

# ARDEX K 12 Levelling and Smoothing Compound

Super smooth - requires no sanding

Versatile – apply 1.5mm to 35mm in one application

Rapid hardening – walkable from 2 hours

Superior flow – fast application

Flexible – hand mix or pump application

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## ARDEX K 12

### Levelling and Smoothing Compound

#### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX K 12 new is an advanced cement and polymer based levelling and smoothing compound. ARDEX K 12 new is formulated for experienced commercial contractors to smooth and level large commercial and retail areas. Once dry it is suitable for the application of vinyl, carpet and tile floor finishes. Unlike normal hydration levellers, ARDEX K 12 new will harden and dry at temperatures down to 10°C.

#### SUBSTRATES

New and existing concrete, ARDEX A38, ARDEX A48, ARDEX K 900 BF

Substrates with special requirements (Contact ARDEX Technical Services or view relevant Technical Bulletin online) Moisture vulnerable concrete, compressed fibre cement flooring, terrazzo, quarry and ceramic tiles, concrete subfloors with electric under floor heating, existing epoxy coatings, lightweight autoclave concrete, primer treated metal, patching timber under underlay sheets

#### SURFACE PREPARATION

Concrete floors must be solid, clean and free of wax, grease, asphalt, latex compounds, curing and sealing compounds and any other surface contaminants. Mechanically prepare the floor using recommended preparation methods such as shot blasting, scarifying, diamond grinding, shaving or other suitable methods to provide a roughened, clean, sound, solid and open porous surface.

Acid etching is not an acceptable method of cleaning the subfloor. Do not use solvents or sweeping compounds.

Subfloors must be dry (AS 1884) and properly primed for successful installation. Subfloor temperatures must be a minimum of  $10^{\circ}$ C. For further information, contact ARDEX technical services.

#### PRIMING

Use ARDEX P 51 over standard concrete floors prior to the installation of ARDEX levelling compounds. Mix 1 part ARDEX P 51 with 2 parts water and apply evenly using a push broom. Do not use paint rollers, mops, or spray equipment. Do not leave any bare spots. Brush off all puddles of excess primer. Allow to dry to a thin, clear film (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours). Very absorbent concrete may require two applications of primer to avoid pinholes and bubbling in the levelling compound. In such cases, make the initial coat 1 part ARDEX P 51 diluted with 3 parts water. Allow to dry and install a second coat of 1 part ARDEX P 51 diluted with 1 part water. Allow to dry to a thin, clear film (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours). Use ARDEX P 82 or P9 for non-porous substrates. Mix part A (red) with part B (white) and apply with a short-nap or sponge paint roller, leaving a thin transparent pink coat of primer no heavier than a coat of paint. Do not leave any bare spots. Roll off any areas of excess primer. Allow to dry to a thin, slightly tacky film (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours). ARDEX P 82 must be applied in a thin layer within 1 hour of mixing. Refer to the Mixing Ratio section for adjustment of mix design when using ARDEX P 82 under ARDEX K 12 new.

Note: Low subfloor temperatures and/or high ambient humidity require longer drying time for ARDEX primers. Do not install levelling compounds until primers have dried thoroughly.

#### **MIXING RATIO**

4.8 litres of water to 20kg of ARDEX K12 new.

IMPORTANT: When used in conjunction with ARDEX P 82 and for high stress areas, mix 1 litre of ARDEX E 25 with 4.5 litres of water per 20kg bag of ARDEX K12 new.

### MIXING

ARDEX Floor levelling products react and harden very quickly when mixed with water. Thorough mixing in the shortest time is essential to ensure the powder and water are evenly dispersed throughout the mix to obtain a lump-free mortar. Always mix the powder into the water. Concrete mixers and hand mixing are not suitable methods.

The most efficient method of mixing is by using an ARDEX mixing paddle and a heavy-duty electric drill (650 rpm). Normal mixing time of a 20kg bag using an electric drill or paddle is 2 to 3 minutes.

To 4.8 litres of water, add ARDEX K12 new powder whilst mixing thoroughly. Do not over-water. Or 1 part water to 3.5 parts of ARDEX K12 new powder by volume.

