



ABAFLEX

Superior Flexible Polymer Modified Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

- Off White
- Internal/External Use
- Australian Made

DESCRIPTION

ABA Abaflex is a superior grade, cement-based wall and floor tile adhesive, which has excellent flexibility and is dry enough to be grouted after 8 hours. It has superior workability and is ideal for fixing fully vitrified, porcelain, mosaics and non-moisture sensitive natural stone tiles. ABA Abaflex is suitable for use in both internal and external applications and is especially suited to high performance situations with heavy pedestrian traffic e.g. shopping centres.

ABA Abaflex accommodates shrinkage movement associated with early age concrete and screeds. It can be used over concrete that is at least 7 days old and screeds and renders after 16 hours.

ABA Abaflex meets the Green Building Council of Australia Green Star IEQ-13 requirements for Ceramic Tile Adhesives.

FOR FIXING (TILE TYPES)

Fully vitrified and ceramic tiles, porcelain, natural stones (excluding moisture sensitive), glass and porcelain mosaics.

TO (SUBSTRATES)

- Concrete, renders, screeds
- ARDEX liquid applied undertile waterproofing membranes
- Medium density fibre-cement sheets on walls
- Plasterboard
- Existing ceramic and vinyl tiles
- Autoclaved aerated concrete (AAC)
- Compressed fibre-cement sheet on floors
- Ceramic tile underlay

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

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 surfaces are dry before tiling, with no residue or permanent damp.

Concrete (including early age concrete)

Early age concrete must be a minimum of 7 days old and no less than 20 MPa. Prior to tiling, remove any concrete sealers or curing compounds from the surface, e.g. resin, wax sealers. Steel trowel finished concrete should be roughened mechanically to remove laitance and provide a good key for tiling. The surface should be true and level and pitched to drains where required. Smooth surfaces and/or dense concrete greater than 35 MPa must be mechanically roughened prior to tiling.

Cement Render/Screeds

New renders and screeds, consisting of one part cement to three or four parts sand, should be finished with a wood float to the required surface

regularity to establish a mechanical key. Curing time is a minimum of 16 hours before tiling can commence. Screeds shall be pitched to drains where required.

Plasterboard/Medium Density Fibre-Cement Sheet on Walls

Provided that these sheets are firmly and rigidly fixed in accordance with the manufacturers instructions to adequately support the tile bed, tiles can be fixed directly. Please ensure the surface is completely clean. Priming with ARDEX Multiprime is recommended over fibre-cement sheets, followed by taping of sheet joints with PVC ducting tape. Priming is not usually necessary for plasterboard except when a jointing compound is used, the compound should then be primed with ARDEX Multiprime.

Ceramic Tile Underlay (CTU)

Should be fixed as per the CTU manufacturer's instructions. The CTU must be a minimum of 6mm and made specifically for this purpose. Tiles under 100mm edge length cannot be fixed using this method. Tiles between 100 and 350mm can only be fixed if floor deflection measured centrally between the floor joists is less than 1 in 360 and tiles greater than 350mm edge length can only be laid on floors with less deflection is 1 in 500. Please refer to ABA Technical Services for further details.

Painted Surfaces

Thoroughly remove painted surfaces mechanically, do not use paint stripper or solvents. Allow surface to dry after cleaning.

Existing Vinyl Tiles

Ensure vinyl tiles are well bonded to the substrate. Remove wax, polish and any loose tiles. Roughen with coarse sand paper then clean the surface with warm water.

Existing Ceramic Tiles (Internal Only)

These include sound, clean, glazed and unglazed tiles. Existing tiles must be firm and stable. Roughen the surface by mechanical means, clean off contamination and dust before tiling. Ensure that at least 80% of the glaze is removed.

Compressed Fibre-Cement Sheet on floors

For both internal and external applications, tiling over compressed fibre-cement must be carried out as per sheet manufacturer's recommendations and Australian Standard AS 3958.

Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC)

Remove loose particles from surface and apply two coats of ARDEX Multiprime before tiling.

MIXING

ABA Abaflex powder is added to clean water in a clean container whilst stirring vigorously and mixed thoroughly to give a lump free easily worked mortar of a thick creamy consistency. Allow to stand for 3 minutes. Restir the mixture thoroughly and the adhesive is ready for use. A 20kg bag of ABA Abaflex requires approximately 4 litres of water. Do not add additional water.

The consistency of the adhesive can be adjusted to suit site conditions and size, weight and type of tiles to be fixed. Do not apply at temperatures below 10°C. The pot life of the mixed mortar is approximately 2 hours at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

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 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel for walls and 10 x 10 x 10mm notched trowel for floor tiling. Where tiles exceed 450mm in edge size, a 12mm notch trowel and back buttering become necessary. ABA Abaflex can be applied at a bed thickness greater than 1.5mm or less than 10mm.

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 to ensure good coverage on the back of the tile. Tiles with ribbed or keyed back profiles should also be buttered to ensure complete coverage. Lift a tile from time to time to check that there are no voids beneath the tile. Do not spot fix. Failure to eliminate voids under tiles in external applications can promote efflorescence due to trapped moisture. Any surplus adhesive must be removed from the surface of the tile and joints, before the adhesive sets. ABA Abaflex has an open time of 30 minutes and an adjustment time of 45 minutes. Please be aware of site conditions when considering these times and only spread enough adhesive so that the tiles can be fixed while the mortar is still wet. All tools should be cleaned with water immediately after use.

MOVEMENT JOINTS

Movement joints must be in accordance with Australian Standard AS 3958.

GROUTING

Grouting can proceed once the tile bed has hardened sufficiently so that tiles will not be dislodged. Light foot traffic may be allowed after approximately 8 hours and full traffic after approximately 24 hours at 23°C and 50% relative humidity. Allow longer for dense tiles/substrates, humid climates and low temperatures. The tile joints should be grouted with the appropriate ARDEX grout. When grouting over early age concrete, mix the grout with ARDEX Grout Booster as per grout packaging instructions.

COVERAGE

20kg of ABA Abaflex is sufficient for approximately 7m² on walls, using a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel and 5m² on floors using a 10 x 10 x 10mm notched trowel. The coverage will vary depending on substrate condition, tile type and application technique.

PACKAGING

ABA Abaflex is packed in polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

SHELF LIFE

ABA Abaflex has a shelf life of 12 months when stored in the original unopened packaging, in a dry place at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

Pay attention to the following:

- When setting tiles on shrinking substrates, limit the size of the area and ensure adequate movement joints are incorporated.
- For setting of moisture sensitive natural stones, please refer to products in the ARDEX Natural Stone System.
- ABA Abaflex is not suitable for use directly over timber floors, non-absorbent substrates e.g. metal, or continuous immersion applications, such as swimming pools and water tanks.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Irritating to respiratory system and skin. Risk of serious damage to eyes. Do not breathe dust. 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. Use only in well ventilated areas. Avoid generation of airborne dust during mixing. If swallowed do not induce vomiting, give a glass of water and contact a doctor.

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

TECHNICAL DATA

Colour: Off White Powder
Mixing Ratio: Approx. 4L water/20kg powder

Application Properties at 23°C and 50% RH

Open Time: 30 minutes
Adjustment Time: 45 minutes
Grouting Time: 8 hours
Pot Life: 2 hours
Underfloor Heating: Yes

Mechanical Properties (ISO 13007)

Tensile adhesion strength after:
28 days dry: > 0.5 MPa
Water immersion: > 0.5 MPa
Heat: > 0.5 MPa
Freeze Thaw: > 0.5 MPa
Classification: C2 T S1 (E)



PRODUCT GUARANTEE

15
YEAR
WARRANTY

Ardex Australia Pty Ltd (“we” or “us”) guarantees this product (also referred to as “our goods”) is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 15 years from the date of application of the product if such application occurs within this product’s

specified shelf life. Our liability under this guarantee is limited at our option to replacement of the product, repair of any damage to the immediate surface or area of application of the product, or the cost of such replacement or repair, in each case if we are satisfied loss or damage was due to a breach of this guarantee. This guarantee does not apply if damage or loss is due to failure to follow our published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence and faulty workmanship on the part of any installer or applicator of the product. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (address: 7/20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; phone: 1800224070; email: technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com), identify the product and provide evidence of your purchase and the subsequent application of the product within 30 days of any alleged loss or damage occurring. We reserve the right to ask you for satisfactory evidence of any alleged loss or damage and to undertake any inspections and tests necessary to establish your rights under this guarantee. Any claim under this guarantee is at your cost. This guarantee is in addition to any rights or remedies you may have as a “consumer” under the Australian Consumer Law and to that extent you need to be aware that: “Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and for compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss of damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure”.

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