

# 57

## SCRATCH COAT

### BASIC USES

For use as a leveling scratch coat, or for use with metal lath for preparing a substrate or setting ceramic tiles. Mixed with water or Flextile 43 Thin-Set Mortar Additive, 57 Scratch Coat can be used as a setting bed with metal lath for ceramic mosaics, quarry tile, or paver tile over exterior grade plywood sub-floors or counter tops. Tile can be set in 57 Scratch Coat while still plastic, or when fully cured using one of Flextile's Dry Set Mortars. 57 Scratch Coat may also be used as a leveling coat on vertical or horizontal concrete surfaces where a smooth, even substrate is required for installation of mosaic tile.

### LIMITATIONS

Do not use over particleboard, Masonite, chipboard, OSB or similar unstable materials. Do not use over plywood surfaces in wet areas. Do not use over single layer plywood floors. Use only on surfaces, which are maintained at a temperature above 10°C (50°F) and below 35°C (100°F) during application and for at least 72 hours after application. On exterior applications, protect from rain until thoroughly dried and protect from freezing for at least 14 days after installation.

### COMPOSITION AND MATERIALS

A blend of Portland cement, sand and chemical additives packaged in dry powder form to be mixed with water or acrylic latex additive just prior to use.

### FEATURES

- High cement content
- Excellent workability
- Non-Flammable
- Water resistant when cured

### TECHNICAL DATA

#### Typical Physical Properties

Pot Life	2.5 hours
Open Time	30 minutes
Initial Cure	12 - 24 hours
Final Cure	28 days
<b>Shear Strength (ANSI A118.1)</b>	
Non-Vitreous Tile	1.6 MPa (225 psi)
Compressive Strength	13.8 MPa (2000 psi)
Linear Shrinkage	< 0.25 %
Specific Gravity (dry)	1.75
Specific Gravity (wet)	1.90
pH (paste)	approx. 12
Cleanability :	with water before material dries
Shelf Life:	1 year from production date when stored in dry, heated conditions

#### Approx. coverage per 50 lb bag:

2.23 M<sup>2</sup> (24 ft<sup>2</sup>) @ 6.4 mm (1/4") thickness

- Coverages given are for estimating purposes only. Actual coverages may vary depending on job site conditions and installation techniques used.

**INSTALLATION***PREPARATORY WORK*

Wooden floors should be designed for maximum deflection of 1/360 of span. The plywood flooring or counter top to receive 57 Scratch Coat should be Douglas Fir exterior grade only, secured with screw type nails and glued where possible. Leave 3mm (1/8") gaps between sheets of plywood and at all perimeter joints. Surfaces must be clean of any foreign material prior to placing metal lath and 57 Scratch Coat. Using corrosion proof nails, screws or staples, attach galvanized or painted expanded metal lath of desired thickness onto the substrate. Butt joints of metal lath. Joints in the plywood and the lath joints should be offset. Refer to current editions of TTMAC 09300 Tile Installation Manual, or TCA Handbook For Ceramic Tile Installation for information regarding placement of expansion or control joints, or for further substrate acceptability information.

*APPLICATION*

57 Scratch Coat should be added to approximately 4.5 Liters (1.2 U.S. gallons) of cool, clean potable water, or Flextile 43 Acrylic Thin-Set Mortar Additive. Avoid using high-speed mixers. Allow mixed material to slake for at least 10 minutes, then re-mix without adding further liquid. Resulting mortar should be of a thick, easily spreadable consistency. Completely fill the metal lath with a uniform coat of 57 Scratch Coat. Firmly tamp and screed. Thickness should be between 6mm (1/4") and 12mm (1/2"). Apply tile to plastic scratch coat using Portland cement slurry. Apply tile to cured scratch coat using appropriate Flextile Dry Set Mortar.

**CURING**

Protect from all traffic until cured at least 12 hours prior to installing tile with Flextile Thin-Set mortars. On exterior or cold weather applications, extended curing is recommended to ensure that mortar is sufficiently cured.

**CAUTION**

Freshly mixed cement, mortar, concrete or grout may cause skin injury. Avoid extended contact with skin where possible and wash exposed skin areas promptly with water. If any cement or cement mixtures get into the eye, rinse immediately and repeatedly with water and get prompt medical attention. Keep out of reach of children.

**SAFETY**

Refer to Flextile Material Safety Data Sheet for detailed health and safety information.

**AVAILABILITY AND COSTS**

Flextile 57 Scratch Coat is available from Flextile Ltd. and its distributors in 22.7-kg (50-lb) bags.

Cost: Data supplied upon request.

**WARRANTY**

Flextile warrants that this product is of merchantable quality and is suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. Flextile's liability under this warranty shall be limited to replacement of its product found to be defective or, at its option, a refund of the purchase price.

**MAINTENANCE**

No maintenance is required except where damages result from unforeseen circumstances. Repair procedures shall be directed by Flextile or its distributors.

**TECHNICAL SERVICES**

Flextile maintains a well-equipped laboratory able to test its products in conjunction with the products with which they are used. Technical assistance for use of Flextile products is available upon request.

**RELATED REFERENCES**

Current editions of: Ceramic Tile Installation Manual (09300) from the TTMAC & TCA Ceramic Tile Installation Handbook.