ARDEX X 7 R™
Rapid Set, Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar
Fast, easy and highly versatile!

Rapid setting - walk on or grout in just 3 hours
Very good sag resistance
Use for setting porcelain, quarry, ceramic, mosaic and most natural stone tiles*
For interior and exterior applications, floors and walls
Very easy to mix and apply
Pot life: 30 - 40 minutes
Suitable for use with in-floor heating systems
Suitable for use in wet areas, including showers, swimming pools, etc.
Available in gray or white, 40 lb. (18 kg.) and 20 lb. (9 kg.) bags
**ARDEX X 7 R™**

**Rapid Set, Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar**

**Description and Usage**

ARDEX X 7 R™ is a versatile, easy-to-apply, polymer-modified tile and stone mortar with advanced properties of adhesion and flexibility. It is an ideal, everyday, fast-track solution for setting porcelain, quarry, ceramic, mosaic and most natural stone tiles in interior or exterior floor and wall applications. ARDEX X 7 R is rapid-setting and allows for grouting in just three hours.

ARDEX X 7 R can be used in wet areas, including residential and commercial showers and swimming pools, as well as over in-floor heating systems.

**Substrate Preparation**

ARDEX X 7 R adheres to both dry and damp substrates (no standing water) that are structurally sound, solid and free from oil, grease, wax, dirt, asphalt, curing compounds, sealers, releasing agents, gypsum patching compounds, dust, latex, paint and any contaminant that can act as a bond breaker. Plywood substrates must be dry, APA-rated, Type 1 exterior-grade plywood. Wallboards must be dry, sound and solidly anchored to structural components in the wall. The plane of wall surfaces must be plumb and true. Refer to ANSI A108.01 “General Requirements: Subsurface and Preparation by Other Trades” and the most current version of the Tile Council of North America’s “Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation” for detailed information on surface preparation and guidelines for substrate construction. Floor surfaces must have minimal variation in the plane or slope as outlined by the Tile Council of North America.

Should pre-leveling or subfloor repair be required, use ARDEX AM 100™ Rapid Set Pre-Tile Smoothing and Ramping Mortar, ARDEX A 38™ Rapid Set Screed or ARDEX A 38™ MIX Rapid Set, Premixed Screed for interior or exterior use or use ARDEX Liquid BackerBoard® Self-Leveling Underlayment for Interior Wood and Concrete Subfloors, ARDEX TL 1000™ Tile Leveler, Self-Leveling Underlayment or ARDEX SKM™ Skimcoat Patch & Finishing Underlayment for interior use, as appropriate. Observe the instructions and dry times in the ARDEX technical data sheets.

Per ANSI A 108 AN-3.7, expansion joints must be provided over existing moving joints and moving cracks and where substrate materials change composition or direction.

**Primig / Treating the Substrate**

Highly absorbent substrates, such as plaster, existing tiles and certain non-porous substrates must be primed or treated as detailed below before proceeding with the tile installation.

**Highly Absorbent Substrates**

**Scratch Coat:** Apply a scratch coat of ARDEX X 7 R. Allow the scratch coat to harden and dry approximately 2 - 3 hours before proceeding with the tile installation.

**Prime (interior, dry applications only):** Prime with ARDEX P 51™ Primer diluted 1:3 with water, and allow this course to dry thoroughly (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours) before proceeding with the tile installation.

**Metal, Glass and Certain Other Non-Porous Surfaces**

ARDEX 8+9: Apply a coat of ARDEX 8+9, which must dry 1 - 2 hours before proceeding with the tile installation.

For more information, refer to the ARDEX Substrate Preparation Brochure at www.arDEXamericas.com.

**Recommended Tools**

Margin trowel, mixing container, ARDEX T-2 Ring Mixing Paddle, 1/2” (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm) and appropriate notched trowel.

**Mixing and Application**

For one 40 lb. (18 kg) bag of ARDEX X 7 R, use 4 3/4 - 5 quarts (4.5 - 4.7 L) of clean water. For one 20 lb. (9 kg) bag of ARDEX X 7 R, use 2 3/8 - 2 1/2 quarts (2.25 - 2.36 L) of clean water. To mix smaller quantities by hand, use 3 1/4 parts powder to 1 part water by volume.

Pour water in the mixing container first, and then add the ARDEX X 7 R while mixing for 2 - 3 minutes. For best results, mix with an ARDEX T-2 Ring Mixing Paddle and 1/2” heavy-duty drill (12 mm, min. 650 rpm). If mixing small batches by hand, use a margin trowel and mix vigorously. Just prior to application on the substrate, the mixture should be stirred again to ensure a creamy, smooth, lump-free consistency.

For mixing to a thicker consistency, less water can be used (minimum 4 1/2 quarts / 4.2 L per 40 lb. bag and minimum 2 1/4 quarts / 2.1 L per 20 lb. bag). However, this can lead to a shorter working time and pot life.

