching time frames.

(cont'd on back)

## Etch-I-M™ Etching Cream For Porcelain and Tile (#4408)

As an example, conditions that are suitable for etching soda-lime glass are not the same as those that will work on borosilicate glass. After applying, **do not allow the etching cream to dry out. After the 5 to 10 minute contact period, scrape up the excess Etch-I-M cream and return it to its container. You MUST rinse the remaining Etching Cream from the surface using plenty of clean water and an abrasive pad** (the Etching Cream can attack steel wool) **to remove the fluorosilicate scum formed during the etching process and any excess salt. Warm water (90 - 100 deg. F) is best for rinsing. If the scum dries, it becomes difficult to remove.** When rinsed completely, dry with a clean cloth. Inspect the surface to make sure it has been etched to a uniform dull appearance. If surface dulling is not complete it indicates that the surface may be contaminated with a soap residue or that the Etching Cream requires a longer contact time. Re-clean and re-apply the Etching Cream for the desired result. **NOTE:** Etch-I-M will form a gel when stored, especially when stored at warm temperatures above 85 deg. F. It can also separate and crystallize when stored. This is the nature of the product and is expected. Therefore, Etch-I-M should be mixed before use. If gelled or separated, mix with a wooden paint stick until uniform.

**Clean Up:** Clean equipment with plenty of water immediately after use. Large amounts of running water should be used to solubilize the salts and dilute the acid.

**Cautions:** Use only with adequate ventilation. All plastic ventilator fans are available and are suggested. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. A good point to remember is that the concentration determines the rate of attack on the skin, not whether it will cause a burn. Open skin from cuts or skin abrasions are particularly vulnerable to burns. Use Safety glasses with side shields or chemical goggles. **DO NOT WEAR CONTACT LENSES WHEN USING!** Chemical resistant gloves of butyl rubber or neoprene are recommended to prevent contact exposure. You should always check for pin hole leaks in your gloves before use. Launder cloths before reuse. A good adage when working with either concentrated or dilute hydrofluoric acid is that anything in the area where you are working that is wet could contain the hydrofluoric acid.

**For additional information** see the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for this product. Read completely before using.

### **FIRST AID:**

**If swallowed,** do not induce vomiting. Give 1-2 glasses of water to dilute or Milk of Magnesia antacid. **Call a Physician Immediately.**

**In case of eye contact,** flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while holding the eyelids away from the eyes. **See a Physician.**

**Skin Contact.** Avoid skin contact. Brush material from point of contact then wash with soap and water. Pay particular attention to the underside of the fingernails. Remove all contaminated clothing. After washing for at least 15 minutes, immerse the burned area in a solution of 0.135% iced solution of Zephiran (benzalkonium) chloride until the pain is relieved. Zephiran chloride can be purchased at most drugstores as a 17% solution. (One ounce of the 17% solution added to one gallon of water will make a 0.135% solution) As an alternative a 2.5% calcium gluconate gel may be massaged into the burn area until the pain is relieved. For large burn areas **see a physician immediately.**

**Inhalation:** Remove from the exposure to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, oxygen can be administered by a certified person only. **Seek immediate medical attention.**

**Physical/Chemical Data:** Etch-I-M Etching Cream

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|               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Wt. Per Gal   | 9.04 lb             |
| Physical Form | Chunky Cream        |
| Odor          | Slight Pungent Odor |
| pH (Acidity)  | 5.0                 |
| VOC           | Less than 10%       |

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**Limited Warranty:** This product is made to the highest standards in order to provide you with consistently optimum results. If this product fails to perform as specified herein, XIM will furnish an equivalent amount of replacement XIM product, or will refund the purchase price upon proof of purchase. XIM will not be liable for any indirect or consequential damages. There are thus no warranties of fitness or merchantability beyond that provided above. This warranty does not include labor or cost of labor for application or removal of any paint or primer. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

**XIM .... When Ordinary Primers Are Not Enough !**

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**12/05/2004**