



ARDEX STS 8

Superior Tensile Strength Tile Adhesive

Improved Adhesion – suitable for fully vitrified tiles

No Lipping – no sinking of heavy floor tiles eg porcelain

High Yield – 7m² on floors, 9m² on walls

Non Slump – ideal for fixing large wall tiles

Improved workability

Suitable for walls and floors

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

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd
20 Powers Road
Seven Hills NSW 2147
Tel: (02) 9851 9199
Fax: (02) 9674 5621
Email: techinfo@ardexaustralia.com
Internet: www.ardex.com

ARDEX New Zealand Ltd
32 Lane St, Woolston
Christchurch, New Zealand
Tel: (03) 384 3029
Fax: (03) 384 9779
Email: techinfo@ardexaustralia.com
Internet: www.ardex.com

ARDEX STS 8

Superior Tensile Strength Tile Adhesive

DESCRIPTION

ARDEX STS 8 is a high tensile strength tile adhesive for use on walls and floors in internal areas. Its superior tensile strength makes it suitable for highly vitrified tiles without the use of additives.

Mix with diluted ARDEX E 90 when tiling externally, over heated slabs and where movement is anticipated. For swimming pools use ARDEX STS W (white) mixed with diluted ARDEX E 90.

ARDEX STS 8 meets the Green Building Council of Australia Green Star IEQ-13 requirements for Ceramic Tile Adhesives when tested in accordance with SCAQMD Method 304-91 Determination of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in Various Materials as referenced by South Coast Air Quality Management Division (SCAQMD) Rule 1168.

FOR FIXING (tile types)

- Ceramic tiles, natural stone (excluding moisture sensitive marble).
- Highly vitrified tiles, mosaics, porcelain.

TO (substrates)

- Concrete, renders, screeds.
- ARDEX liquid applied waterproofing membranes over concrete/screed substrates.
- Mix with diluted ARDEX E 90 when tiling over fibre cement sheet, plasterboard.
- Gypsum plaster surfaces need to be primed with ARDEX Multiprime.
- Existing ceramic tiles.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

In general, 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 that the substrate's required drying time, as given in the relevant part of AS3958, is allowed to elapse prior to fixing the tiles. Prime porous substrates e.g. fibre cement sheets/cement render.

Concrete

This includes precast, in-situ and wood floated concrete. As concrete exhibits drying shrinkage, allow to cure for at least four weeks prior to tiling. Any surface laitance, concrete sealers, curing compounds, and other materials should be removed from the surface prior to tiling. The surface should be true and level and pitched to drains

where required. The concrete should have adequate surface profile (eg broom finish) to provide a mechanical key. Smooth surfaces and/or dense concrete greater than 35MPa and less than 50MPa, must be shot blasted prior to tiling. Contact ARDEX technical support for concrete greater than 50MPa.

Cement Render/Screeds

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

Plasterboard/Fibre Cement Sheet

Provided that these boards are firmly and rigidly fixed to adequately support the tile bed, tiles can be fixed directly. Priming with ARDEX Multiprime is recommended for fibre cement sheets but is not usually necessary for plasterboard except when jointing compound is used. Mix with ARDEX E 90 when tiling over these substrates.

Existing Ceramic Tiles

These include sound, clean, glazed and unglazed tiles. If the area to be tiled is internal and will not be in contact with water, tiles can be directly fixed using ARDEX STS 8 mixed with ARDEX E 90 without mechanically grinding the glaze. In all other situations the old tiles must be mechanically roughened to remove 80% of the glaze. All dust and contamination should be removed before tiling with ARDEX STS 8 mixed with water.

MIXING

Mix 20kg powder with 7.5 to 8 litres of water per 20kg.

When using with ARDEX E 90 admix, first dilute the admix with water. For 20kg of powder, mix 3.6L of ARDEX E 90 with up to 5L of water.

The working time of the mixed mortar is approximately 2 hours at 20° C. Do not apply at temperatures below 5° C.

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 3958:1991.
- Substrate surface, type and size of the tiles will determine the selection of the trowel. As a general guide use a 6mm x 6mm x 6mm notch for walls and 10mm x 10mm x 10mm notch for floor tiling.
- Working time is 2 hours, fixing or open time is approx 30 minutes. Only spread enough adhesive so that the tiles can be fixed within the open time.

- 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 so that the back of the tile is completely covered by the mortar. Tiles with ribbed or keyed back profiles should also be buttered so that the voids are filled.

PRECAUTIONS

The presence of cement in the product gives an alkaline mortar which may cause some irritation if prolonged contact with skin takes place.

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.

TECHNICAL DATA

Classification (AS 4992.1)

STS 8 C₁T

STS 8 + E 90 C₁TS₁

(NOTE: Possible delays drying when using STS 8 and E 90 to fix dense tiles to dense concrete)

Colour Off White
White

Mixing ratio Approx 7.5 to 8 litres water: 20kg powder

Coverage (per 20kg) 9m² on walls
(using a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel)
7m² on floors
(using a 10 x 10 x 10mm notched trowel)
(Coverage will vary depending on substrate condition and tile type)

Working time (+23°C) 2 hours

Fixing time (+23°C) 30 minutes (using freshly mixed mortar)

Walkability (grouting floors) Approx 24 hours

Grouting (walls) After approx 8 hours

Adhesion strength Dry 28 days: 2.0MPa
Freeze/thaw: 1.0MPa

Storage Approx 12 months when stored in the original unopened packaging in a dry place at 23°C

Packaging 20kg polylined paper sack

DISCLAIMER

The technical details, recommendations and other information contained in this data sheet are given in good faith and represent the best of our knowledge and experience at the time of printing. It is your responsibility to ensure that our products are used and handled correctly and in accordance with any applicable Australian Standard, our instructions and recommendations and only for the uses they are intended. We also reserve the right to update information without prior notice to you to reflect our ongoing research and development program.

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

The supply of our products and services is also subject to certain terms, warranties and exclusions, which may have already been disclosed to you in prior dealings or are otherwise available to you on request. You should make yourself familiar with them.

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd

New South Wales	Ph (02) 9851 9100	Fax (02) 9838 7970
Queensland	Ph (07) 3817 6000	Fax (07) 3881 3188
Victoria/Tasmania	Ph (03) 9308 9255	Fax (03) 9308 9332
South Australia	Ph (08) 8268 2511	Fax (08) 8345 3207
Western Australia	Ph (08) 9455 1644	Fax (08) 9455 1227

ARDEX New Zealand Ltd

Auckland	Ph (09) 5800 005	Fax (09) 5799 963
Wellington	Ph (04) 5685 949	Fax (04) 5686 376
Christchurch	Ph (03) 3843 029	Fax (03) 3849 779

Technical Services Toll Free: 1800 224 070

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