

INSTALLATION BULLETIN #8



CERAMIC TILE & STONE INSTALLATIONS ON WATERPROOF, CRACK ISOLATION, AND UNCOUPLING MEMBRANES

Flextile Ltd recommends the use of Latex Portland Cement Mortar bond coats (ANSI A118.4, A118.11) for all tile & stone installations over membrane systems. This includes the use of porcelain tile and stone on both interior and exterior applications. For all exterior or water immersion applications, Flextile's Two-Component Latex Mortar Systems are recommended. For interior applications, on dry or intermittent wet areas, appropriate One-Component (Polymer Modified) or Two-Component latex mortar bond coats may be used.

The added benefits of using modified bond coats for impervious tile installations include greater shear, tensile, and flexural bond strengths, improved resistance to thermal expansion/contraction and freeze/thaw stresses, and improved movement capability. It is important to note however, that when installing impervious tile/stone on to an impervious membrane system, extended curing times are required prior to grouting and exposure to traffic or moisture. Flextile recommends a minimum of 48-72 hours cure prior to grouting in these instances, and that installations are protected from continuous exposure to moisture or water immersion for at least 10 - 14 days following installation. The exception is when one of Flextile's Fast Setting Latex Mortar Systems is used. In this instance, follow the recommended curing times listed for the specific Flextile fast setting mortar bond coat used.

Note that certain natural stone tile may exhibit dimensional instability or curling in medium-bed mortar installations over waterproof, crack isolation, and uncoupling membranes.

A fast-set screed or self-levelling underlayment may be required to properly level the surfaces prior to application of membranes.

A trial installation area is advisable.

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For job specific installation systems, recommendations, project warranty information, or for assistance with installation specifications, please contact Flextile's technical department.

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