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PRODUCT DATA SHEET

ARDEX X 77 ARDEX X 77 W

MICROTEC Flexible Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

- MICROTEC fibre reinforcement for premium performance
- Ideal for all tile types including porcelain, fully vitrified, mosaics and terrazzo
- Achieves up to double the slump resistance of 'T' classified adhesives
- Open time of 60 minutes
- Excellent application properties
- High yield – 11m² coverage per bag
- Ideal for swimming pools and wet areas
- For internal and external applications
- Suitable for underfloor heating



MICROTEC
fibre reinforced technology



Reg No. FM 1207



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ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W

MICROTEC Flexible Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

DESCRIPTION

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W are grey or white, MICROTEC fibre reinforced, cement-based, floor and wall tile adhesives. Specifically formulated to have enhanced properties of adhesion and flexibility.

USE

ARDEX X 77 is ideal for fixing ceramic or fully vitrified tiles and other tiles with low porosity, as well as glass and porcelain mosaics. The enhanced performance of ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W means that it has a long open time, even under site conditions. In addition, the enhanced slump resistant properties mean that even heavy tiles may be fixed to walls with no slip.

The BS EN 12004 C2 TE S1 designation for ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W classifies the adhesive as an "improved cementitious adhesive with additional characteristics, reduced slip and extended open time".

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W has an extended open time of over 60 minutes, twice the requirement of BS 12004, and double the slump resistance of 'T' classified adhesives.

The additional characteristics for ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W determined in accordance with BS EN 12004 makes this product suitable for fixing all types of ceramic tiles and mosaics in internal and external situations, including swimming pools. The mixed mortar has a slump free consistency with very high initial grab enabling heavy wall tiles to be fixed thus removing the need for battens and spacers. ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W adheres strongly to most construction materials such as concrete, cement and sand renders and screeds, heated sub-floors, brickwork and blockwork, gypsum plaster, plasterboard and primed existing ceramic tiled surfaces.

SURFACE PREPARATION

The backgrounds and surfaces to receive tiles must be clean, firm, free of dust, dirt, oil, grease and other barriers to adhesion, as well as being strong enough to support the weight of the tiles being fixed. Ensure that the background has adequate drying time, as given in the relevant part of BS 5385, and correctly primed, where required, prior to fixing the tiles.

Install tiles in accordance with the relevant parts of BS 5385 and BS 8000 : Part 11 Workmanship on Building Sites. Backgrounds to receive ceramic tiles should be finished so any gap under a 2m straight edge does not exceed 3mm (Surface Regularity 1 in sub-floors).

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W can be applied to dry or moist surfaces, but moisture sensitive materials must be dry and remain dry after tiling.

ARDEX WPC Waterproof protection coating can be used to guarantee your work and protect moisture sensitive backgrounds in wet locations, prior to fixing tiles.

MIXING

Add ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W powder to clean water in a clean container whilst stirring and mixed thoroughly to give a slump free, easily worked mortar. The use of an ARDEX mixing paddle with a 10mm chuck, variable speed electric drill makes light work of mixing.

The mix proportions by volume are approximately: 2 parts ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W powder to 1 part water. A 20kg bag of ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W requires up to 8.5 litres of water. DO NOT EXCEED the maximum water content.

The consistency of the adhesive can be adjusted to suit site conditions and the materials being fixed. The mixed adhesive should be applied at temperatures above 5°C.

APPLICATION

The mixed adhesive is applied to the prepared surface with a trowel and then combed through with a suitably sized notched trowel in straight ribs to give a ribbed mortar bed. The tiles should be fixed within the open time of the applied adhesive and pressed into place with a twisting and sliding action to achieve the required contact. For tiling to walls in dry internal locations the adhesive contact should be with at least 50% of the back of the tile. For maximum performance at least 80% adhesive contact of the back of the tile should be achieved.

When tiling to floors, wet areas such as showers and swimming pools, or in external locations achieving a solid bed usually requires the back of the tiles to be buttered immediately prior to placing into the ribbed bed so no voids are left beneath the tiles.

The size of notched trowel chosen depends on the tile size, the surface being tiled, the profile on the back of the tile and the degree of coverage required.

