



CERAMAMIX

Latex Portland Cement Mortar

Product Information

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CERAMAMIX is an economical contractor grade, polymer modified dry-set mortar used as a bond coat for setting porcelain tile, ceramic tile, natural marble and stone for service in residential and commercial use. It is used in a mortar bed as thin as 3/32"-3/16" after the tiles have been properly embedded.

PACKAGING

COLOR: Gray or White.
TEXTURE: Powder consisting of Portland cement, polymer additives, graded silica sand, organic and inorganic chemicals.
PACKAGING: 50 lbs. Multi-wall bags.

INSTALLATION

Preparatory Work

All surfaces on which tiles are to be set must be structurally sound, cured a minimum of 28 days, completely clean and free of frost and in an atmosphere above 40° F and below 90° F during the initial (72 hours) curing of the installation.

Cementitious Substrates

Area must be dry and free of efflorescence, grease, oil, dirt, dust, paint, sealers, curing compounds, asphalt, cut back residue, old adhesives and other foreign matter. Cleaning may be accomplished via mechanical sanding, scraping, chipping or shot blasting. Smooth steel troweled concrete must be scarified or shot-blasted to provide a roughened surface.

Non-Cementitious Substrates

Surfaces such as wood and old plaster or painted surfaces that provide bonding problems should be covered with a cleavage membrane topped with a 3/8" to 3/4" reinforced mortar bed for walls and a 1-1/4" reinforced mortar bed for floors. After a minimum of 20 hours, the dry-set mortar may be applied to the mortar bed.

Tile Over Tile and Other Surfaces

It is absolutely essential that the existing unglazed tile and other surfaces be well bonded. Substrates must be prepared in accordance with the requirements for cementitious surfaces. Remove all waxes, sealers and coatings that would interfere with the bond. It is also necessary to abrade the surface to assure proper bonding. Other surfaces include existing cement based terrazzo, brick, marble and stone.

Expansion Joints

Shall be installed in accordance with local building codes. See EJ 171 in T.C.N.A. Handbook for detailed specifications. Never bridge an expansion, contraction, or construction joint. Remove all thinset, mortar, grout and debris from joints before sealant is placed.

Mixing

CERAMAMIX should be only added to clean potable water (60°-80°F). Mix **CERAMAMIX** with approximately 5 quarts of clean water to obtain a smooth paste consistency mortar. Allow mix to slake for 10 to 15 minutes, then remix before using. If mechanical mixer is used, it must be a low rpm (300 or less) to avoid entrapping air into the mortar. Do not use mortar after initial set in bucket. During use, remix mortar occasionally.

BASIC USE

CERAMAMIX may be used for setting absorptive, semi-vitreous, vitreous and impervious tiles (except glass) in residential or commercial service areas. It may be used for interior or exterior applications on floors and interior applications on walls. It is water cleanable, non-flammable and requires no soaking of tiles.

AREA OF USE

Suitable backings, when clean and properly prepared, include plumb and true masonry concrete (broom finished), cementitious backer units, cured Portland cement mortar beds, brick, unglazed ceramic tile and marble. In interior dry areas only, it can be used over gypsum board (walls only). When mixed with TexRite A-Crylic Mortar Admixture, **CERAMAMIX** can be used over exterior glue plywood floors following instructions on A-Crylic Mortar Admixture label.

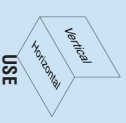
LIMITATIONS

CERAMAMIX must not be applied directly to asphalt sheeting, vinyl covered wall board, Masonite, cutback adhesive, cement asbestos board, metal, glass, plastic, curing compounds, chemically treated surfaces, particleboard, plywood, strip wood surfaces or gypsum mortar beds. Do not apply to nonporous substrates, including waterproofing and crack isolation membranes, glazed tiles, epoxy based terrazzo and epoxy moisture barriers. Some green or red marbles may warp when installed with setting materials containing water causing loss of bond and/or damage to the finish. These marbles must be set with EpoxyPlus 2002 TS. Use in temperature range above 40° F (Do not allow mortar to freeze for the first 72 hours.) This product is not affected by prolonged water contact but it does not form a waterproof barrier.

APPLICABLE STANDARDS

Meets and exceeds requirements for dry-set mortars found in ANSI A118.1, A118.4, ANSI A108.5 and A108.11.

CeramaMix



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Application

Spread mortar with flat side of trowel to key it into the substrate; then, reapply additional mortar to a depth sufficient to be notched with a suitable trowel that will leave enough mortar to give 100% contact with back of tile and a subsequent mortar bed of 3/32"-3/16". Comb mortar with notched side of trowel in one direction only. Set the tile in the mortar and move the tile back and forth perpendicular to the trowel ridges to collapse the ridges and "embed" the tile in the mortar establishing complete coverage. With high lug tiles, back buttering may be required to ensure 100% coverage to back of tiles. During the setting of tile, it is advisable to occasionally remove a tile to be sure mortar has not skinned over and sufficient transfer is being made. Do not adjust tiles in mortar after they have been set past 10-15 minutes. **Do not abut tile to perimeter walls or restraining surfaces. Leave a minimum spacing of 1/4", void of any setting material or tile, to allow for expansion. Fill the 1/4" spacing with caulk or sealant if exposed.**

NOTE: As a practical test it is recommended that a minimum of three or more separate twelve inch square areas of tile be bonded to the properly prepared surface with the actual tile and bonding materials that will be used on the finished installation. These should be allowed to cure for three to seven days and then removed with a hammer and chisel. At this point, one can determine if adequate bond has been obtained or if a problem exists.

Trowel Recommendation

Suitable for providing a minimum 3/32" bed thickness after embedding. Refer to coverage chart for proper trowel size.

Coverage

Coverage per 50 lb. bag using square notched trowels:
 1/4" x 1/4" = 77 sq.ft., 1/4" x 3/8" = 66 sq.ft., 1/2" x 1/2" = 40 sq.ft.

Working Time

Approximately 2 to 3 hours, depending on ambient temperature.

Cleaning

Water is all that is needed to remove uncured mortar.

Curing and Grouting

Do not allow dry-set mortar to freeze for the first 72 hours. A minimum cure is obtained in 12-24 hours, depending on ambient temperatures. Normal grouting should be done 48 hours after tiles have been set (ANSI A108.5).

SPECIFICATIONS

Technical Data: CERAMAMIX

Test	Requirement	Typical Values
*Open time @70°F	-	20 minutes
*Adjustability @ 70°F	-	15-20 minutes
*Bucket life @ 70°F	-	6 hours
Compressive Strength (PSI)	-	
ASTM C-109	2500	>2800
Shear Bond (PSI) ANSI A118.4		
Non-Vitreous tile	7 Day 300 Minimum	>304
	28 Day 300 Minimum	>315
Porcelain Tile (impervious tile)	7 Day 200 Minimum	>220
	28 Day 200 Minimum	>240

*These values reflect the results of practical testing methods closely associated with applications in the field.

Storage Life - One year if kept dry in sealed bag.

Safety – CAUTION: May cause eye, skin or lung injury. Contains free silica. Prolonged exposure to dust may cause delayed lung disease (silicosis). Eliminate exposure to dust. Recommend use of a NIOSH approved mask for silica dust. Contains Portland cement. If any cement or cement mixture gets into the eye, flush immediately and repeatedly with water and consult a physician promptly. Freshly mixed cement, mortar, concrete or grout may cause skin injury. Avoid contact with skin where possible and wash exposed skin areas promptly with water.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.