



CHOICESTIK

GLUE

- White
- Internal / Covered External Use
- Australian Made

DESCRIPTION

ABA Choicestik is a white cement-based wall and floor tile adhesive and is non slump. Mix with water to achieve a mortar suitable for use on walls and floors in internal areas and externally or commercially when mixed with ARDEX E90.

Mix with diluted ARDEX E 90 when tiling externally over heated slabs and where movement is anticipated. ABA Choicestik meets the Green Building Council of Australia Green Star IEQ-13 requirements for Ceramic Tile Adhesives.

FOR FIXING (TILE TYPES)

Ceramic tiles, natural stones (excluding moisture sensitive), glass mosaics and porcelain. For heavy use including external or commercial applications use with ARDEX E90.

TO (SUBSTRATES)

- Concrete, renders, screeds.
- Heated slabs with ARDEX E90
- ARDEX liquid applied waterproofing membranes over concrete/ screed substrates.
- Internal Fibre cement sheet and plasterboard
- External Compressed Fibre cement sheet on floors mix with ARDEX E90
- Concrete swimming pools with ARDEX E90

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. Prime with ARDEX Multiprime or ABA Abaprime over the areas on plasterboard where there is jointing compound.

Concrete

This includes precast, in-situ and wood floated concrete. As concrete exhibits drying shrinkage, allow to cure for at least 28 days prior to tiling. Any surface laitance, concrete sealers, curing compounds, and other materials shall be removed from the surface prior to tiling. Steel trowel finished concrete should be roughened mechanically to remove laitance and provide a good key for tiling. The surface shall be true and level and pitched to drains where required. The concrete shall 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 prior to tiling.

Cement Render/ Screeds

New renders and screeds shall 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/ Medium Density Fibre-Cement Sheet on Walls

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.

ABA and ARDEX Liquid Applied Undertile Waterproofing Membranes

ABA and ARDEX Liquid Applied Undertile Waterproofing Membranes must be applied according to instructions and thoroughly dry prior to tiling. It is suggested that ARDEX E90 is added to ABA Choicestik to improve adhesion to the waterproofing membrane.

MIXING

ABA Choicestik powder is added to clean water in a large clean container whilst stirring vigorously with a paddle mixer. Mix thoroughly to give a lump free easily worked mortar of a thick creamy consistency.

A 20kg bag of ABA Choicestik requires approximately 6 Litres of water.

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

Do not apply at temperatures below 10°C. The pot life of the mixed mortar is approximately 3 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 Australian Standard AS 3958.

Substrate surface, type and size of the tiles will determine the selection of the trowel. As a general guide use a minimum 6 x 6 x 6mm notch trowel for walls and minimum 10 x 10 x 10mm notch trowel for floor tiling. ABA Choicestik can be applied at a bed thickness greater than 3mm and 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.

ABA Choicestik has an open time of 15 minutes and an adjustment time of 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 Australian Standard AS 3958.



GROUTING

Grouting can proceed once the tile bed has hardened sufficiently so that tiles will not be dislodged. Grouting and traffic may be allowed 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.

COVERAGE

20kg of ABA Choicestik is sufficient for approximately 10m² on walls, using a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel and 7m² 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

ABA Choicestik is packed in polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

SHELF LIFE

ABA Choicestik 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:

- Do not use over metal or similar substrates.
- ABA Choicestik should not be used over substrates subject to shrinkage and other movement e.g. timber. ARDEX provides other systems.
- For setting of moisture sensitive and dimensionally unstable natural stones, please refer to products in the ARDEX Natural Stone System.
- Dimensional instability in natural stone ranges is often difficult to detect visually and may require thermal and moisture stability testing to ensure that adhesive recommendations can be warranted. Contact your tile supplier for further information or ARDEX Technical Services for information and testing.

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.abaaustralia.com.au

TECHNICAL DATA

Colour: White Powder
Mixing Ratio: 6L water per 20kg powder

Application Properties at 23°C and 50% RH

Open Time: 15 minutes
Adjustment Time: 20 minutes
Grouting Time: 24 hours
Pot Life: 2 hours
Underfloor Heating: Yes with ARDEX E90

Mechanical Properties (ISO 13007)

Tensile adhesion strength after:
28 days dry: >0.5MPa
Water Immersion: >0.5MPa
Heat Ageing: >0.5MPa
Freeze Thaw: >0.5MPa
Classification: C1 T

PRODUCT GUARANTEE



Ardex Australia Pty Ltd (“we” or “us”) guarantees this product (also referred to as “our goods”) is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 15 years from the date of application of the product if such application occurs within this product’s specified shelf life. 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 the cost of such replacement or repair, 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 our published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence and faulty workmanship on the part of any installer or applicator of the product. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (address: 7/20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; phone: 1800224070; email: technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com), identify the product and provide evidence of your purchase and the subsequent application 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 and to undertake any inspections and tests necessary to establish your rights under this guarantee. 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”.

ARDEX AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

ABA Products manufactured by
ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd

20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147
technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com
www.abaaustralia.com.au

ABA Technical Services Toll Free: 1800 300 863

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. This datasheet was issued in October 2019 and is valid for 3 years, in some instances a newer version may be published. Always refer to www.abaaustralia.com.au for the latest technical data. © ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd 2019. All aforementioned products are the trademarks of ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd, its licensors and affiliates.