

# Kerabond

Premium Tile Mortar



## DESCRIPTION

*Kerabond*® is a premium-grade, dry-set mortar for use in interior/exterior residential and commercial floor and wall applications when mixed with water.

## FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- For tile and stone on floors and walls
- Great for most substrates, tile and stone when mixed with *Keralastic*® or *Keraply*®. For details, see the Technical Data Sheet (TDS) for *Kerabond/Keralastic*™ System or *Keraply*.

## INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND APPROVALS

- ANSI: When mixed with water, exceeds ANSI A118.1 bond-strength requirements; when mixed with *Keralastic*, exceeds ANSI A118.4E, A118.11 and A118.15E; when mixed with *Keraply*, exceeds ANSI A118.4E and A118.11
- ISO 13007: When mixed with water, classification C1; when mixed with *Keralastic*, classification C2ES2P2; when mixed with *Keraply*, classification C2ES1

## WHERE TO USE

- Most interior/exterior residential and commercial installations on floors and walls

- Installation of most ceramic tile, quarry tile, pavers, Saltillo tile, and most types of marble, granite and natural stone
- To set cement backer units (CBUs), see the manufacturer's installation guidelines.

## LIMITATIONS

- Install only at temperatures between 40°F and 95°F (4°C and 35°C).
- Do not use for moisture-sensitive stone (green marble, some limestone and granite), agglomerate tiles, cultured marble or resin-backed tiles. Instead, use suitable epoxy or urethane adhesives (see the respective Technical Data Sheet for more information).
- Use a white mortar when installing light-colored stones and translucent marble.
- Do not use over dimensionally unstable substrates such as hardwood flooring, oriented strand board (OSB), substrates containing asbestos, or metal. See the "Suitable Substrates" section below.
- Do not use for installations subject to prolonged water immersion.
- Not recommended for areas subject to severe freeze/thaw conditions. Instead, use a liquid latex additive mortar system.

## SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

- Concrete (cured at least 28 days)
- Masonry cement block, brick, cement mortar beds and leveling coats

Consult MAPEI's Technical Services Department for installation recommendations regarding substrates and conditions not listed.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

- All substrates should be structurally sound, stable, dry, clean, and free of any substance or condition that may reduce or prevent proper adhesion.
- See the "Surface preparation requirements" reference guide in the Tile & Stone Installations Systems section at [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com).

## MIXING

Before product use, take appropriate safety precautions. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for details.

1. Into a clean mixing container, pour about 6 to 7 U.S. qts. (5.68 to 6.62 L) of clean, potable water.
2. Gradually add 50 lbs. (22.7 kg) of powder while slowly mixing.
3. Use a low-speed mixing drill (at about 300 rpm), with an angled cross-blade mixer or double-box mixer. Mix thoroughly until the mixture becomes a smooth, homogenous, lump-free paste. Avoid prolonged mixing.
4. Let the mixture stand ("slake") for 5 minutes.
5. Remix.
6. If the mixture becomes heavy or stiff, remix without adding more liquid.

## PRODUCT APPLICATION

Read all installation instructions thoroughly before installation.

1. Choose a notched trowel (see the “Typical Trowels and Approximate Coverage” chart below) with sufficient depth to achieve > 80% mortar contact to both the tile and substrate for all interior applications, and > 95% for exterior installations and wet applications. It may be necessary to back-butter tiles in order to reach these requirements. (Refer to ANSI A108.5 specifications and TCNA Handbook guidelines.)
2. With pressure, apply a coat by using the trowel’s flat side to key mortar into the substrate.
3. Apply additional mortar, combing it in a single direction with the trowel’s notched side.
4. Spread only as much mortar as can be tiled before the product skins over. Open time can vary with jobsite conditions.
5. Place the tiles firmly into the wet mortar. Push the tiles back and forth in a direction perpendicular to trowel lines, to collapse the mortar ridges and to help achieve maximum coverage. Ensure proper contact between the mortar, tile and substrate by periodically lifting a few tiles to check for acceptable coverage.
6. Remove excess mortar from the joint areas so that at least 2/3 of the tile depth is available for grouting (see ANSI A108.10 guidelines).

