

# ARDEX X 32<sup>™</sup> MICROTEC<sup>®</sup> Exterior Self-Drying Thin-to-Thick Bed Mortar

Use to set all types of tile and stone on exterior or interior applications

Can be used as a thin-set, medium- or thick-bed mortar Ideal for use with moisture-sensitive stone
Microfiber Reinforced Technology
Fast setting – grout in 3 hours
Excellent sag resistance

Easy to mix and apply

Use for floors, walls and countertops





ARDEX ENGINEERED CEMENTS 400 Ardex Park Drive Aliquippa, PA 15001 USA Tel: 724-203-5000

Toll Free: 888-512-7339 Fax: 724-203-5001 www.ardex.com

## ARDEX X 32™ MICROTEC®

### **Exterior Self-Drying Thin-to-Thick Bed Mortar**

#### **Description and Usage**

Use for setting all types of tile and stone, including moisture-sensitive natural stone, marble, granite, gauged stone tile and mosaics. Use over exterior concrete and masonry surfaces and common interior surfaces, including exterior-grade plywood.

#### **Substrate Preparation**

ARDEX X 32 adheres to both dry and damp substrates that are structurally sound, solid and free from any contaminant that can act as a bond breaker. Plywood substrates must be APA-rated, Type 1 exterior-grade plywood. Floor surfaces must have minimal variation in plane or slope. Existing wallboards must be sound and solidly anchored to the structural components in the wall. The plane of wall surfaces must be plumb and true. Expansion joints must be provided over existing moving joints and cracks, and where substrate materials change composition or direction. Refer to ANSI A 108 AN-2 "General Requirements for Subsurfaces" and the Tile Council of North America's "Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation" for detailed information on surface preparation and guidelines for substrate construction.

ARDEX X 32 may be used to repair or pre-level exterior or interior surfaces up to 1" thick. Allow the mortar to harden at least 3 hours before proceeding with the tile installation. If a scratch coat is used to smooth rough or uneven substrates, allow it to harden for approximately 1 hour before tiling. Should interior pre-leveling or subfloor repair be required, use ARDEX AM  $100^{\text{TM}}$ , ARDEX TL PATCHTM, ARDEX EB 2, ARDEX TL 1000 or ARDEX LIQUID BACKERBOARDTM, as appropriate.

Highly absorbent substrates must be scratch coated with ARDEX X 32 or primed with ARDEX P 51<sup>™</sup> PRIMER diluted 1:3 with water (interior applications in dry areas only). Existing tiles, metal, glass and other non-porous surfaces must be primed with ARDEX P 82<sup>™</sup> ULTRA PRIME (interior applications in dry areas only) or ARDEX 8+9<sup>™</sup> Waterproofing Membrane (dry or wet areas).

Moisture sensitive tile and stone may be installed with ARDEX X  $32^{TM}$  over dry, interior surfaces only.

#### **Mixing and Application**

For one 40 lb (18 kg) bag of ARDEX X 32, use 5 3/4 to 6 1/2 quarts (5.4 to 6.1 L) of clean water. Pour the water in the mixing container first, and then add the ARDEX X 32. For best results, mix with an ARDEX T-2 Ring Paddle and 1/2" heavy-duty drill. To mix smaller quantities by hand, use 3.25 parts powder to 1 part water by volume. Use a margin trowel and mix vigorously for 2 to 3 minutes. Just prior to application on the substrate, the mixture should be stirred again to ensure a creamy, smooth, lump-free consistency. The pot life of ARDEX X 32 is approximately 60 minutes at 70°F (21°C). If surface skinning occurs within this time, remix before using.

Installation should proceed in accordance with ANSI A 108.5.

After mixing, apply the mortar to the substrate with the flat side of a trowel to obtain a solid mechanical bond. Apply to an area no greater than can be covered with tile while the mortar remains plastic (approx. 10 to 20 minutes open time, depending on substrate and job site conditions). Do not apply tiles onto skinned-over mortar. Comb the mortar with a notched trowel of sufficient depth to ensure that the tiles are covered uniformly over their entire surface. The type and size of the tiles will dictate the size of the notched trowel to be used. The position of the tiles may be corrected for approximately 20 to 30 minutes after installation.

#### Grouting

Tiles can be grouted in 3 hours. ARDEX recommends the use of ARDEX FLEX SANDED™ GROUT for non-moisture sensitive tiles. For grouting moisture-sensitive stone, ARDEX recommends the use if ARDEX WA™ EPOXY GROUT & ADHESIVE. For soft joints, ARDEX recommends ARDEX FLEX CAULK™.



#### **Notes**

This is a fast setting material. The pot life of ARDEX X 32 is up to 60 minutes at 70°F (21°C). If surface skinning occurs within this time, remix the mortar before using.

When setting certain types of tiles, it may be necessary to trowel a layer of mortar on the back of each tile prior to placing it on the combed mortar bed in order to achieve the required mortar-to-tile contact specified. Press each tile firmly into the freshly combed mortar to ensure maximum mortar contact with tile.

For cases requiring waterproofing, please refer to the ARDEX Technical Brochures for ARDEX waterproofing compounds.

For setting and grouting tiles in pools, hot tubs and water-holding tanks, use ARDEX WA EPOXY GROUT & ADHESIVE.

ARDEX recommends the installation of test areas to confirm the suitability of the product for the intended use.

ARDEX X 32 must be worked at material, surface and ambient temperatures over 50°F (10°C). Please note when working at temperatures above 85°F (29°C), the pot life, open time and adjustment time of ARDEX X 32 may be reduced.

Never mix with cement or additives other than ARDEX approved products. Observe the basic rules of tile work.

#### **Precautions**

ARDEX X 32 contains Portland cement and sand aggregate. Avoid eye and skin contact. Mix in a well-ventilated area and avoid breathing powder or dust. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Carefully read and follow all cautions and warnings on product label. For complete safety information, please refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet or visit our website at www.ardex.com.

(28 DAYS)
300 psi
500 psi
(28 DAYS)
250 psi

#### Technical Data According to ARDEX Quality Standards

All data based on a mixing ratio of 3.25 parts powder to 1 part water by volume at  $70^{\circ}$ F (21°C).

**Mixing Ratio:** 5 3/4 to 6 1/2 quarts ( 5.4 to 6.1 L)

of water to one 40 lb (18 kg) bag

For smaller batches, use 3.25 parts of powder to 1 part

water by volume.

**Coverage (approx.):** 80 sq. ft. per bag using a

1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" Sq-notched trowel

60 sq. ft. per bag using a 1/4" x 3/8" x 1/4" Sq-notched trowel

40 sq. ft. per bag using a 1/2" x 1/2" x 1/2" Sq-notched trowel

**Open time:** Up to 20 minutes

**Working Time:** 20 to 30 minutes

**Pot Life:** Up to 60 minutes

Time to Grout: 3 hours

**Color:** Gray and White

**Packaging:** 40 lb (18 kg) bag net weight

**Storage:** Store in a cool dry area.

Do not leave bags exposed

to sun.

**Shelf Life:** One year if unopened

**Warranty:** Please see the ARDEX

SystemOne Warranty

Brochure.