For optimum performance under typical UK site conditions tiles should be fixed within 40 minutes and tiles can be adjusted for up to 30 minutes at 20°C.

GROUTING

Grouting can proceed once the tile bed has hardened sufficiently so that the tiles will not be dislodged. When grouting wall tiles the ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W is normally hard enough after 8 hours at 20°C depending on the porosity of the tile and the background. When grouting floor tiles the ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W is normally hard enough after 24 hours at 20°C to accept foot traffic depending on the porosity of the tile and the background.

Higher temperatures will shorten and lower temperatures will lengthen these times. The tile joints should be grouted with the appropriate ARDEX-FLEX cement based tile grout or ARDEX EG 8 Cement/Epoxy Hybrid Grout and Adhesive ideal for swimming pool, domestic and commercial food preparation areas where chemical resistance and hygienic joints are required.

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COVERAGE

A 20kg bag of ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W will yield approximately 19 litres of mortar, using approximately 1kg of powder per m² per mm thickness of adhesive bed. The actual coverage achieved in practice will depend on the back profile of the tile, notched trowel and technique used to bed the tiles e.g. a 20kg bag of ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W will cover approximately 11m² when using a 5mm x 5mm square toothed and notched trowel.

PRIMERS

ARDEX P51 – Absorbent backgrounds and wood based boards

Concentrated water-based primer and bonding agent for use on absorbent backgrounds, plaster and anhydrite/calcium sulphate screeds before fixing with ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W adhesive. Dilute ARDEX P 51 1:3 with water.

ARDEX P 4 – Tile on tile or general purpose primer

A ready mixed, ready to use, multipurpose, rapid drying, solvent free primer for use on ceramic and porcelain tiles, concrete and terrazzo. ARDEX P 4 is a solvent free primer that will allow tiling to take place as soon as it is dry, typically after 60 minutes. It is suitable for use in dry, damp or wet (not submerged) locations. ARDEX P 4 can be used internally and externally.

ARDEX P 82 – Impervious surfaces

Non-flammable, water-based synthetic primer for priming smooth impervious surfaces including existing ceramic tiling, internal asphalt, terrazzo, timber walls, sound and well adhered paint coatings and old adhesive residues, prior to the use of ARDEX X77 / ARDEX X77 W.

GUIDANCE NOTES ON BACKGROUNDS TO BE TILED

Concrete

Allow at least 6 weeks, under good drying conditions, preferably at least 12 weeks drying time prior to fixing new tiles onto new concrete. Mechanically clean concrete and ensure mould oil and curing agents are removed.

Cement/sand render and screed

Wood float finish and prevent rapid drying of the surface for 3 days (renders) or 7 days (screeds). Allow render to air dry in good conditions for at least 2 weeks prior to tiling or at least 3 weeks for screeds prior to tiling.

NOTE FOR SCREEDS: With an ARDEX A 38 cement/sand screed, tiles can be fixed after only 24 hours. With a bonded ARDEX A 35 cement/sand screed, tiles can be fixed after only 4 hours.

NOTE FOR RENDERS: With ARDEX AM 100 Rapid Hardening One Coat Tile Render tiles, can be fixed only 2 hours after application.

Gypsum Plaster

Do not use in wet or damp conditions. Gypsum plaster must be dry and at least 4 weeks old prior to tiling. Wire brush plaster to remove dust. Use ARDEX P 51 primer. Tile weight should not exceed 20kg /m².

Plasterboard

Ensure boards are rigidly braced and adequately supported. Fix directly to the paper facing. Do not skim with plaster. Tile weight should not exceed 32kg /m².

Wood-based sheets and boards

Prior to tiling ensure that new or existing boards are dry, i.e. conditioned to the environment in which they will be used and are rigidly fixed, ventilated and free from barriers to adhesion.

When using ARDEX X 77 / X 77 W on plywood walls, the plywood needs to be primed with ARDEX P 82 primer. If a rapid setting adhesive is required use either ARDEX X 77 S / X 77 S W, ARDEX X 7 R / ARDEX X 7 R W or ARDEX S 16 incorporating ARDEX E90 mortar admixture.

ARDEX recommend the use of ARDEX X 7001 / ARDEX X 7001 W for timber floors, and need to be primed with ARDEX P 51. Consult the relevant datasheet for fixing to floors.

