

## PRODUCT DATA SHEET

# SikaCeram® Flexible Rapid Set Tile Adhesive

### A FLEXIBLE POWDERED TILE ADHESIVE FOR FLOOR AND WALL TILES

#### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

SikaCeram® Flexible Rapid Set Tile Adhesive is a fast setting, thick or thin bed, water resistant cementitious adhesive specifically designed for bonding ceramic tiles to walls or floors. Enhanced adhesion properties make it ideal for fixing of all types of ceramic tiles, including vitrified, mosaic and porcelain. It is particularly recommended for porcelain tiles. SikaCeram® Flexible Rapid Set Tile Adhesive sets in only 2-3 hours and can be grouted immediately after, allowing to complete the project faster. Designed to accommodate sub floor movement, it includes built-in crack resistance for application onto timber substrates or locations where slight surface movement or vibration is likely, making it ideal for use with underfloor heating.

#### USES

- Interior and exterior.
- Fixing all types of ceramic wall and floor tiles, including mosaic and vitrified tiles, also porcelain, natural stone, concrete.
- Fixing onto application onto timber substrates such as plywood, composite board, floorboards, floating floors, etc. or locations where slight surface movement or vibration, is likely.
- For tiling bathrooms, kitchens, domestic showers, etc. which are subject to occasional wetting but not total immersion.

#### CHARACTERISTICS / ADVANTAGES

- Rapid setting – ready for grouting in only 2-3 hours
- Extremely flexible
- Crack resistant
- Excellent adhesion properties
- Water resistant, suitable for bathrooms and kitchens
- Frost resistant
- Open time 20-30 minutes
- Thick or thin bed (up to 20mm)
- Internal and external use
- Suitable for use with underfloor heating

#### APPROVALS / STANDARDS

Conforms to BS EN 12004: C2FT S1 (white), C2FE (grey)

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION

Packaging	20kg bags
Appearance / Colour	Grey and White

**Shelf Life**

Use within 6 months from date of manufacture. Product and Chromium VI reducing agent remain effective for 12 months from the date of production if stored as recommended by the manufacturer. After 6 months some increase in setting time, common to fast setting cements, may occur.

**Storage Conditions**

Store unopened in original container, off the ground, in cool, dry conditions and away from excess draughts.

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

**Consumption**

20kg bag covers approx. 2.0m<sup>2</sup> using 8mm notched trowel, approx. 3.5m<sup>2</sup> using 6mm notched trowel and approx. 5.0m<sup>2</sup> using 4mm notched trowel. Coverage is dependent on application technique, substrate and type of tiles used, therefore these figures are only a guide.

**Open Time**

20-30 minutes

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**SUBSTRATE QUALITY / PRE-TREATMENT**

All surfaces, (including existing tiles) must be clean, firm and free of dust, dirt, oil, loose flaking coatings. Porous substrates must be primed with SikaBond® PVA+. Non porous substrates such as ceramics, should be primed using a slurry coat made of 1 part Sika-Ceram® Flexible Rapid Set Tile Adhesive and 2 part SikaBond® PVA+.

Timber floors must be structurally sound and braced securely to support applied traffic.

We recommend all wood based surfaces be dry and primed with a diluted mix of SikaBond® SBR and allowed to dry. Timber board should be waterproof rated, 18mm thick and screw fixed at 300mm centres for a stable background. All boards must be level, showing no edge

protrusions and be fixed in place with a 0.5-1mm gap to avoid expansion stresses between boards and around perimeters. Do not apply to damp surfaces or when ambient temperature is persistently below 15°C as this will increase drying process by several days.

**MIXING**

SikaCeram® Flexible Rapid Set Tile Adhesive should be added to cold clean water using a ratio of 1 part water to 4 parts powder (or 1 part diluted admix: 4 parts powder). Stir the mixture with a mechanical mixer for approximately 2 minutes, allow to stand for 2 minutes and then re-mix until a smooth creamy, slump free, consistency is achieved for easy workability.

**APPLICATION**

- Work in an area no greater than 2-3m<sup>2</sup> or equivalent to 30 minutes working time.
- Using a large notched trowel spread the adhesive evenly onto the substrate. Size of notches depends on size of tiles being used, the surface being tiled, the profile on back of the tiles, and degree of coverage required.
- For dry, internal locations adhesive contact should be at least 65% of the back of the tile.
- For floors, or external locations, or in wet areas (showers etc), solid bed fixing should be achieved.
- For solid bed fixing tiles usually require buttering im-

mediately prior to placing into the ribbed bed so as to leave no voids beneath the tiles. Remove the occasional tile to check anticipated bedding is being achieved.

- Press the tiles firmly into place using a slight twisting and sliding action.
- Tile positions can be adjusted up to 10 minutes after initial fixing.
- Leave a grout joint of at least 2mm, unless self spacing tiles are used.
- Surface adhesive should be cleaned from the faces of the tiles with a moist cloth, rake excessive adhesive from within joints before setting takes place.
- The open time of the exposed adhesive bed is approx. 20 minutes depending on surface porosity and site conditions. Test open time by touching the adhesive bed with a finger, if adhesive transfers to the finger a safe bond is assured.
- Setting time (ready for grouting) achieved in 2-3 hours at 20°C. It is important the tiles are left undisturbed for a minimum of 2 hours after fixing at normal room temperatures.
- At 20°C adhesive should be fully load bearing after 24 hours at 20°C hours.
- Do not use at temperatures below 5°C.
- Do not apply if frost forecasted within 24 hours, in wet conditions, to areas in direct sunlight or to substrates that are hot.

**Grouting**

- Allow 2-3 hours before grouting depending on site conditions, or until the tile bed is firm.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for protecting and sealing the tiles before and after grouting.

**CLEANING OF TOOLS**

All equipment should be cleaned with water immediately after use.

**LIMITATIONS**

- Do not use directly onto gypsum plaster (risk of expansion and failure) Use Sika® paste adhesives.
- Never add further water once the adhesive has been mixed. This will destroy the strength.
- Always mix with SIKABOND® SBR when tiling on wooden floors/floors with movement.
- Do not walk on floors for 2-3 hours after tiling.
- Not recommended for use on glazed tiles and bricks,

paint or metal surfaces.

## VALUE BASE

All technical data stated in this Data Sheet are based on laboratory tests. Actual measured data may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

## LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

Note that as a result of specific local regulations the declared data and recommended uses for this product may vary from country to country. Consult the local Product Data Sheet for the exact product data and uses.

## ECOLOGY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

For information and advice on the safe handling, storage and disposal of chemical products, users shall refer to the most recent Safety Data Sheet (SDS) containing physical, ecological, toxicological and other safety-related data.

## LEGAL NOTES

The information, and, in particular, the recommendations relating to the application and end-use of Sika products, are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions in accordance with Sika's recommendations. In practice, the differences in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. The user of the product must test the product's suitability for the intended application and purpose. Sika reserves the right to change the properties of its products. The proprietary rights of third parties must be observed. All orders are accepted subject to our current terms of sale and delivery. Users must always refer to the most recent issue of the local Product Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request.

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