The pot life of ARDEX X 7 R is approximately 30 - 40 minutes at 70°F (21°C). Jobsite conditions and temperature may affect pot life. If the material begins to harden within this time, remix with a drill and mixing paddle. **DO NOT ADD MORE WATER!**

Installation should proceed in accordance with ANSI A 108.5. After mixing, apply the mortar to the substrate with the flat side of a notched trowel (keying in) to obtain a solid mechanical bond. Next, comb the mortar on the surface with the notched side of a trowel of sufficient depth to ensure that the tile or stone is covered uniformly over the entire surface. The type and size of the tile** or stone will dictate the size of the notched trowel to be used to achieve proper transfer of the mortar and proper coverage. Follow the recommendations of the Tile Council of North America for proper transfer of ARDEX X 7 R from the substrate to the tile or stone.

Apply to an area no greater than that which can be covered with tiles while the mortar remains plastic (approx. 20 minutes). Do not set tile or stone into skinned over mortar. The position of the tile or stone may be adjusted for up to 20 minutes after installation.

**Grouting**

Floor and wall tiles can be grouted in accordance with ANSI A 108.10 using the appropriate ARDEX grout as soon as the ARDEX X 7 R has hardened sufficiently so that the tiles will not be dislodged (approximately 3 hours).
When setting certain types of tile or stone, it may be necessary to trowel a layer of mortar on the back of each tile or stone prior to placement on the combed mortar bed in order to achieve the required mortar-to-tile contact. Press each tile firmly into the freshly combed mortar to ensure maximum mortar contact with the tiles.

For cases requiring waterproofing, please refer to the ARDEX 8+9 technical data sheet and the ARDEX 8+9 “5 Step Application Guide” or the SK 175™ Waterproofing Membrane and Vapor Retarder for Tile & Stone Installations technical data sheet.

*For setting moisture-sensitive natural stone or agglomerate tiles, use ARDEX X 32™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced Rapid Setting Thin to Thick Bed Mortar or ARDEX N 23 MICROTEC® Rapid Set Natural Stone and Tile Mortar (interior, dry applications only).

For setting glass tiles in swimming pools and other submerged areas, use ARDEX WA™ High Performance, 100% Solids Epoxy Grout and Adhesive. For setting glass tiles at the water line of a swimming pool, use either ARDEX WA or ARDEX X 77™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced Tile and Stone Mortar White mixed with ARDEX E 90™ Mortar Admix. For setting glass tiles in non-submerged applications, use ARDEX X 77 for interior or exterior applications or use ARDEX S 48™ Rapid-Set Tile and Stone Mortar / Mastic Hybrid for interior applications only. ARDEX X 7 R will perform best in pool water that is properly chemically balanced in accordance with pool industry standards. High concentrations of salts and chemicals, known as "shocking," will destroy cementitious products over time.

Balconies, terraces and building facades experience a great deal of movement due to temperature changes. For the best resistance to this movement, use ARDEX X 77 for vertical applications or ARDEX X 78™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced, Semi-Pourable Tile and Stone Mortar or ARDEX FB 9 L™ Pourable ShearFlex® Mortar for horizontal applications.

* For large format tiles, use ARDEX X 77, ARDEX X 78 or ARDEX X 5™ Thin Set Mortar. Always comply with local building codes.

Please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department before proceeding with any of the above demanding applications.

ARDEX X 7 R is intended for use at material and surface temperatures between 50° and 85°F (10° to 29°C). Do not install below 50°F (10°C) surface and air temperatures. For warm weather installation instructions, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

Never mix with cement or additives. Observe the basic rules of tile work. ARDEX recommends the installation of test areas to confirm the suitability of the product for its intended use.

Dispose of packaging 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 Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available at www.ardexamericas.com
Technical Data According To ARDEX

Quality Standards

All data based on a mixing ratio of 3 1/4 parts powder to 1 part water by volume at 70°F (21°C). Physical properties are typical values and not specifications.

Mixing Ratio:
4 3/4 - 5 quarts (4.5 - 4.7 L) of water per 40 lb. (18 kg) bag
2 3/8 - 2 1/2 quarts (2.25 - 2.36 L) of water per 20 lb. (9 kg) bag
For smaller batches, use 3 1/4 parts powder to 1 part water by volume.

Approximate Coverage per 40 lb. (18 kg) bag:
1/4” x 1/4” x 1/4” Sq. Notch Trowel
85 sq. ft. (7.9 sq. m)
1/4” x 3/8” x 1/4” Sq. Notch Trowel
70 sq. ft. (6.5 sq. m)
1/2” x 1/2” x 1/2” Sq. Notch Trowel
55 sq. ft. (5.1 sq. m)

Open Time: Up to 20 minutes
Pot Life: Approx. 30 - 40 minutes
Adjustment Time: Approx. 20 minutes
Time to Grout: As soon as the mortar has hardened sufficiently so that the tiles will not be dislodged (approximately 3 hours)

Colors:
Gray
White

VOC: 0

Packaging: 40 lb. (18 kg) bag
20 lb. (9 kg) bag

Storage: Store in a cool, dry area. Do not leave bags exposed to sun.

Shelf Life: 1 year, if unopened.

Warranty: ARDEX Engineered Cements Standard Limited Warranty applies. Also eligible for the ARDEX SystemOne™ Warranty when used in conjunction with ARDEX grouts and ARDEX caulks.

Made in the USA.

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For easy-to-use ARDEX Product Calculators and Product Information On the Go, download the ARDEX App at the iTunes Store or Google Play.