#### MANUAL INSTALLATION

Pour the mixed ARDEX K 12 new onto the prepared subfloor. Wear football boots with rubber or nylon studs to avoid leaving unnecessary marks in the liquid ARDEX K 12 new. Spread into place using the ARDEX gauging rake with height adjustment to obtain an even thickness. Use the ARDEX stand-up spreader for smoothing and where necessary the ARDEX hand trowel. Do not rework ARDEX K 12 new after 5 minutes.

#### **PUMPING INSTALLATION**

For ease and efficiency of application ARDEX K12 new can be pumped using a suitable Automatic Mixing Pump. Follow the instructions as set by the pump manufacturer.

Contact ARDEX technical services for further information.

#### THICKNESS

ARDEX K12 new can be applied from 1.5mm to 35mm thickness in one application.

For areas requiring a thickness over 35mm, ARDEX K 12 new can be mixed with a well washed and dried 2–5mm aggregate. Mix ARDEX K 12 new with water (4.5L) first then add the aggregate (up to an equal weight of the powder) whilst mixing.

#### COVERAGE

Approximately 1.7kg powder/mm/m<sup>2</sup>

A 20kg bag will cover approximately 4m<sup>2</sup> at 3mm thickness.

#### **DRYING-HARDENING**

Drying time is dependent on jobsite temperature, humidity, installation thickness & floor covering type. (Based on  $23^{\circ}$ C and 50% RH.)

ARDEX K 12 new when applied in a 3mm layer will harden after approximately 2–3 hours at 23°C and can be walked on after this time.

Suitable for tiles once walkable. (generally 2+ hours)

Ready for vinyl in 18 hours.

#### **TECHNICAL DATA**

Powder bulk density	1.3kg/L
Mixed mortar density	2.0kg/L
Initial set	approx. 45 min
Final set	approx. 90 min
Compressive Strength	
After 1 day	approx. 15MPa
After 3 days	approx. 20MPa
After 7 days	approx. 25MPa
After 28 days	approx. 30MPa
Tensile Bending Strength	
After 1 day	approx. 5MPa
After 3 days	approx. 6MPa
After 7 days	approx. 7MPa
After 28 days	approx. 10MPa

#### SHELF LIFE

ARDEX K 12 new has a shelf life of 12 months when stored in the original unopened packaging, in a dry place at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

#### PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING

This product is not designed as a decorative finish and may have some colour variations that will in no way adversely affect the performance of the product.

#### SAFETY DATA

This product may cause irritation and an allergic reaction to the skin. It may cause serious eye injury and irritation to the respiratory system. In case of contact with the eyes rinse with running water (15 mins) including removal of contaminated clothing. Wear protective gloves, clothing, eye and face protection. Avoid inhaling dust/ fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray. Ensure adequate ventilation during mixing and application. Store locked up. Check with your local Council regarding the disposal of contents. Keep out of the reach of children. Call the Poisons Information Centre on 131 126 (AUS) and 0800 764 766 (NZ) or call a doctor if you feel unwell. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at www.ardexaustralia.com

#### **GUARANTEE**

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd ("we" or "us") guarantees this product ("our goods") is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 10 years from the date of purchase. Our liability under this guarantee is limited at our option to replacement of the product, repair of any damage to the immediate surface or area of application of the product. or compensation, in each case if we are satisfied loss or damage was due to a breach of this guarantee. This guarantee does not apply if damage or loss is due to failure to follow published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; Toll Free: 1800 224 070; Email: technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com) and provide evidence of your purchase of the product within 30 days of any alleged loss or damage occurring. We reserve the right to ask you for satisfactory evidence of any alleged loss or damage. Any claim under this guarantee is at vour cost. This guarantee is in addition to any rights or remedies you may have as a "consumer" under the Australian Consumer Law and to that extent you need to be aware that: "Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and for compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss of damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure".

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This data sheet was issued in December 2018 and is valid for 3 years. In some instances a newer version may be published. Always refer to www.ardexaustralia.com for the latest technical data from ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd



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