

# Trade FlexiRapid

## Flexible Rapid Setting Floor & Wall Tile Adhesive

- Flexible - ideal for fixing to plywood overlay substrates
- Walk on and grout after 3 hours
- Suitable for fixing ceramic, porcelain and natural stone tiles
- Ideal for use with Underfloor Heating Systems
- Improved slip resistance, ideal when fixing large format tiles
- Suitable for use in commercial and heavy traffic environments
- 3mm – 12mm bed depth
- Internal & External use

Flexible  
& Rapid  
Setting

CLASS  
**C2 FT**  
to EN 12004

Walk on and  
grout after  
**3 Hours**



# TILEMASTER **TRADE FLEXIRAPID**

## Flexible Rapid Setting Floor & Wall Tile Adhesive

### DESCRIPTION:

Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid is a polymer modified, flexible rapid setting cement based floor and wall tile adhesive with increased adhesion and non-slip properties.

Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid has been specially formulated for fixing a large variety of tiles including ceramic, porcelain and natural stone tiles to substrates subject to limited movement and/or vibration such as plywood overlay and underfloor heating systems as well as for fixing to solid substrates such as concrete and sand/cement screed. Its rapid setting capability allows for light foot traffic and grouting after 3 hours.

Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid can be used internally and externally and it is unaffected by frost after setting.

### TILES:

- ✓ Ceramics
- ✓ Porcelain
- ✓ Marble
- ✓ Travertine
- ✓ Limestone
- ✓ Slate
- ✗ Quartz
- ✓ Granite
- ✗ Composite
- ✓ Terracotta
- ✓ Mosaics
- ✓ Quarry

### SUBSTRATES:

- ✓ Sand/Cement Screed
- ✓ Concrete
- ✓ Plywood Overlay (15mm min)
- ✓ Electric Underfloor Heating
- ✓ Water/Wet System Underfloor Heating
- ✓ Tile Backer Boards
- ✓ Existing Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone Tiles\*
- ✓ Flooring Grade Asphalt & Bitumen\*
- ✓ Anhydrite Screeds
- ✓ Plaster
- ✓ Plasterboard
- ✓ Fibre Cement Sheet
- ✓ Cement/Sand Render
- ✓ Concrete Brick/Block
- ✗ T & G Floorboards
- ✗ Floating Floors
- ✓ Existing Vinyl Tiles\*
- ✗ Steel/Metal Surfaces
- ✗ Fibreglass
- ✗ Green Screed

\* Prime with Prime+ Grip



### NOTE:

Tilemaster Trade Felexirapid is suitable for use with natural stone tiles but suitability with very porous and sensitive natural stone tiles must be tested prior to use. Confirmation of suitability should be sought from the supplier of the natural stone tiles or alternatively, please contact our technical department on 01772 456831, we will be happy to assist.

### PREPARATION:

Before starting, all substrates must be clean, dry and strong enough to support the weight of the tiles, tile adhesive and grout. Remove all dust, dirt, oil, grease and other contaminants that may affect adhesion.

### MIXING & APPLICATION:

Only mix small quantities at a time until you have become accustomed to the fast setting nature of the product. Always mix powder to water and mix to a smooth and lump free consistency. As a guide for powder to water ratio, 20kg of powder requires approximately 4.4 - 4.6 litres of water. Never add water after initial mixing, as this will impair the strength of the adhesive. Product that has started to set must be discarded.

**NB.** When fixing large format tiles, natural stone tiles and tiles that have deep studs on the back, you must skim the back of the tile with a thin 1 – 2mm layer of adhesive, this is referred to as back buttering. This will significantly improve the bond strength.

On a flat, even substrate where dry conditions exist, apply adhesive to the substrate as a thin floated coat at a uniform thickness of 3mm – 6mm and then rib / comb out using a suitable notched trowel. Where substrate conditions do not allow thin bed fixing, Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid can be applied to a maximum bed thickness of 12mm. Ensuring the adhesive is still moist, bed tiles into adhesive using a twisting action ensuring full coverage of adhesive between tile and substrate. Regular checks should be made to make sure that there are no voids in the adhesive bed.

