

WINTER TIPS OF THE TRADE

Baby it sure is cold outside!
Check out some awesome winter tips of the trade by the team at ARDEX.



PLAN AHEAD!

Get the builder to cover the roof if there is a chance of rain and you won't get there for a few days

Burning the surface of the plywood with a gas torch to dry it is an unacceptable practice, Health and Safety/Firewise. It could also effect the glue laminates and could cause premature failures!



DON'T SLOW IT DOWN!

Remember our products are tested to a standard- 23 degrees 50% RH to get their dry times.

If its 11.5 degrees and 50% RH they will take twice as long to dry. Temperature is not constant throughout the day so things wiiiillllllll slllllllooooooowwww doooooownnnn.



DOUBLE DOWN!

Two component products will go off faster. For example: WPM 002 Vs WPM 001

WPM 002 will dry by hydration and chemically cure, whereas WPM 001 is reliant on hydration cure.



SET THE MOOD!

Internal wet areas- Get the ambient temperatures up when you first arrive onsite. Plug in a portable fan heater in the room. Shut the door whilst you get all your gear organised. You're not paying for site power so no harm in getting the temps up a little!



VENT IT OUT!

Increase the amount of ventilation by the use of fans which will raise the rate of evaporation. This is useful for slow drying membranes and mastic materials. However the air must not be supplied by a heater as this can cause cracking and should only be used on floor levellers after the material has hard cured.



KEEP IT COOL!

Don't use water heated above 30 degrees.

We know it's human nature to want to be cosy but make it a little warmer and you'll start complaining about your product going off cracker jack lightning fast in the bucket, or a mixer being stuck.



DON'T YOU DARE!

- DO NOT store materials outside or where they may drop below 0°C.
- DO NOT work in the coldest part of the day in an uncontrolled environment.





LET ME BORROW!

Try your luck and borrow your missus' hair dryer... A blessing for warming up STB Tapes or when detailing with STB Tapes. (Unless you have a Leister gun)

P.S. If you get caught "borrowing", it wasn't our suggestion!



TIMING IS EVERYTHING!

During the installation, factor increased drying times between each step in the job. Very important if working with impervious floor coverings like porcelain over a membrane.

The only way for the glue to dry is through the grout lines.



CHECK YA DATA SHEETS!

Where the product data sheet allows reduced water additions, use the lowest level consistent with the quoted minimum and workability.



KEEP ME COSY!

You wouldn't leave your wife or kids in the car overnight, so don't leave your products behind! if there is any chance of snow or frost, keep them cosy and bring them inside.



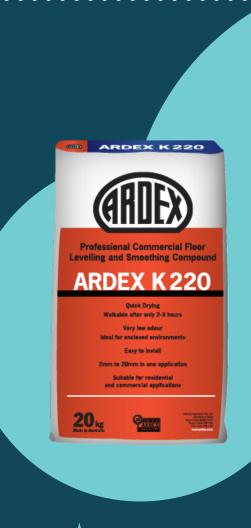
WEATHER CHECK!

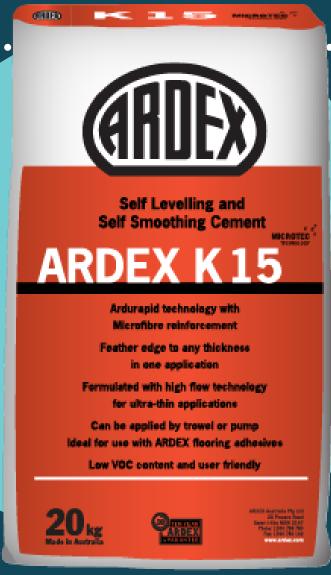
If the daytime temperature is acceptable, but may drop significantly at night, only use products until around midday to allow the material to form an initial set prior to the onset of cold temperatures at night.



DON'T GET TOO COLD!

DO NOT work when the temperature is below 5°C. Where and whenever possible, try to minimise working below 10°C.







KEEP IT RAPID!

Consider using ARDEX Rapid Dry products such as **ARDEX K15**.

The mix water is chemically locked inside rather than relying on hydration style levers such as ARDEX K220.