

## Foampower.com

### How To: Insulating Closed Cavities in Walls using Handi-Foam SR 2-Component Kits

Handi-Foam Slow Rise formula (SR) is designed to allow the foam to fall to the bottom of the cavity before it begins to rise and cure. In order to develop a feel for how much foam to dispense per cavity and to avoid making a mess and wasting material we recommend you drill 2-3 evenly spaced holes in each cavity. One hole should be 2-3 feet from the floor, the second in the middle of the cavity and the last hole near the very top where the wall meets the ceiling. A 1/2" or 5/8" diameter hole is fine. Since Handi Foam SR fills from the bottom of the cavity to the top you will want to first inject your foam into the bottom hole. Before starting to foam be sure you have some cloth rags on hand. Mount a cone type nozzle, (each SR kit comes with 8 cone nozzles) on the dispensing gun, be sure the can contents are warm and agitate each container thoroughly by rocking them back and forth for a few moments.

Once prepared insert the nozzle tip into the bottom hole in the wall and depress the trigger for 10-15 seconds. Within 2 minutes the initial foam burst will have completely risen to it's final height. If any foam begins to come out the lower hole, plug it with one of the rags so the material can continue rising in the cavity and no mess is created. Since the foam will harden and clog up the nozzle within 45 seconds if not used this is a job best done by 2 people working together. This way 1 person can fill all the bottom holes at once while another follows behind to plug the bottom holes as needed. Once the bottom holes have all been done and the foam has stopped rising you can go back around and repeat the cycle by filling from the middle holes. Once again be prepared to plug the middle holes as the foam rises past them.

To help you gauge how high the cured foam has risen with each dispensing it is helpful to have a piece of flexible tubing to feed thru an upper hole. You can use the tubing to measure how much cured foam you are getting when you dispense for a certain amount of time. Doing this will help you develop a better sense of how long to depress the trigger. This will assist you in filling the cavity as completely as possible without wasting foam. Finally you will dispense foam into the top hole. Estimate how much void is left in the cavity and time your burst to try to fill the remaining area. If you overfill it is important that you allow the excess to come out the top hole. Have a painter's bucket or some disposable container at the ready to catch the excess as it comes out. Do not plug the top hole, the rising foam is under pressure and if you plug the top hole it may cause the rising foam to push the drywall or plaster off the wall.

Once the foam has cured you can easily patch these small holes and repaint as needed. If your walls have crosspieces between the studs that block the foam from dropping to the bottom of the cavity merely drill a hole right under the cross piece location and fill the cavity below. Remember not to plug the hole below the cross piece as that will be the only pressure release for the rising foam if you dispensed too much. If there are obstructions in the wall and you want to be confident that the foam is making it to the bottom of the cavity you can attach flexible 3/8" I.D. clear nylon tubing (available at any hardware store) to the end of the cone nozzle. This will allow you to work your way past some blockages and dispense the foam as close to the

bottom as possible. Since the foam will quickly harden in the tubing once the flow ceases it is advisable to have plenty of spare tubing on hand if you decide to use tubing to inject the foam.

**To calculate the number of kits required to do your job follow these guidelines:**

Example: 16" (1.25 ft) wide and 9 ft tall between the wall studs. Total area between the wall studs = 11.25 square feet. Multiply the square footage of the wall cavity times the depth of the cavity in inches. In our example the wall is constructed with 2 x 4's and the cavity depth is 3-1/2 inches. Multiply 11.25 S.F. x 3.5 as the cavity depth in inches and your board feet per cavity will equal 39.38 board feet. If you calculate the number of wall cavities you want to fill x the board feet per cavity you can determine the number of kits you will need to finish your job. Our largest kit the 2-43 has 600 board feet capacity. This would enable you to fill approximately 15 of the wall cavities described in the example above. Please see the video on the Closed Cavity How To page for an example of how Handi-Foam SR will rise and fill an enclosed wall cavity. Follow the link below to the video page on the website:

<http://www.foampower.com/resources/videos.html>