NOTE: For wall tiling BS 5385 advises that wood based sheets and boards should be avoided if at all possible as a background for tiling. If such boards, e.g. plywood board, chipboard, etc. have to be used, they should be restricted to small areas and installed in such a way that they provide a dimensionally stable and rigid background. The backs and edges of such boards should be treated against the ingress of atmospheric moisture that would result in movement and warping. Tiles should not bridge joints between boards.

Since plywood and other wood based boards are not dimensionally stable, they should not be used in wet or damp conditions where they will be subjected to changes in atmospheric humidity.

Ceramic tiles should not be used on timber based boards in wet areas or external locations.

Painted surfaces

A trial area should be carried out by priming the sound paint coating with ARDEX P 4 (for dispersion based paints) or ARDEX P 82 primer prior to fixing the tiles in ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77W. Adhesion will be limited by the adhesion strength of the paint to the background.

Calcium Sulfate-based screeds i.e. Anhydrite

Ensure they have been laid and prepared in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations. Generally they require sanding and must have a moisture content of 0.5% or less, measured using the carbide method. Prime with ARDEX P 51, diluted with 3 parts of water.

Existing glazed ceramic tiling

Ensure existing tiling is well adhered and can support the new tile bed. Thorough cleaning and rinsing off is essential. Prime the dried tiles with ARDEX P 82 (Internal dry areas only) or ARDEX P 4 (for use in internal and external locations).

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Brickwork

Allow new walls to dry for at least 6 weeks, preferably 12 weeks prior to direct fixing or rendering.

Concrete blockwork

New walls should be built with dry blocks. Allow 6 weeks, preferably 12 weeks drying time prior to direct fixing or rendering.

Asphalt sanded

With well adhered sand key no primer is required. Internal areas only. If sand key is poor or worn off, proceed as for smooth asphalt.

Asphalt smooth

Priming with ARDEX P 82 recommended. Internal dry areas.

Underfloor heating

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W is suitable for fixing ceramic tiles to concrete or cement and sand screeds with underfloor heating.

PACKAGING

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W is packed in paper sacks incorporating a polyethylene liner - net weight 20kg.

STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W contains a reducing agent to control the level of Chromium VI when mixed prior to use. ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W must be stored in unopened packaging, clear of the ground in cool dry conditions and protected from excessive draught. If stored correctly, as detailed above, and used within 12 months of the date shown on the packaging, the activity of the reducing agent (added to control the level of soluble Chromium VI) will be maintained and this product will contain, when mixed with water, no more than 0.0002% (2ppm) soluble Chromium VI of the total dry weight of the cement content of this product.

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W must not be used after the end of the declared storage period.

PRECAUTIONS

ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 77 W contains more than 20% portland cement and, therefore, in line with current legislation, is classified as irritating to eyes and skin.

For this reason the following precautions should be observed:-
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.

For further information consult the relevant health and safety data sheet.

TECHNICAL DATA

Weight of fresh mortar	approximately	1.5kg/litre
Working time (20°C)	approximately	3 hours
Fixing time (20°C)	approximately	60 minutes
Adjusting time (20°C)	approximately	30 minutes
The pot life of the mixed mortar is	approximately	3 hours at 20°C.

PROPERTIES TESTED TO BS EN 12004

Open Time:	approximately	60 minutes
Slip Resistance:	Slip - less than	0.5mm
Tensile Adhesion Strength:	Greater than	1 N/mm ² under all test conditions.

PROPERTIES TESTED TO BS EN 12002

Transverse Deformation: Classification	S1
(Deformation greater than or equal to 2.5mm and less than 5mm)	

NOTE: The information supplied in our literature or given by our employees is based upon extensive experience and, together with that supplied by our agents or distributors, is given in good faith in order to help you. Our Company policy is one of continuous Research and Development; we therefore reserve the right to update this information at any time without prior notice. We also guarantee the consistent high quality of our products; however, as we have no control over site conditions or the execution of the work, we accept no liability for any loss or damage which may arise as a result thereof.

Country specific recommendations, depending on local standards, codes of practice, building regulations or industry guidelines, may affect specific installation recommendations.

TECHNICAL ADVICE HELPLINE
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