



TECHNICAL BULLETIN – TB186

CLEANING / MAINTENANCE OF ARDEX GROUTS

JULY 2024

INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

ARDEX grout surfaces do not require special maintenance beyond normal cleaning and sensible housekeeping. However, for highly industrial and special applications such as pharmaceutical, cosmetic, food, and health industries, where a high degree of cleanliness and safety is required, a more stringent maintenance regime may be employed through frequent cleaning. This technical bulletin outlines the general cleaning maintenance guide for establishing such cleaning regimes.

ARDEX EG 15 and ARDEX WA epoxy grouts are typically used in areas where high chemical resistance is required. Still, this Technical Bulletin also refers to the cementitious grouts in our range, such as ARDEX FG 8, ARDEX FS-DD, and ARDEX WJ50.

A GENERAL GUIDE TO PROPER CLEANING METHODS

- a. Broom-sweep all dust and loose particles from the surface
- b. Use special-purpose cleaning agents such as degreasers, sanitizing agents, deodorizing agents, detergents, and diluted caustic solutions to remove surface contaminants. If bleach is used, ensure the solution is well diluted with water, as strong bleach can affect the oxides in grouts. Ensure proper PPE is worn.
- c. Spread the cleaning agent evenly over the surface and allow it to react on the surface.
- d. Clean the surface using any of the following methods
 - Hand and/or Mechanical Scrubbing
 - High-Pressure water and Steam Method
 - Mopping
- e. Remove the solution from the surface using a wet vacuum or squeegee to floor drains. If mopping is used, keep clean rinsing water in a separate bucket.
- f. Repeat steps **c** and **d**, if necessary, until the surface is completely clean.

NOTES:

For any ARDEX grouts available, always conduct a spot cleaning test in an inconspicuous area before proceeding. This will ensure no adverse effect, such as staining, occurs. For additional information, refer to the ARDEX EG15 and ARDEX WA Epoxy Chemical Resistance Tables on their product Technical Datasheets.



Building tomorrow

ARDEX EG15 and ARDEX WA epoxy grouts can handle an acidic cleaning solution, but ARDEX FG 8, ARDEX FS-DD, and ARDEX WJ 50 cannot. The cleaning agent must be neutral or alkaline, as cementitious products such as these will corrode in contact with acid.

Ensure detergent-contaminated water is disposed of as per federal and state laws.

This document can't provide a timeline for maintenance cleaning as it is not site-specific. Some environments, such as kitchens, must be washed daily, while others require a weekly cleaning.

MAINTENANCE

Contamination can permeate via open gouges or other unrepaired damage, undermining the grout system. Therefore, annual inspections are recommended so that damage from abuse, abrasion, and other normal building movement can be repaired promptly.

ARDEX EG15 and WA Epoxy grouts are not suitable for use in areas subject to long-term contact with high concentrations of chicken fat

IMPORTANT

This Technical Bulletin provides guideline information only and is not intended to be interpreted as a general specification for the application/installation of the products described. Since each project potentially differs in exposure/condition, specific recommendations may vary from the information contained herein. For recommendations for specific applications/installations, contact your nearest Ardex Australia Office.

DISCLAIMER

The information presented in this Technical Bulletin is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. No warranty is implied or given as to its completeness or accuracy in describing the performance or suitability of a product for a particular application. Users are asked to check that the literature in their possession is the latest issue.

REASON FOR REVISION-ISSUER

Content review, change of company slogan and address

DOCUMENT REVIEW REQUIRED

24 months or whenever third-party suppliers change their recommendations.

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