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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 IEQ-13 requirements



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# ARDEX Abaflex

## Premium Polymer Modified Flexible Tile Adhesive

### 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

### 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 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.

### 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 20kg bag of ARDEX 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. 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 30 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 ARDEX Abaflex is sufficient for approximately 7m<sup>2</sup> on walls, using a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel and 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 polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

### SHELF LIFE

ARDEX 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. 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 DATA

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. 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](http://www.ardexaustralia.com).

### TECHNICAL DATA

<b>Colour:</b>	Off White Powder
<b>Mixing Ratio:</b>	Approx 4L water/20kg powder

<b>Application Properties</b> at 23°C and 50% RH	
<b>Open Time:</b>	30 minutes
<b>Adjustment Time:</b>	30 minutes
<b>Grouting Time:</b>	8 hours
<b>Pot Life:</b>	2 hours
<b>Underfloor Heating:</b>	Yes

### Mechanical Properties (ISO 13007) Tensile Adhesion Strength after

<b>28 Days Dry:</b>	>1.0 MPa
<b>Water immersion:</b>	>1.0 MPa
<b>Heat:</b>	>1.0 MPa
<b>Freeze Thaw:</b>	>1.0 MPa
<b>Classification:</b>	C2 TE S1

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### GUARANTEE

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd ("we" or "us") guarantees this product ("our goods") is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 10 years from the date of purchase. 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 compensation, 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 published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; Toll Free: 1800 224 070; Email: [technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com](mailto:technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com)) and provide evidence of your purchase 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. 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".

### DISCLAIMER

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