## EXPANSION AND CONTROL JOINTS

- Provide for expansion and control joints as specified per TCNA Method EJ171, or TTMAC Specification Guide 09 30 00, Method EJ171. Do not cover expansion joints with mortars.

## CLEANUP

- Clean tools and tiles with water while the mortar is fresh.

## PROTECTION

- Protect from traffic for 24 hours. Protect from heavy traffic for 7 days.
- Whether *Kerabond* is mixed with water, *Keralastic* or *Keraply*, protect from rain and frost for 7 days.

### ISO 13007 Classification

| Classification Code                | Classification Requirement                                                                    |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C1 (cementitious, normal adhesive) | ≥ 72.5 psi (0.5 MPa) after standard aging, heat aging, water immersion and freeze/thaw cycles |

### ANSI Specifications

| Test Method                                                          | Specification Standard          | Test Results                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ANSI A118.1 – shear strength, impervious ceramic (porcelain) mosaics | > 150 psi (1.03 MPa) at 28 days | 170 to 190 psi (1.17 to 1.31 MPa) |
| ANSI A118.1 – shear strength, glazed wall tile                       | > 250 psi (1.72 MPa) at 28 days | 290 to 360 psi (2 to 2.48 MPa)    |
| ANSI A118.1 – shear strength, quarry tile to quarry tile             | > 100 psi (0.69 MPa) at 28 days | 230 to 300 psi (1.59 to 2.07 MPa) |

### Shelf Life and Application Properties\*

at 73°F (23°C) and 50% relative humidity

| Shelf life            | 1 year           |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Open time*            | 20 to 30 minutes |
| Pot life*             | > 2 hours        |
| Time before grouting* | 24 hours         |
| VOC content           | 0 g per L        |

\*Open time, pot life and time before grouting vary based on jobsite conditions.

### Packaging

| Size and Color                |
|-------------------------------|
| Bag: 50 lbs. (22.7 kg), gray  |
| Bag: 50 lbs. (22.7 kg), white |

### Typical Trowels and Approximate Coverage\*\*

per 50 lbs. (22.7 kg)

| Typical Trowel                                   | Coverage                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" (6 x 6 x 6 mm), square-notch  | 75 to 90 sq. ft. (6.97 to 8.36 m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| 1/4" x 3/8" x 1/4" (6 x 10 x 6 mm), square-notch | 55 to 65 sq. ft. (5.11 to 6.04 m <sup>2</sup> ) |

\*\*Trowel dimensions are width/depth/space. Actual coverages will vary according to substrate profile and tile type.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Reference guide: "Surface preparation requirements" for tile and stone installation systems\*\*\*

\*\*\*At [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Refer to the SDS for specific data related to health and safety as well as product handling.

For information on MAPEI's commitment to sustainability and transparency, as well as how MAPEI products may contribute to green building standards and certification systems, contact [sustainability\\_USA@mapei.com](mailto:sustainability_USA@mapei.com) (USA) or [sustainability-durabilite@mapei.com](mailto:sustainability-durabilite@mapei.com) (Canada).

## WARNING

The test results shown in the TECHNICAL DATA table were obtained in compliance with test methods and curing cycles, if applicable, defined in the industry standards referenced on the Technical Data Sheet. Please note that the use of test procedures or methods other than those indicated in the table could lead to different values and that, in such cases, any liability of our company is excluded.

### LEGAL NOTICE

The contents of this Technical Data Sheet ("TDS") may be copied into another project-related document, but the resulting document shall not supplement nor replace requirements per the TDS in effect at the time of the MAPEI product installation. For the most up-to-date TDS and warranty information, please visit our website at [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com). **ANY ALTERATIONS TO THE WORDING OR REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN OR DERIVED FROM THIS TDS SHALL VOID ALL RELATED MAPEI WARRANTIES.**

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

### MAPEI Headquarters of North America

1144 East Newport Center Drive  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) / (954) 246-8888

### Technical Services

U.S. and Puerto Rico:  
Flooring: 1-800-992-6273  
Concrete and heavy construction: 1-888-365-0614  
Canada:  
1-800-361-9309

### Customer Service

1-800-42-MAPEI (1-800-426-2734)

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For the most current product data and BEST-BACKED<sup>SM</sup> warranty information,  
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