

Concrete tiles fitting instructions

1. Unloading and manual handling

Please take extra care when unloading tiles; do not shake, twist or throw the boxes.

2. Storing

Tiles should be stored vertically in a dry room, in temperature between 10° C - 25° C for a minimum 48h before fitting.

3. Preparation

Lay down some tiles on the floor to plan the location of possible differences in the shades of tiles. Always follow the fitting instructions provided by adhesive manufacturer in relation to verification of base's bearing capacity and compare substrate tolerance with the weight of the tiles (technical data sheet).

If there are any possibilities of overloading the existing wall, additional support facings should be applied. Scratch the wall surface to provide a good base for the adhesive, then prime the surface with appropriate primer (as for standard tiling).

Tiles can be fitted on to solid wall, wooden boards or dry lining wall made in conformity with good building practice.

Fitting must be carried out in temperatures between 15°C - 25°C by a skilled tiler.

Facings can be fixed onto cement mortar once the concrete has shrunk no less than 75%.

Approximate time of unmodified concrete C20/25 shrinking by to the level of 75%:

7 cm thick - about 3 months

20 cm thick - about 4 months

50 cm thick - about 12 months.

For better results, use the grey adhesive for grey tiles and white adhesive for white tiles, we also recommend painting the background between tiles with the same colour as tiles.

4. Recommended accessories

Appropriate PPE must be worn (gloves, boots, goggles, hat).

Necessary tools: pencil, measuring tape, bucket, spirit level, angle grinder with a diamond disc, 5mm -10mm notched floating trowel, an adhesive spreader, spatula, silicon gun.

Recommend fitting materials:

Adhesives:

Ardex N23/ Mapei Quick S1 (or similar for interior fitting)

Ardex X32 (or similar for exterior fitting)

Impregnates:

Remers Funcosil OFS (or similar)

Primer:

Ardex P4 (or similar primer with quartz sand)

5. Fitting

All potential post-production remains and irregularities should be removed to ensure that all elements fit each other. The wall surface and back of the tiles should be primed with recommended concrete primer (some primers required to use a 24h before fitting). Spread the adhesive on the wall and back of the tile surface with the notched trowel (3mm-5mm), with a

margin of about 10mm from the edge. All excess adhesive on tile surface should be removed systematically with a clean wet cloth to avoid stains. Always use clean gloves to prevent tiles from getting stained. Start fitting from the bottom left corner and continue on to the right top side. For designs that don't start from the floor level, use a wooden batten or wooden pieces for temporary support. Carry on with the next tiles; keep checking levels horizontally and vertically and control the spaces between the tiles (usually keep spaces less than 0,5mm).

6. Cutting

Concrete tiles should be cut with the electric tile cutter or angle grinder and diamond cutting disc used for stone, porcelain or concrete.

7. Protection

It is recommended that, to use the tiles properly, their surface should be sealed with impregnating agents specifically designed for concrete. We recommend sealing the tiles with impregnating agents designed for concrete if used as external cladding, in wet areas, as floor linings or kitchen backsplashes. When selecting sealers, please consider any potential colour changes and shine this process can cause that. Be aware that impregnation of the product does not fully protect the product from staining or soiling, and it is necessary to immediately remove all factors that can cause staining. Tiles need to complete dry before sealing, usually that takes about a week, depends on weather conditions.

8. Maintenance

Clean the panels with a slightly wet cloth or vacuum the panels regularly to remove the dust. General household cleaners may be too aggressive and are likely to damage the sealants and finishes applied. Always check cleaning product before use on the small hidden part of the surface.

9. Disposal

Dispose of in compliance with all local and national regulations. Waste of concrete products are normally classified as, non-hazardous, but should be not co-disposed with municipal waste.

10. Disclaimer

We reserve the right to amend the details contained within this document without prior notice. Material can have minor manufacturing characteristics present such as colour fluctuation and minor surface particle or imperfections. These are normal visual elements for this type of product and if present are not grounds for complaint and are not aspects covered by the product warranty. Final results largely depends on the tiler skills and his experience with art tiles fitting.