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# ARDEX X44 TROPICAL GLUE

## Flexible Rubber Modified Wall and Floor Tile Adhesive

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High yield with excellent coverage

Flexible, achieves S1 classification

Specially formulated for improved working and applications in tropical climates

**TROPICAL  
FORMULA**



CONFORMS TO ISO 13007

**C2**  
**E**  
**S1**

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**ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd**  
2 Buda way  
Kemps Creek NSW 2178  
Phone: 1300 788 780  
technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com  
[ardexaustralia.com](http://ardexaustralia.com)

**ARDEX New Zealand Ltd**  
15 Alfred Street, Onehunga Auckland,  
New Zealand 1061  
Phone: 0800 227 339  
info@ardexnz.com  
[ardex.co.nz](http://ardex.co.nz)

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### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX X44 Tropical Glue is a rubber-modified wall and floor adhesive for fixing ceramic tiles in internal and external situations (with satisfactory falls). It can be used over render, plasterboard, fibre-cement sheets and concrete in situations where minimal movement is anticipated.

### FOR FIXING (TILE TYPES)

Fully vitrified and ceramic tiles, porcelain, natural stones (excluding moisture sensitive), and mosaics.

### SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

- Concrete, renders, screeds
- Medium density Fibre-cement sheet
- Plasterboard
- ARDEX Liquid applied undertile waterproofing membranes
- Existing ceramic tiles (internal dry areas)

### 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 should 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 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 roughened prior to tiling.

### CEMENT RENDERS/SCREEDS

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

### PLASTERBOARD/MEDIUM DENSITY FIBRE-CEMENT SHEET (Internal walls only)

Tiles can be fixed directly provided that these boards are firmly and rigidly fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to adequately support the tile. Priming with ARDEX Multiprime is recommended for fibre-cement sheet but is not usually necessary for plasterboard except when jointing compound is used.

### ARDEX LIQUID APPLIED UNDERTILE WATERPROOFING MEMBRANES

ARDEX undertile waterproofing must be applied according to instructions and thoroughly dry prior to tiling.

### EXISTING CERAMIC TILES (Internal dry areas only)

These include sound, clean, glazed and unglazed tiles. Existing tiles must be firm and stable. Roughen the surface by mechanical means, clean off contamination and dust before tiling. Ensure that at least 80% of the glaze is removed.

### MIXING

ARDEX X44 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. Mix for at least 2 minutes allow to stand for 5 minutes, and mix a second time for 2 minutes. A 20kg bag of ARDEX X44 requires approximately 8 litres of water.

The consistency of the adhesive can be adjusted slightly to suit site conditions and size, weight and type of tiles to be fixed. Do not apply at substrate temperatures below 10°C. The pot life of the mixed mortar is approximately 2 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 AS 3958.

Substrate surface, type and size of the tiles will determine the selection of the trowel. Refer to AS 3958 for the trowel size guidance depending on nominal tile size. Or 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 - 21. 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.

ARDEX X44 has an open time of 20 minutes and an adjustment time of 25 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.

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### 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.

### COVERAGE

20kg of ARDEX X44 is sufficient for approximately 13 - 15m<sup>2</sup> on walls and 8 - 10m<sup>2</sup> on floors.

### PACKAGING

ARDEX X44 is packed in polylined paper sacks – net weight 20kg.

### SHELF LIFE

ARDEX X44 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:

- ARDEX X44 is only suitable for minimal movement. ARDEX provides other systems for setting tiles on substrates where movement is anticipated.
- For setting of moisture sensitive natural stones, please refer to products in the ARDEX Natural Stone System.
- ARDEX X44 is not suitable for use directly over timber floors or fibre cement sheeted timber floors.
- Do not use ARDEX X44 in continuous immersion applications e.g., swimming pools, tanks, etc. ARDEX provides other systems.
- Covered external tiling and shower recess floors must have adequate falls for drainage.

### SAFETY DATA

This product may cause an allergic skin irritation. This product may cause respiratory irritation and causes serious eye damage. This product is suspected of causing genetic defects and may cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

In case of contact with the eyes, remove contact lenses if present and easy to do, rinse with running water until advised to stop by a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes. Wear protective gloves, clothing, eye and face protection. Avoid inhaling dust/fumes. Ensure adequate ventilation during mixing and application. Store locked up. Check with your local Council regarding the disposal of contents, dispose of packaging thoughtfully. Keep out of the reach of children. Call a doctor if you feel unwell. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at [ardexaustralia.com](http://ardexaustralia.com)

### TECHNICAL PROPERTIES

Colour	Off White
Mixing Ratio (per 20kg)	8 litres

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

Open Time	20 mins
Adjustment Time	25 mins
Grouting Time	24 hours
Pot Life	2 hours
Sagging	None
Underfloor Heating	Yes (Aged concrete)

### MECHANICAL PROPERTIES (ISO 13007) Tensile Adhesion Strength after

28 Days Dry	≥0.5 MPa
Water Immersion	≥0.5 MPa
Heat	≥0.5 MPa
Freeze Thaw	≥0.5 MPa
Transverse Deformation	≥0.5 MPa
Classification	C2 E S1

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### 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 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”.

### 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 Standards. Our instructions and recommendations are only for the uses they are intended. Users are advised to confirm that this product is suitable for their application and conforms with the specifications of the system. 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 affect 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.

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This data sheet was issued in December 2024 and is valid for 3 years, in some instances a newer version may be published. Always refer to [ardexaustralia.com](http://ardexaustralia.com) for the latest technical data from ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd.