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# ARDEX Optima

Two-Part Premium Tile Adhesive

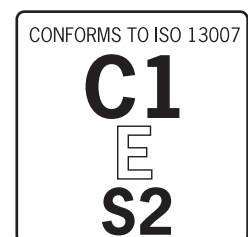
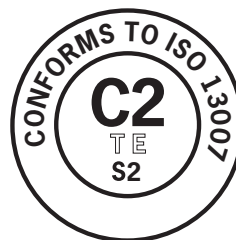
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High initial grab - reduces the need for support in wall tiling applications

Exceptional bonding - suitable for use over a number of difficult to adhere to surfaces

Highly water resistant - will not deteriorate in constant water immersion applications such as swimming pools

For internal and external use



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# ARDEX Optima

## Two-Part Premium Tile Adhesive

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### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX Optima is a premium grade two component wall and floor tile adhesive with exceptional adhesion qualities. The unique formula enables it to be used over many difficult substrates including sheet timber flooring. ARDEX Optima is suitable for all types of ceramic tiles and moisture insensitive natural stone on internal or external, wall and floor applications and is also suitable for continuous immersion applications such as swimming pools.

ARDEX Optima has a high initial grab which reduces the need for support in wall tiling applications, and is classified as a highly flexible adhesive, S2 in accordance with ISO 13007.

### FOR FIXING (TILE TYPES)

Fully vitrified and ceramic tiles, porcelain, concrete stone tiles e.g. terrazzo, natural stones (excluding moisture sensitive), glass and porcelain mosaics.

ARDEX Optima can also be used as a primer when tiling over sheet plywood and particleboard with ARDEX X56.

### TO (SUBSTRATES)

- Rendered brick and blockwork
- Tilt up and pre-cast concrete, mechanically prepared concrete, aerated concrete and cement renders
- Powder coated cladding, galvanised, stainless steel (degreased) and brass
- ARDEX liquid applied underlayment waterproofing membranes and Butynol
- Medium density fibre-cement sheet, compressed fibre-cement sheet, plasterboard
- Roughened fibreglass
- Existing ceramic tiles (thoroughly cleaned)
- Sheet timber flooring

### 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 shall be removed from the surface prior to 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 to CSP2 profile prior to tiling.

### CEMENT RENDER/SCREEDS

New renders and screeds should be finished with a wood float to the required surface regularity. Allow render / screeds to cure for 7 days prior to tiling.

### PLASTERBOARD/MEDIUM DENSITY FIBRE-CEMENT SHEET

Provided that these boards are firmly and rigidly fixed 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.

### COMPRESSED FIBRE-CEMENT SHEET

These sheets must be fixed strictly in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and be deemed suitable for the application by the manufacturer. Tiling over compressed fibre-cement sheets for external flooring applications should be carried out as per sheet manufacturer's recommendations and Australian Standard AS 3958.

### EXISTING VINYL TILES

These include sound, clean, glazed and unglazed tiles. If the area to be tiled is internal, tiles can be directly fixed using ARDEX Optima without mechanically grinding the glaze, following cleaning with sugar soap using an industrial grade scourer. Rinse and allow to dry. In permanently wet areas and externally, consult ARDEX Technical Services.

### AUTOCLAVED AERATED CONCRETE (AAC)

Remove loose particles from the surface. Apply two coats of ARDEX Multiprime and allow to dry.

### EXISTING VINYL TILES

Ensure tiles are well bonded to the substrate. Remove wax, polish and any loose tiles. Clean with sugar soap and a scourer then rinse with warm water.

Caution: Old vinyl tiles may contain asbestos and require special handling.

### METAL SURFACES

Remove rust and mill scale mechanically and any oil or grease with a solvent cleaner. Galvanised metal should be cleaned using high pressure water and scrubbing with a stiff broom. Prime with an appropriate metal primer that does not contain free metallic zinc or aluminium powder.

### PAINTED SURFACES

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

### BLOCKWORK AND BRICKWORK

Brickwork and blockwork must be sound, flush and level. Brickwork must be rendered, where other surfaces are not smooth and level

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the wall must be rendered. Ensure all voids and raked out mortar joints are filled and excess mortar pared back. Prime with ARDEX Multiprime. Do not use Optima as a render to smooth walls.

### BUTYNOL

Butynol must be cleaned to remove any dust or contaminants using ARDEX WPM 290. If more stubborn soils remain, contact ARDEX Technical Services for advice. Allow surface to dry before the commencement of tiling. Use a 12mm notched trowel to achieve a dry bed thickness of at least 4-5mm at 60°C and full coverage.

### FIBREGLASS

Gel coat must be removed to expose at least 80% of raw fibre. Remove loose dust and allow to dry prior to a skim coat being applied, allow to dry then tile. Not suitable for preformed shower bases, spas or underwater applications.

### ARDEX LIQUID APPLIED UNDERTILE WATERPROOFING MEMBRANES

ARDEX undertile waterproofing must be applied according to instructions and thoroughly dry prior to tiling. For more information about swimming pools consult Technical Bulletin TB-198.

### MIXING

The mixing ratio of ARDEX Optima is 1 part liquid (by weight or volume) to 3 parts powder (by weight). The unit is broken into six equal components for accurate measurement. That is, 1.7 litres liquid to 5kg powder. Stir the ARDEX Optima liquid thoroughly and pour the accurate measure into a suitable clean plastic container. Add ARDEX Optima powder to the liquid whilst stirring with a mechanical paddle type mixer. Stir until both parts are homogeneously mixed. Allow the mixture to stand for 2 minutes and restir before use.

For use as a primer over sheeted plywood and particleboard floors with ARDEX X56, mix 2 parts ARDEX Optima (powder) to 1 part of ARDEX Optima (liquid) as above. Pre-wet a 15mm nap (sponge) roller with the ARDEX Optima slurry before applying a thick coat of slurry over the timber substrate. Allow the slurry coat to dry fully before tiling over.

The pot life of the mixed mortar is approximately 45 minutes at 23°C and 50% relative humidity; do not mix more material than can be used within that time. Re-stirring the mixture can be carried out up until the pot life has expired. Do not add more liquid to reinvigorate the mix.

### 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. Refer to AS 3958 Table 5.6.2.2 - Trowel

size guidance depending on nominal tile size.

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 contact requirement is in accordance with AS 3958. Tiles with ribbed or keyed back profiles, large format tiles (400mm in either direction), should also be back 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.

Rough and uneven surfaces can be smoothed with ARDEX Optima; the surface must be left to dry before the tile installation can take place. ARDEX Optima can be applied at a bed thickness greater than 1mm or less than 8mm.

Note: The total bed thickness must not exceed 8mm, which can be applied in two layers of 4mm, including the final bed of adhesive used to fix tiles.

Note: Apply at a minimum 2mm bed thickness over blockwork and AAC.

ARDEX Optima has an open time of 25 minutes, and an adjustment time of approximately 20 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 AS 3958.

### GROUTING

Grouting can proceed once the tile bed is sufficiently firm, usually 24 hours after fixing 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.

Where movement is anticipated, mix ARDEX cement based grout with ARDEX Grout Booster.

### COVERAGE

As a tile adhesive

Coverage for the Mini and Large kits of ARDEX Optima is approximated in the below table:

	6mm trowel	10mm trowel
Mini Kit	3m <sup>2</sup>	2m <sup>2</sup>
Large Kit	16m <sup>2</sup>	10m <sup>2</sup>

As a general guide, use a 6mm notched trowel for walls and 10mm notched trowel for floors. The coverage will vary depending on substrate condition, tile type and application technique.

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### As a primer over timber floor

1kg of mixed ARDEX Optima slurry is sufficient for approximately 1.2m<sup>2</sup> when applied on the floor with a pre-wetted 15mm nap roller.

### PACKAGING

ARDEX Optima mini kit powder is packed in poly bags – net weight 5kg and liquid is packed in plastic container – net 1.7kg

ARDEX Optima large kit powder is packed in poly bags – net weight 6 x 5kg and liquid is packed in a plastic pail – net weight 10kg.

### SHELF LIFE

ARDEX Optima 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:

- Excepting external grade plywood, timber is considered an unsuitable substrate for tiling in external situations due to moisture instability. Do not use ARDEX Optima over timber in external situations.
- The integrity of bitumen membranes cannot be guaranteed once tiled over and "bleeding" may occur. Bitumen is not considered a suitable surface to be tiled using ARDEX Optima.
- For setting of moisture sensitive natural stones, please refer to products in the ARDEX Natural Stone System.
- ARDEX Optima is not suitable for use over epoxies (except ARDEX WPM 300), polyurethanes and chlorinated rubber due to the 'anti-adhesive' nature of these products.
- Before any substrate preparation, installation or finishing methods relating to ARDEX product are undertaken, please be aware of any potential risks and use appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment). This may involve contacting substrate manufacturers for Safety Data Sheets.

### TECHNICAL PROPERTIES

Colour	White Powder / Milky White Liquid
Mixing Ratio	1 vol liquid: 2 vol powder
Mixing Ratio	1 vol liquid: 3 vol powder

### APPLICATION PROPERTIES AT 23°C AND 50% RH

Open Time	25 mins
Adjustment Time	20 mins
Grouting Time	8 hours
Pot Life	45 mins
Underfloor Heating	Yes

### MECHANICAL PROPERTIES (ISO 13007)

#### Tensile Adhesion Strength after

28 Days Dry	1.0 - 2.0 MPa
Water Immersion	1.0 - 2.0 MPa
Heat	1.0 - 2.0 MPa
Freeze Thaw	1.0 - 2.0 MPa
Classification	C2 TE S2

### SAFETY DATA

#### Optima Powder

Wear protective gloves, clothing, eye and face protection. Avoid breathing dust/fumes. Wash all exposed body areas thoroughly after handling. Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Immediately call a doctor. IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of water and soap. If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. Store locked up. Dispose of contents/container to authorised hazardous or special waste collection point in accordance with any local regulation. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at [ardexaustralia.com](http://ardexaustralia.com).

This product causes skin irritation. May cause an allergic skin reaction. Causes serious eye damage. May cause respiratory irritation.

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### SAFETY DATA

#### Optima Liquid

Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, eye protection and face protection. Do not breathing mist/vapours/spray. Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of water. If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice / attention. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. Store locked up. Dispose of contents/container to authorised hazardous or special waste collection point in accordance with any local regulation. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at [ardexaustralia.com](http://ardexaustralia.com)

This product may cause an allergic skin reaction.

### 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, 2 Buda Way Kempas Creek NSW 2178; 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".

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