ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX

Rapid Setting Latex Smoothing and Leveling Compound

Use to level and smooth interior concrete, terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, steel, select epoxy coating systems and non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete

A blend of Portland cement and other hydraulic cements

No water required for mixing; simply mix with latex additive

No mechanical profiling required

No priming required (except non-ARDEX epoxy substrates)

Trowelable and can smooth floors at 1/8" (3 mm) or less

Walkable in 2 to 3 hours

Suitable for use under ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems

For interior use only

SystemOne™

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ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX

Rapid Setting Latex Smoothing and Leveling Compound

Description and Usage

ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX is a blend of Portland cement and other hydraulic cements that is a self-smoothing, trowelable, latex leveling compound with excellent adhesion, flexibility and moisture resistance. ARDEX K 60 can be used to smooth interior concrete, terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, steel, select epoxy coating systems and non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete, prior to the installation of finished flooring on, above or below grade. No mechanical profiling is required. For most applications, no priming is required. ARDEX K 60 is pourable and seeks its own level to produce a smooth, flat, hard surface. It can also be used as a smoothing compound on permanently wet areas prior to the installation of ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems (please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for instructions).

Substrate Preparation

For each of the substrates listed below, acid etching, sanding, adhesive removers, solvents and sweeping compounds are not acceptable means for cleaning the substrate. Substrate and ambient temperatures must be a minimum of 50°F (10°C) for the installation of ARDEX products. Substrates must be dry during installation and cure. For more detailed information on substrate preparation, please refer to the ARDEX Substrate Preparation Brochure at www.ardexamericas.com.

All substrates must be solid, structurally sound, thoroughly clean and free of oil, wax, grease, asphalt, latex and gypsum compounds, curing compounds*, sealers and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. Substrates that are sound, solid and uncontaminated may be bonded to without the need for mechanical profiling. If necessary, mechanically clean the floor down to a sound, solid surface by shot blasting or similar. Over-watered, frozen, powdery, loose or otherwise weak surfaces also must be cleaned down to sound, solid surfaces by mechanical methods. Sanding equipment is not an effective method to remove contaminants from concrete.

***NOTES ON CURING COMPOUNDS:** Test areas of ARDEX K 60 can be installed and evaluated over concrete slabs that have been treated with either silicate or acrylic resin curing compounds. These compounds must be installed in strict accordance with the compound manufacturer's written recommendations. If a silicate type has been used, all residual salts must be removed. For instructions on priming concrete with acceptable curing compounds, please refer to the Priming section of this brochure.

Please be advised, however, that there are a number of curing compounds sold today that are wax- or petroleum-based emulsions. These are permanent bond breakers that must be removed completely prior to patching or leveling. Dissipating compounds must also be removed completely by mechanical means prior to installing any ARDEX material.

It is imperative to be able to determine the type of curing compound that was used before proceeding. Any curing compound that cannot be identified should be completely, mechanically removed.

ADHESIVE RESIDUES ON CONCRETE: ARDEX K 60 also can be installed over non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete only. The adhesive must first be tested to make certain it is not water-soluble. Water-soluble adhesives must be removed mechanically down to clean concrete.

Non-water-soluble adhesives should be prepared to a thin, well-bonded residue using the wet-scraping technique as recommended by the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (www.rfci.com) to remove thick areas and adhesive build-up, as well as any areas that are weak or not well bonded to the concrete. Any existing patches below the adhesive must be removed completely.

EPOXY COATING SYSTEMS: As all epoxy coating systems vary, we recommend installing an adequate number of properly located test areas, to include the selected floor coverings, to determine the suitability of the product for its intended use.

ARDEX MC™ RAPID One-Coat Moisture Control System For Concrete to Receive ARDEX Underlyaments: ARDEX K 60 can be installed over the ARDEX MC RAPID Moisture Control System without the use of a primer. The ARDEX MC RAPID must cure a minimum of 4 hours before ARDEX K 60 can be installed. When installing ARDEX K 60 over ARDEX MC RAPID that has not been primed or sand broadcasted, the ARDEX K 60 must be installed within 8 hours of application of the final coat of the ARDEX MC RAPID.

