



ARDEX STS 8

Superior Tensile Strength Tile Adhesive

Improved Adhesion – suitable for fully vitrified tiles

No Lipping – no sinking of heavy floor tiles eg porcelain

High Yield – 7m² on floors, 9m² on walls

Non Slump – ideal for fixing large wall tiles

Improved workability

Suitable for walls and floors

Low VOC content – meets Green Building Council of Australia
Green Star IEQ-13 requirements



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ARDEX STS8

Superior Tensile Strength Tile Adhesive

DESCRIPTION

ARDEX STS 8 is a high tensile strength tile adhesive for use on walls and floors in internal areas and externally when mixed with ARDEX E90. Its superior tensile strength makes it suitable for highly vitrified tiles without the use of additives.

Mix with diluted ARDEX E 90 when tiling externally, over heated slabs and where movement is anticipated. For swimming pools use ARDEX STS (white) mixed with diluted ARDEX E 90.

ARDEX STS 8 meets the Green Building Council of Australia Green Star IEQ-13 requirements for Ceramic Tile Adhesives when tested in accordance with SCAQMD Method 304-91 Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in Various Materials as referenced by South Coast Air Quality Management Division (SCAQMD) Rule 1168.

FOR FIXING (tile types)

Ceramic tiles, non moisture sensitive natural stone. Highly vitrified tiles, mosaics, porcelain.

TO (substrates)

- Concrete, renders, screeds.
- ARDEX liquid applied waterproofing membranes over concrete/screed substrates.
- Mix with diluted ARDEX E 90 when tiling over fibre cement sheet, plasterboard.
- Gypsum plaster surfaces need to be primed with ARDEX Multiprime.
- Existing ceramic tiles.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

In general, the surface being adhered to must be clean, firm and free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, curing compounds, release agents and other barrier materials, as well as being strong enough to support the weight of the tiles being fixed. Ensure that the substrate's required drying time, as given in the relevant part of AS3958, is allowed to elapse prior to fixing the tiles. Prime porous substrates e.g. fibre cement sheets/cement render.

Concrete

This includes precast, in-situ and wood floated concrete. As concrete exhibits drying shrinkage, allow to cure for at least four weeks prior to tiling. Any surface laitance, concrete sealers, curing compounds, and other materials should be removed from the surface prior to tiling. The surface should be true and level and pitched to drains where required. The concrete should have adequate surface profile (e.g. broom finish) to provide a mechanical key. Smooth surfaces and/or dense concrete greater than 35MPa and less than 50MPa, must be shot blasted prior to tiling. Contact ARDEX technical support for concrete greater than 50MPa.

Cement Render/Screeds

New renders and screeds should be finished with a wood float to the required surface regularity. Screeds should be pitched to drains where required. Allow at least 7 days to cure prior to tiling.

Plasterboard/Fibre Cement Sheet (Walls)

Provided that these boards are firmly and rigidly fixed to adequately support the tile bed, tiles can be fixed directly. Priming with ARDEX Multiprime is recommended for fibre cement sheets but is not usually necessary for plasterboard except when jointing compound is used. Mix with ARDEX E 90 when tiling over these substrates.

Existing Ceramic Tiles

These include sound, clean, glazed and unglazed tiles. If the area to be tiled is internal and will not

be in contact with water, tiles can be directly fixed using ARDEX STS 8 mixed with ARDEX E 90 without mechanically grinding the glaze. In all other situations the old tiles must be mechanically roughened to remove 80% of the glaze. All dust and contamination should be removed before tiling with ARDEX STS 8 mixed with water.

MIXING

Mix 20kg powder with 7.5 to 8 litres of water per 20kg.

When using with ARDEX E 90 admix, first dilute the admix with water. For 20kg of powder, mix 3.6L of ARDEX E 90 with up to 5L of water.

The working time of the mixed mortar is approximately 2 hours at 20° C. Do not apply at temperatures below 5° C.

FIXING TECHNIQUE

Before fixing ensure the substrate has been prepared and the tiles are free from dust. Tiles should be fixed in accordance with AS 3958.

Substrate surface, type and size of the tiles will determine the selection of the trowel. As a general guide use a 6mm x 6mm x 6mm notch for walls and 10mm x 10mm x 10mm notch for floor tiling. (Large format tile may require 12mm or 15mm notched trowels).

Working time is 2 hours, fixing or open time is approximately 30 minutes. Only spread enough adhesive so that the tiles can be fixed within the open time.

The tiles must be pressed firmly into the freshly combed mortar bed to ensure good contact with the mortar. Slide the tile at right angles to the notch pattern so that the back of the tile is completely covered by the mortar. Tiles with ribbed or keyed back profiles should also be buttered so that the voids are filled.

COVERAGE

20kg of ARDEX STS8 is sufficient for approximately 9m² on walls using a 6x6mm notched trowel and 7m² on floors using a 10x10x10mm notched trowel. The coverage will vary depending on substrate condition, tile type and application technique.

PACKAGING

ARDEX STS8 is packed in polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

SHELF LIFE

ARDEX STS8 has a shelf life of not less than 12 months when stored in the original unopened packaging, in a dry place at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

PRECAUTIONS

The presence of cement in the product gives an alkaline mortar which may cause some irritation if prolonged contact with skin takes place. Avoid contact with skin and eyes; in case of contact with the eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice; wear suitable gloves and keep the product out of the reach of children. Avoid generation of airborne dust during mixing.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

This product is considered non hazardous in normal usage. The presence of cement in the product gives an alkaline mortar which may cause some irritation if prolonged contact with skin takes place.

Avoid contact with skin and eyes; in case of contact with the eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice; wear suitable gloves and eye protection and keep the product out of the reach of children. Avoid generation of airborne dust during mixing. If swallowed do not induce vomiting, give a glass of water and contact a doctor.

For further material safety data, consult the latest Material Safety Data Sheet.

TECHNICAL DATA

Colour: Off White Powder
Mixing Ratio: Approx 7.5 to 8L water per 20kg powder

Application Properties at 23°C and 50% RH

Open Time: 30 minutes
Grouting Time: 8 hours
Pot Life: 2 hours

Mechanical Properties (AS 4992)

Tensile Adhesion Strength after 28 days dry: 1 - 2 MPa
Freeze Thaw: 1 MPa
Classification: C1 T
C1 T S1 (with E90)

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