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# ARDEX Abaflex

## Premium Polymer Modified Flexible Tile Adhesive

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High performance - Use in critical applications e.g. shopping centres

Use over early age concrete/screeds and render

Flexible – achieves S1 classification

Suitable for floor and wall tiling

Excellent workability

For internal and external use

Low VOC content - meets Green Building Council  
of Australia Green Star IEQ13 requirements



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### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX Abaflex is a premium grade, cement-based wall and floor tile adhesive, which has excellent flexibility and is cured 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. ARDEX 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.

ARDEX 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. ARDEX 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

### SURFACE 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 / SAND RENDER AND 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 boards are firmly and rigidly fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's 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. Priming is not usually necessary for plasterboard except when a jointing compound is used, the compound should then be primed with ARDEX Multiprime.

#### 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. (Does not apply to VAT floor tiles)

#### 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.

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### MIXING

ARDEX 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 25kg bag of ARDEX Abaflex requires approximately 5 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.

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

ARDEX 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.

### MOVEMENTS JOINTS

Movement joints must be in accordance with standard code of practice. For high movement areas, the movement joint interval should be reduced to 4m.

### 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

25kg of ARDEX Abaflex is sufficient for approximately 9m<sup>2</sup> on walls, using a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel and 6.5m<sup>2</sup> 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

ARDEX Abaflex is packed in multi layer paper bag, net weight 25kg.

### SHELF LIFE

12 months when stored in the original unopened packaging, in a dry place between 10°C and 35°C with 50% RH.

### TECHNICAL DATA

Colour:	grey
Mixing ratio:	approx. 5L water per 25 kg
Application properties at 23°C and 50% RH	
Open time:	approx. 30 minutes
Adjustability time:	45 minutes
Grouting time:	approx. 8 hours
Pot Life:	approx. 2 hours
Underfloor heating:	Yes
Mechanical properties (AS 4992 / EN 12004) Tensile Adhesion Strength after	
28 days dry:	> 1.0 - 2.0 MPa
Water immersion:	> 1.0 MPa
Heat Ageing:	> 1.0 MPa

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Freeze Thaw:	> 1.0 MPa
Classification:	C2 T S1

### 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.

ARDEX Abaflex is not suitable for use over timber floors, non-absorbent substrates e.g. metal, or in continuous immersion applications, such as swimming pools and water tanks. ARDEX provides other systems.

### **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

This product may cause irritation and an allergic reaction to the skin. It may cause serious eye injury and irritation to the respiratory system. In case of contact with the eyes rinse with running water until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Centre or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes. Wear protective gloves, clothing, eye and face protection. Avoid inhaling dust/fumes/gas/mist/vapours/spray. Ensure adequate ventilation during mixing and application. Store locked up. Check with your local Council regarding the disposal of contents, dispose of packaging thoughtfully and recycle where possible. Keep out of the reach of children. For further safety data, consult the Safety Datasheet available online at [www.ardex-quicseal.com](http://www.ardex-quicseal.com).

### **DISCLAIMER**

The technical datasheets are based on the latest information and given in good faith and represent the best of our knowledge and experience at the time of printing. They are primarily offered for user's consideration and evaluation. It is the responsibility of the user to conduct their own tests to validate the suitability of the products. It is also the responsibility of the user to ensure that the products are used and handled correctly and in accordance with any applicable standards, the product instructions and recommendations and only for the uses they are intended. As we have no control over site conditions and the execution of the work, we accept no liability for any loss or damage which may rise as a result thereof. We also reserve the right to update the information at any time without prior notice to you to reflect our ongoing research and development program.

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