STEEL: Steel substrates must be rigid, well supported, properly anchored, and free of undue flex and vibration. Shot blast the surface prior to installation.

OTHER NON-POROUS SUBSTRATES: ARDEX K 60 also can be applied over other clean, sound and solidly bonded non-porous substrates, including burnished concrete and ceramic and quarry tile.

Note on asbestos-containing materials: Please note that when removing existing flooring, any asbestos-containing materials should be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.

Recommended Tools

ARDEX T-1 Mixing Paddle, ARDEX T-10 Mixing Drum, ARDEX T-4 Spreader, ARDEX T-5 Smoother or spiked roller, steel trowel, a 1/2" (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm) and baseball or soccer shoes with non-metallic cleats for self-leveling applications.

Priming

No priming is required, with the exception of non-ARDEX epoxy substrates, including epoxy terrazzo. Prime epoxy substrates with ARDEX P 82™ Ultra Prime, following the instructions in the ARDEX P 82 technical brochure.

To minimize the potential for pinholes forming in the ARDEX K 60 installed over extremely absorbent concrete, the concrete can first be primed with ARDEX P 51™ Primer diluted 1:1 with water. Apply evenly with a soft bristled push broom. Do not use paint rollers, mops or spray equipment. Do not leave any bare spots. Brush off puddles and excess primer. Allow primer to dry to a clear, thin film (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours).

Joints and Cracks

Under no circumstances should ARDEX K 60 be installed over any moving joints or moving cracks. All existing expansion joints, isolation joints and construction joints, as well as all moving cracks, must be honored up through the underlayment and flooring.

As needed, dormant cracks and dormant control joints can be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH® or ARDEX ARDIFIX™, following the instructions in each product's technical brochure. Please note that if ARDEX ARDIFIX is used, it must be sand-broadcast to refusal.

However, please be advised that while dormant control joints and dormant cracks in the slab may be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH or ARDEX ARDIFIX prior to installing ARDEX K 60, this filling is not intended to act as a repair method that will eliminate the possibility of joints and cracks telegraphing. ARDEX FEATHER FINISH, ARDEX ARDIFIX and ARDEX K 60 are non-structural materials and are, therefore, unable to restrain movement within a concrete slab. This means that while some dormant joints and dormant cracks may not telegraph through the ARDEX materials and up into the finish flooring, cracks will telegraph in any area that exhibits movement, such as an active crack, an expansion or isolation joint, or an area where dissimilar substrates meet. We know of no method to prevent this telegraphing from occurring.

Mixing and Application

Mix each 35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag of ARDEX K 60 Powder with a 1 Gallon (3.8 L) bottle of ARDEX K 60 Latex Liquid. Do not mix with water. Pour the Latex Liquid in the mixing drum first, and then add the Powder while mixing with an ARDEX T-1 Mixing paddle and a 1/2" (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm). Mix thoroughly for approximately 2 to 3 minutes to obtain a lump-free mix.

ARDEX K 60 has a flow time of 10 minutes at 70°F (21°C). Pour the mix onto the floor and spread with the ARDEX T-4 Spreader. Immediately smooth the material with the ARDEX T-5 Smoother. ARDEX K 60 also can be finished using a spiked roller. Work in a continuous manner during the entire self-leveling installation. Wear baseball or soccer shoes with non-metallic cleats to avoid leaving marks in the liquid ARDEX K 60.

Thickness of Application

For self-leveling applications, ARDEX K 60 must be installed from a minimum thickness of 1/8" (3 mm) up to a maximum thickness of 1/2" (12 mm) over large areas and also can be featheredged to match existing elevations. Furthermore, ARDEX K 60 is trowelable and can be skim coated.

Please note that for thin applications, the profile of the substrate can affect the flatness and smoothness of the ARDEX K 60. The thickness of the application should be calculated based on the surface profile of the substrate and the specified tolerances of the floor covering.

For areas requiring a thickness greater than 1/2" (12 mm), ARDEX recommends using a suitable ARDEX self-leveling underlayment, such as ARDEX K 15® Premium Self-Leveling Underlayment.

