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# UNIVERSAL FORTIFIED THIN-SET MORTAR

- Spreads like mastic – Bonds like thin-set
- Bonds most tiles to most surfaces
- Fast setting – Grout the same day
- Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11

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## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Highly flexible, water-resistant, cement-based adhesive that mixes to a smooth, creamy, mastic-like consistency. Offers the bond strength of a polymer-modified thin-set with the ease of use of a mastic. Fast-setting formula allows grouting the same day. Bonds ceramic, quarry, porcelain and glass tile and natural stone. Apply to interior concrete, cement backerboards, drywall, exterior grade plywood or existing ceramic tile. Exceeds ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 without the need for additives. Formerly Universal Tile Setting Adhesive.

## USES — TILE TYPES

- Vitreous, semi-vitreous or absorptive tile:
  - ceramic, mosaic, quarry, cement,
- Impervious porcelain and glass tile
- Brick and mini-brick
- Precast terrazzo
- Natural stone tile

## AREAS OF USE

- Interior floors, countertops, walls
- Concrete, mortar beds, masonry, Portland cement plaster
- WonderBoard®, RhinoBoard™ cement backerboards
- Exterior grade plywood (interior residential and light commercial dry areas)
- Gypsum wall board (dry areas)
- Water-resistant wallboard
- Existing ceramic tile
- Sheet vinyl flooring, VCT
- Plastic laminates
- Cutback adhesive

## LIMITATIONS

- Do not bond directly to hardwood, Luan plywood, particle board, parquet, cushion or sponge-back vinyl flooring, metal, fiberglass, plastic and OSB panels.
- When setting moisture sensitive natural stone or agglomerates (check with manufacturer) use OptiCure™
- Fortified Thin-Set Mortar or 100% Solids Epoxy Mortar.
- Do not use to install resin-backed marble.

- When setting glass tile larger than 6" x 6" (15 x 15 cm) contact Technical Support for recommendations.
- When setting dimensional stone larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm), contact Technical Support for recommendations regarding subfloor deflection requirements.
- Not recommended for steam rooms, shower floors or areas exposed to prolonged water exposure or underwater applications.
- For interior use only.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

### General Surface Preparation:

Surfaces must be structurally sound, clean, dry and free from grease, oil, dirt, curing compounds, sealers, adhesives or any other contaminant that would prevent a good bond. Glossy or painted surfaces must be sanded, stripped and cleaned of waxes, dirt or any contaminants. Ambient temperature, surfaces and materials should be maintained at a temperature above 50° F (10° C) or below 100° F (38° C) for 72 hours.

### Cementitious Surfaces:

Concrete or plaster must be fully cured and accept water penetration. Test by sprinkling water on various areas of the substrate. If water penetrates, then a good bond can be achieved. If water beads, surface contaminants are present and loss of adhesion may occur. The contaminants should be removed before installation. Concrete must be free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure. Concrete slabs should have a broomed or brushed finish to enhance the bond. Smooth concrete slabs must be roughened to ensure a good bond.

### Plywood Substrates:

Plywood floors including those under resilient flooring must be built to industry standards. Deflection not to exceed L/360. For questions about proper subfloor installation, call Technical Support.

### WonderBoard® and RhinoBoard™ Backerboards:

As a superior alternative to an additional layer of plywood, WonderBoard or RhinoBoard backerboards may be installed over plywood subfloors. Refer to their respective data sheets for installation information.



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BUILDING PRODUCTS

### Existing Ceramic Tile, Resilient Flooring or Plastic Laminates:

Resilient flooring or plastic laminates must be well bonded, clean and free of all contaminants. Roughen the surface by sanding or scarifying, rinse and allow to dry. Do not sand flooring containing asbestos. For existing well-bonded ceramic tile, mechanically abrade with carborundum stone. Rinse and allow to dry. When sanding we recommend the use of an approved respirator.

### Expansion Joints:

Expansion joints, control joints and cold joints should never be bridged with setting material. They must be brought through the tile work and filled with an appropriate elastomeric sealant.

### Cutback Adhesive over Concrete:

Thick accumulations, powdery, brittle or weak adhesive layers must be removed. Use extreme caution as adhesives may contain asbestos fibers. Do not sand or grind adhesive residue, as harmful dust may result. Use the wet-scraping and wet-sweeping method outlined in the Resilient Floor Covering Institute pamphlet "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings". Never use adhesive removers or solvents, as they weaken or soften the adhesive and may cause it to penetrate into the concrete. The remaining residue should be no thicker than a coat of paint and should be almost transparent. Always install an adequate number of properly located test areas.

### MIXING

Add approximately 2 quarts (1.9 L) clean, cool water to a 7.5 lb. (3.4 kg) box of adhesive and mix to a smooth, paste-like consistency and use immediately. No waiting time required. Minor adjustments in consistency can be made by adding small amounts of powder or water. Stir occasionally to keep creamy and smooth, but do not add more water. Stir occasionally to keep fluffy, but do not add more water. When properly mixed, troweled ridges will stand with no slump.

### APPLICATION

INSTALLATION TO CONFORM TO ANSI A108.5. Use proper sized notch trowel to ensure 100% coverage under tiles. Using flat side of trowel, apply skim coat of mortar to the surface. Apply additional mortar with notched side of trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Press tile firmly into place in a perpendicular motion across ridges, moving back and forth. Perpendicular pressing flattens ridges and closes valleys allowing maximum coverage. With some tile, back buttering is advisable. Adjust tile promptly and beat in with block and rubber mallet. Periodically pull up a tile and check the back to ensure complete coverage with the adhesive.

Do not spread more material than can be tiled in 10 minutes or while material has wet tack (sticky to the touch). If material has skinned over (not sticky), recomb with notched trowel. If too dry, remove and replace with fresh material. Material in bucket will remain workable approximately 30 minutes.

### DRYING TIME

Allow to cure for at least 3 hours before grouting wall tiles and 5 hours for floor tiles. Polyblend® Tile Grout is recommended. Allow an additional 3 - 4 hours before exposing to heavy traffic.

### COVERAGE

27 sq. ft./7.5 lb. (2.5 m<sup>2</sup>/3.4 kg) box when applied with a 1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" (6 x 6 x 6 mm) square-notch trowel and 60 sq. ft. (5.6 m<sup>2</sup>) with a 5/32" (4 mm) V-notch trowel.

### CLEAN-UP

Clean with water before material dries.

### STORAGE:

Store in a cool dry area.

### SAFETY

Contains Portland cement. Avoid eye contact or prolonged contact with skin. Wash thoroughly after handling. If eye contact occurs, flush with water for 15 minutes and consult a physician. This product contains free silica. Do not breathe dust; wear NIOSH approved respirator.

### ORDERING INFORMATION

ITEM CODE	SIZE	COLOR	PACKAGE
UTSA7	7.5 lb. (3.4 kg)	White	Box

### TECHNICAL DATA

Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11.

	UNIVERSAL FORTIFIED THIN-SET MORTAR
Pot Life	30 minutes
Open Time	15 minutes
Adjustment Time	15 minutes
Shear Bond @ 28 Days:	
Bisque Tile	391 psi (27.5 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Porcelain Tile	210 psi (14.7 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Quarry Tile to Plywood	160 psi (11.3 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )

