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PRODUCT DATA SHEET

# ARDEX-FLEX FL

## Rapid Setting Tile Grout

### Features

Rapid hardening - receives foot traffic in 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours

Ideal for commercial and domestic environments such as swimming pools, showers and kitchens

For tile joints 3-15mm wide

**NEW** - Now available in 32 colours - see colour selector\*

Suitable for wall and floor tiling

For internal and external applications



\*For a copy of the Grout Colour Selector and Coverage Guide, please call ARDEX Customer Services on 01440 714939



Reg No. FM 1207

ARDEX UK LIMITED  
Homefield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 8QP UK.  
Telephone: +44 (0)1440 714939  
Fax: +44 (0)1440 716660  
Technical Services Fax: +44 (0)1440 716667  
Email: [technical.services@ardex.co.uk](mailto:technical.services@ardex.co.uk)  
ARDEX online: [www.ardex.co.uk](http://www.ardex.co.uk)

# ARDEX-FLEX FL

## Rapid Setting Tile Grout

### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX-FLEX FL is a cement-based grouting compound with excellent flexible and water repellent properties built-in, without the need to add a separate admix. The BS EN 13888 classification for ARDEX-FLEX FL is CG2, "an improved cementitious grout with additional characteristics."

ARDEX-FLEX FL grout is suitable for grouting joints between porcelain, ceramic, natural stone and quarry tiles, as well as extruded tiles and glass blockwork.

The hardened ARDEX-FLEX FL is weather resistant, unaffected by water and can be used for internal and external tiling in dry and wet locations, including swimming pools with non-aggressive water conditions. ARDEX-FLEX FL can be applied to both wall and floor tile joints from 3mm to 15mm wide and can receive foot traffic after 1½ hours at 20°C. ARDEX-FLEX FL has enhanced adhesion characteristics, whilst well filled joints and cleaning off are easily achieved.

### PREPARATION

Ensure the tiles are firmly fixed and the joints are clean, free of dust, excess adhesive or bedding mortar etc.

### MIX PROPORTIONS

The mix proportions by volume are approximately:-

1 part water : 4 parts ARDEX-FLEX FL powder.

A 10kg unit of ARDEX-FLEX FL requires approximately 2 litres of water.

### MIXING

Add the powder to the required amount of clean water in a clean container whilst stirring thoroughly until a creamy, easily worked mortar is obtained. The mortar can be adjusted to a thicker consistency when grouting wall tiles with joints wider than 10mm.

The mixed grout has a working time of approximately 30 minutes at 20°C.

Higher temperatures will shorten and lower temperatures will extend the working time.

**NOTE:** Certain types of tile may be prone to surface discolouration or scratching when using this grout, e.g. some made of natural stone and some absorbent, textured or soft glazed ceramic tiles. Consult BS 5385 : Part 1 for further information or consult the tile manufacturer/distributor for advice. If in doubt carry out a trial application.

Additional information on natural stone products may be found in the ARDEX Natural Stone Tiling Guide.

### APPLICATION

Using a rubber squeegee or rubber backed trowel, work the mixed grout

thoroughly into the joints ensuring they are completely filled. Excess grout should be removed as work proceeds and any residues left on the tile face can be removed by wiping off with a damp sponge up to 30 minutes after application. Any dry film remaining on the tile surface can easily be removed by polishing off with a dry cloth when the grout has hardened in the joints.

Apply at temperatures above 5°C.

### PACKAGING

ARDEX-FLEX FL is packed in paper sacks incorporating a polyethylene liner - net weight 2.5kg or 10kg.

### STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

ARDEX-FLEX FL contains a reducing agent to control the level of Chromium VI when mixed prior to use. ARDEX-FLEX FL must be stored in unopened packaging, clear of the ground in cool dry conditions and protected from excessive draught. If stored correctly, as detailed above, and used within 12 months of the date shown on the packaging, the activity of the reducing agent (added to control the level of soluble Chromium VI) will be maintained and this product will contain, when mixed with water, no more than 0.0002% (2ppm) soluble Chromium VI of the total dry weight of the cement content of this product. ARDEX-FLEX FL must not be used after the end of the declared storage period.

### PRECAUTIONS

ARDEX-FLEX FL contains more than 20% Portland cement and is therefore classified as irritating to eyes and skin. For this reason the following precautions should be observed:-

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.

### DISPOSAL

Dispose of waste and residue in accordance with local authority guidelines.

For further information, consult the relevant Health and Safety data sheet.

**NOTE:** For heavily trafficked Industrial areas especially where the grout will be subjected to high point loads ARDEX GK, or ideally ARDEX WA Epoxide Grout should be used in preference to ARDEX-FLEX FL.

For natural stones that may be subject to water staining, ARDEX MG grout should be used.

For soft glazed tiles prone to scratching, ARDEX F4 or ARDEX-FLEX FS grouts should be considered.

### COVERAGE

This will depend upon the tile size, joint width and depth and the Grout Coverage Figure, which for ARDEX-FLEX FL is 1.75.

Use the following to estimate the approximate grout requirements for square or rectangular tiles:-

Stage (all measurements in mm).

1. ADD length and breadth of tile together.
2. MULTIPLY result by joint width.
3. MULTIPLY result by joint depth.
4. MULTIPLY result by Coverage Figure (i.e. for FL 1.75).
5. DIVIDE result by length of tile.
6. DIVIDE result by breadth of tile.  
- the result is the material requirement in kg per sq. metre.

### Summary

Material required is:-

$$\frac{(\text{length} + \text{breadth}) \times \text{width} \times \text{depth}}{\text{length} + \text{breadth}} \times 1.75 = \text{kg/m}^2$$

**Quick and easy grout coverage can be calculated using the grout calculator at ARDEX online: [www.ardex.co.uk/calculator.asp](http://www.ardex.co.uk/calculator.asp) or by requesting a copy of the Grout Colour Selector and Coverage Guide from ARDEX Customer Services on 01440 714939, where we have worked out the coverage for you.**

### TECHNICAL DATA

Working time	approx. 30 minutes
Initial Set (Vicat)	approx. 60 minutes
Final Set (Vicat)	approx. 75 minutes
Powder Bulk Density	approx. 1.3 kg/litre
Fresh Mortar Density	approx. 2.1 kg/litre

### Brinell Hardness

after 1 day	approx. 35.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
after 3 days	approx. 40.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
after 7 days	approx. 50.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
Temperature resistance	Up to approx. 60°C

**NOTE:** The information supplied in our literature or given by our employees is based upon extensive experience and, together with that supplied by our agents or distributors, is given in good faith in order to help you. Our Company policy is one of continuous Research and Development; we therefore reserve the right to update this information at any time without prior notice. We also guarantee the consistent high quality of our products; however, as we have no control over site conditions or the execution of the work, we accept no liability for any loss or damage which may arise as a result thereof.