



# WALL MIX

Dry-Set Mortar For Wall Tile

## Product Information

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**Wall Mix** is a factory blend of Portland cement, fine sand and special additives which produce an excellent dry-set mortar for installation of high absorption (greater than 7%) wall tiles .

### BASIC USE

**Wall Mix** is used as a bond coat for setting absorptive and non-vitreous ceramic tile for service in residential and commercial use. It is used in a mortar bed as

thin as  $\frac{3}{32}$ " after the tiles have been properly embedded. It is water cleanable, nonflammable and requires no soaking of tiles. **Wall Mix** provides a permanent installation with higher bond strength and lower material and labor costs than conventional Portland cement mortar beds. The addition of Tex-Rite La-O-Tex Admixture or A-Crylic Mortar Admixture to **Wall Mix** significantly improves bond strength, flexibility, abrasion and shock resistance, erosion from chemical attack and frost resistance. On exterior applications and areas subjected to freezing conditions, La-O-Tex Admixture or A-Crylic Mortar Admixture must be used in lieu of water. Meets ANSI A118.4 when mixed with La-O-Tex or A-Crylic Mortar Admixtures. Meets ANSI A118.11 when mixed with A-Crylic Mortar Admix.

### AREA OF USE

Suitable backings, when clean and properly prepared, include plumb and true masonry concrete (broom finished), gypsum board (dry interior areas only), and cured Portland cement mortar beds. **Wall Mix** must be mixed with La-O-Tex Admixture or A-Crylic Mortar Admix for application over cementitious backer units, brick, concrete block, unglazed ceramic tile, porcelain bodied tile, marble and exterior applications. Any other substrate including waterproofing, crack isolation or uncoupling membranes must be approved in writing by an officer of the manufacturer.

### LIMITATIONS

**Wall Mix** must not be applied directly to wood, asphalt sheeting, vinyl covered wall board, Masonite, metal, glass, plastic, particle board, asphaltic or chemically treated surfaces or gypsum mortar beds. **Wall Mix** is not effected by prolonged contact with water but it does not form a water-proof barrier. Some green or red marbles may warp when installed with setting materials that contain water causing loss of bond and or damage to the finish. These marbles must be set using EpoxyPlus 2002 TS.

### APPLICABLE STANDARDS

Conforms to requirements for dry-set mortars found in ANSI A118.1 and A108.5. When mixed with La-O-Tex Admixture or A-Crylic

Mortar Admixture, conforms to requirements for ANSI A118.4.

### PACKAGING

COLOR: Gray or white.  
TEXTURE: Powder, consisting of Portland cement, graded sand, organic and inorganic chemicals.  
PACKAGING: 50 lbs. Multi-wall bags.

### INSTALLATION

#### Preparatory Work

All surfaces on which tiles are to be set must be structurally sound, completely clean, free of frost and in an atmosphere above 40°F during its initial (72 hours) cure.

#### Cementitious Substrates

Area must be dry and free of efflorescence, grease, oil, dirt, dust, paint, sealers, curing compounds, asphalt, cut back residue, old adhesives and other foreign matter. Cleaning may be accomplished via mechanical sanding, scraping, chipping or shot blasting. Smooth steel troweled concrete must be scarified or shot-blasted to provide a roughened surface.

#### Non-Cementitious Substrates

Surfaces such as stripwood, old plaster, water-resistant gypsum board or painted surfaces that provide bonding problems should be covered with a cleavage membrane (15-lb roofing felt or 4 mil polyethylene film) topped with a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (10 mm to 19 mm) reinforced mortar bed for walls and a  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " (32 mm) reinforced mortar bed for floors. After a minimum of 20 hours, the dry-set mortar may be applied to the mortar bed.

#### Tile Over Tile, Marble or Terrazzo

It is absolutely essential that the existing tile, marble or terrazzo be well bonded. The surfaces must be prepared in accordance with the requirements for cementitious surfaces. It is also necessary to abrade the surface to assure proper bonding. When tiling over existing tile, marble or terrazzo, **Wall Mix** must be mixed with La-O-Tex Liquid or A-Crylic Mortar Admixture.