When installing ARDEX K 60 over ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems, epoxy coatings, non-water soluble adhesive residue on concrete or steel, the maximum installation thickness is 1/4" (6 mm).

Wear Surface

ARDEX K 60 is not to be used as a permanent wear surface, even if coated or sealed. ARDEX K 60 must be covered by a suitable floor covering material, such as carpet, vinyl flooring, ceramic tile, etc. For resurfacing and leveling indoor concrete floors in warehouses, storage areas, hallways or other areas where a wear surface is required, use ARDEX SD-T® Self-Drying, Self-Leveling Concrete Topping, ARDEX K 500™ Self-Leveling Concrete Topping or ARDEX K 301™ Exterior Self-Leveling Concrete Topping.

Installation of Flooring (Dry Times Calculated at 70°F)

ARDEX K 60 is walkable 2 to 3 hours after installation. Moisture-insensitive tiles such as ceramic, quarry and porcelain can be installed after 6 hours. Porous-backed carpet can be installed after 12 hours. Other flooring structures can be installed after 16 to 24 hours. Skim coating applications may be suitable for the installation of finish flooring in as little as 4 hours under ideal drying conditions. Drying time is a function of jobsite temperature and humidity conditions, as well as the installation thickness. Low substrate temperatures and/or high ambient humidity will extend the drying time. Adequate ventilation and heat will aid drying.

Use as a Pre-Smoothing Compound beneath ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems

If using ARDEX K 60 as a pre-smoothing compound beneath an ARDEX MC Moisture Control System, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for instructions on substrate preparation and installation.

Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

This product is not a vapor barrier, and will allow free passage of moisture. **Follow the directives of the floor covering manufacturer regarding the maximum allowable substrate moisture content, and test the substrate prior to installing ARDEX K 60.** Where substrate moisture exceeds the maximum allowed, ARDEX recommends the use of ARDEX Moisture Control Systems. For further information, please refer to the ARDEX technical brochures at www.ardexamericas.com.

Always install an adequate number of properly located test areas, including the finish flooring, to determine the suitability of the products for the intended use. As floor coverings vary, always contact and rely upon the floor covering manufacturer for specific directives, such as maximum allowable moisture content, adhesive selection and intended end use of the product.

Never mix with cement or additives other than ARDEX-approved products. Observe the basic rules of concrete work. Do not install below 50°F (10°C) surface and air temperatures. Install quickly if the substrate is warm, and follow warm weather instructions available from the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

Do not reuse container. Dispose of container and residue in accordance with federal, state and local waste disposal regulations. Do not flush material down drains.

Precautions

Carefully read and follow all precautions and warnings on the product label. For complete safety information, please refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) available at www.ardexamericas.com.

Technical Data According To ARDEX Quality Standards

All data based on a mixing ratio of 3 parts ARDEX K 60 Powder to 1 part ARDEX K 60 Latex Liquid by volume at 70°F/21°C and in accordance with ASTM C1708 as applicable. Physical properties are typical values and not specifications.

Mixing Ratio:	1 Gallon (3.8 L) ARDEX K 60 Latex Liquid per 35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag ARDEX K 60 Powder
Coverage:	21 sq. ft. per bag at 1/4" (1.95 sq. m at 6 mm) 42 sq. ft. per bag at 1/8" (3.9 sq. m at 3 mm) Up to 84 sq. ft. per bag at 1/16" (7.8 sq. m at 1.5 mm) Coverage will vary depending on the texture of the surface being smoothed.
Flow Time:	10 minutes
Initial Set (ASTM C191):	Approx. 30 minutes
Final Set (ASTM C191):	Approx. 60 minutes
Brinell Hardness (ASTM E10 modified):	Approx. 3,000 psi (210 kg/cm^2) at 24 hours
Walkable:	2 to 3 hours
Install Flooring:	Please see Installation of Flooring section above.
VOC:	0
Packaging:	35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag, 1 Gallon (3.8 L) bottle
Storage:	Store in a cool, dry area. Do not leave bags exposed to sun. Do not allow liquid to freeze.
Shelf Life:	Powder - 1 year, if unopened Latex Liquid - 6 months, if unopened
Warranty:	ARDEX Engineered Cements Standard Limited Warranty applies.

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