



ARDEX X 44 Tropical Glue

Flexible Rubber Modified Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

Specially formulated for improved working and applications in tropical climates

Flexible, achieves S1 classification

High yield

Excellent coverage

For internal and external use

Suitable for walls and floor tiling

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



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ARDEX X44 Tropical Glue

Flexible Rubber Modified Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

DESCRIPTION

ARDEX X44 Tropical Glue is a rubber modified wall and floor tile adhesive for fixing ceramic tiles in internal and external situations (with satisfactory falls). It can be used over render, plasterboard, fibre cement sheets and concrete in situations where minimal movement is anticipated.

FOR FIXING (TILE TYPES)

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

TO (SUBSTRATES)

Concrete, screeds, render
Medium density fibre cement sheets, plasterboard
Existing ceramic tiles (internal only)

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.

Ensure that the substrate's required drying time, as given in the relevant part of AS 3958, is allowed to elapse prior to fixing the tiles. Prime porous substrates with ARDEX Multiprime.

Concrete

This includes precast, in-situ and wood floated concrete. As concrete exhibits drying shrinkage, allow to cure for at least 4 weeks prior to tiling. Any surface laitance, concrete sealers, curing compounds, and other materials should be removed from the surface prior to tiling. Steel trowel finished concrete should be roughened mechanically to remove laitance and provide a good key for tiling. The surface shall 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 must be mechanically prepared prior to tiling.

Cement Render/Screeds

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

Plasterboard/Medium Density Fibre-Cement Sheet on Walls

Tiles can be fixed directly provided these boards are firmly and rigidly fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to adequately support the tile bed. Ensure the surface is completely clean. Priming with ARDEX Multiprime is recommended for fibre-cement sheeting. Priming is not usually necessary for plasterboard mixed with ARDEX Abacrete.

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.

MIXING

ARDEX X44 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 5 minutes. Restir the mixture thoroughly and the adhesive is ready for use. A 20kg bag of ARDEX X44 requires approximately 8 litres of water.

The consistency of the adhesive can be slightly 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 Australian Standard 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 notch trowel for walls to achieve a continuous 1.5mm bed and a minimum of 10 x 10 x 10mm notch

trowel for floor tiling. ARDEX X44 cannot be applied at a bed thickness greater than 6mm or less than 1.5mm.

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 100% 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. Any surplus adhesive must be removed from the surface of the tile and joints, before the adhesive sets. Do not spot fix.

ARDEX X44 has an open time of 20 minutes and an adjustment time of 25 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. Grouting and traffic may be allowed 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.

COVERAGE

20kg of ARDEX X44 is sufficient for approximately 13-15m² on walls and 8-10m² on floors.

PACKAGING

ARDEX X44 is packed in polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

SHELF LIFE

ARDEX X44 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:

- ARDEX X44 is only suitable for minimal movement. ARDEX provides other systems for setting tiles where movement is anticipated.
- For setting of moisture sensitive natural stones, please refer to products in the ARDEX Natural Stone System.
- ARDEX X44 is not suitable for use directly over timber floors or fibre cement sheeted timber floors.
- Do not use ARDEX X44 in continuous immersion applications e.g. swimming pools, tanks, etc. ARDEX provides other systems.
- Covered external tiling and shower recess floors must have adequate falls for drainage.

SAFETY DATA

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. Store locked up. Check with your local Council regarding the disposal of contents. Keep out of the reach of children. Call the Poisons Information Centre on 131 126 (AUS) and 0800 764 766 (NZ) or call a doctor if you feel unwell. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at www.ardexaustralia.com

TECHNICAL DATA

Colour: Off White Powder
Mixing Ratio: Approximately 8L water per 20kg powder

Application Properties at 23°C and 50% RH

Open Time: 20 minutes
Adjustment Time: 25 minutes
Grouting Time: 24 hours
Pot life: 2.5 hours
Sagging: None
Underfloor Heating: Yes (aged concrete)

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
Transverse Deformation: ≥0.5 MPa
Coverage: 13-15m² (walls)
8-10m² (floors)
Classification: C2 E S1

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