#### Wood Substates

Structurally sound wooden surfaces must be covered with a metal lath and scratch coat. Secure a membrane (15-lb roofing felt or 4-mil polyethylene film) to the surface, then attach metal lath and apply a "scratch and leveling" coat. Use a thickness of  $\frac{3}{8}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (10 mm to 19 mm) reinforced mortar bed for walls. After a minimum of 20 hours, the dry-set mortar may be applied to the mortar bed. (TCA Method W-222, W-231)

#### Expansion Joints

Shall be installed in accordance with local building codes. See EJ 171 in T.C.N.A. Handbook for detailed specifications. Never bridge an expansion, contraction, or construction joint. Remove all thinset, mortar, grout and debris from joints before sealant is placed.

#### Mixing

Blend with clean, potable water (60°-80°F) or a latex liquid admix-

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ture to desired paste consistency. Mix approximately 5 1/2 quarts per 50 lb. bag. Mix with slow RPM (300) mixer. Allow mix to slake for 10 to 15 minutes, then remix before using

#### Application

Spread mortar with flat side of trowel to key-in substrate; then, reapply additional mortar to a depth sufficient to be notched with a suitable trowel that will leave only enough mortar to give 100% contact with back of tile and a subsequent mortar bed of 3/32" - 3/16". Comb mortar with notched side of trowel in one direction only. Set the tile in the mortar and move the tile back and forth perpendicular to the trowel ridges to collapse the ridges and "embed" the tile in the mortar establishing complete coverage. With high lug tiles, "back buttering" may be required to ensure 100% coverage of back of tiles. During the setting of tile, it is advisable to occasionally remove a tile to be sure mortar has not skinned over and sufficient transfer is being made. Do not adjust tiles in mortar after they have been set past 10-15 minutes. **Do not abut tile to perimeter walls or restraining surfaces. Leave a minimum spacing of 1/4", void of any setting material or tile, to allow for expansion. Fill the 1/4" spacing with caulk or sealant if exposed.**

**NOTE:** As a practical test, it is recommended that three or more separate twelve inch square areas of tile be bonded to the properly prepared surface with the actual tile and bonding materials that will be used on the finished installation. These should be allowed to cure for 72 hours and then removed with a hammer and chisel. At this point, one can determine if adequate bond has been obtained or if a problem exists.

#### Trowel Recommendation

Suitable for providing a minimum 3/32" bed thickness after embedding. Refer to coverage chart for proper trowel size.

#### Coverage

Coverage per 50 lbs. bag using a square-notched trowel:  
1/4" x 1/4" = 79 sq.ft., 1/4" x 3/8" = 68 sq.ft., 1/2" x 1/2" = 41 sq.ft.

#### Working Time

Approximately 30 minutes to 1 hour, depending on ambient temperature. Use temperature range between 50°F- 90°F.

#### Cleaning

Water is all that is needed to remove uncured mortar.

#### Curing and Grouting

Do not allow dry-set mortar to freeze for the first 72 hours. A minimum cure is obtained in 12 - 24 hours, depending on ambient temperatures. Normal grouting should be done 48 hours after tiles have been set (ANSI A108.5).

### SPECIFICATIONS

#### Technical Data: Wall Mix

Test	Requirement	Typical Values
*Open time @70°F	-	10 minutes
*Adjustability @ 70°F	-	10-15 minutes
*Bucket life @ 70°F	-	6 hours
Compressive Strength (PSI) ASTM C-109	-	>3300
Shear Bond (PSI) ANSI A118.1		
Non-Vitreous Tile	7 Day 200 Minimum	>265
	28 Day 250 Minimum	>290
Vitreous Tile	7 Day N/S	>205
	28 Day N/S	>265

*\*These values reflect the results of practical testing methods closely associated with applications in the field.*

Storage Life - One year if kept dry in sealed bag.

**SAFETY – CAUTION:** May cause eye, skin or lung injury. Contains free silica. Prolonged exposure to dust may cause delayed lung disease (silicosis). Eliminate exposure to dust. Recommend use of a NIOSH approved mask for silica dust. Contains Portland cement. If any cement or cement mixture gets into the eye, flush immediately and repeatedly with water and consult a physician promptly. Freshly mixed cement, mortar, concrete or grout may cause skin injury. Avoid contact with skin where possible and wash exposed skin areas promptly with water.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

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