**NB.** When fixing tiles externally or in areas subject to prolonged or permanent wet conditions, you must ensure that you achieve 100% adhesive coverage between tile and substrate.

Clean surplus adhesive from the tiles and joints as soon as possible as set adhesive will prove very difficult to remove later.

Clean tools after use with water.

### GROUTING:

Do not start grouting until the adhesive has set. This time can vary depending on temperature and site conditions. Impervious surfaces may extend the set time. In ideal conditions grouting can begin after 3 hours. If you are tiling an area of limited movement or underfloor heating, you must use a flexible grout such as Tilemaster Grout 3000 or Tilemaster Flexigrout.

If you are unsure with any of our instructions please call our Technical Helpline on 01772 456831, we will be happy to assist.

### Tilemaster Adhesives Ltd.

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### SUBSTRATE PREPARATION GUIDE:

**Concrete:** New concrete must be allowed a minimum of 6 weeks drying time. As an approximate guide for drying times, allow 1 day per mm up to an overall depth of 50mm and 2 days per mm for anything above 50mm. Remove any laitance from the surface mechanically and ensure that mould oil, curing agents and any other contaminants are removed. Remove all dust and dirt ideally by vacuum. Prime the surface with Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus and allow to dry. Very porous substrates will require more than one coat.

**Sand/Cement Screed:** New sand/cement screed must be left for a minimum of 4 weeks to dry sufficiently. Remove any laitance from the surface mechanically and ensure that mould oil, curing agents and any other contaminants are removed. Remove all dust and dirt ideally by vacuum. Prime the surface with Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus and allow to dry. Very porous substrates will require more than one coat.

**Flooring Grade Asphalt/Bitumen:** Ensure that the flooring grade asphalt/bitumen is in good condition and that there are no signs of debonding and/or hollowness. Make sure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Prime + Grip and allow to dry.

**Existing Ceramic, Porcelain & Natural Stone Tiles:** Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Existing tiles that have been previously treated with sealer must be sufficiently cleaned in order to remove any surface treatments. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Prime + Grip and allow to dry.

**Gypsum Plaster:** New plaster must be allowed to dry for a minimum of 4 weeks. Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. If the plaster has a polished/shiny surface, brush with a stiff bristle brush to abrade/roughen the surface prior to application. Prime the surface with 2 coats of Tilemaster Primeplus, both coats diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus. Allow the first coat to become touch dry before applying the second coat. The combined weight of the tile, tile adhesive and grout should not exceed 20kg /m<sup>2</sup>.

**Gypsum Plasterboard:** Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus. The combined weight of the tile, tile adhesive and grout should not exceed 32kg /m<sup>2</sup>.

**Plywood Overlay:** Prior to tiling, ensure that new or existing boards are dry, i.e. conditioned to the environment in which they will be used. Plywood must be 15mm (minimum), flooring grade, screwed (not nailed) to substrate at 6 inch/150mm centres. Ensure there is sufficient ventilation beneath substrate and that the plywood has been fitted competently and will take the weight of the tiles, tile adhesive and grout. Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Existing and/or lightly contaminated plywood requires priming with Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus. New, uncontaminated plywood does not require priming prior to tiling.

**Underfloor Heating Systems:** When tiling onto existing underfloor heating you must switch the heating off 48 hours prior to tiling to allow the substrate to cool sufficiently. When tiling has been completed allow 1 week for full cure of tile adhesive and grout before switching the heating on. When doing so, start with a low temperature and gradually increase the temperature on a daily basis by no more than 2°C per day.

When tiling on to a new electric element underfloor heating system, the electric underfloor heating mat/element must be embedded into a self-levelling compound such as Tilemaster Levelflex or Tilemaster Rapid Level 30 in order to protect the heating element and to leave a perfect surface on which to apply tiles. Again, allow one week for full cure before switching the heating on, start with a low temperature and gradually increase the temperature on a daily basis by no more than 2°C per day.

Underfloor Heated Screeds should be commissioned prior to tiling. Turn on the heating system at a low temperature and heat the screed gradually by no more than 5°C per day until a maximum temperature of 25°C is achieved. Maintain this temperature for 3 days and then switch the heating off 48 hours prior to tiling to allow the substrate to cool sufficiently. Alternatively, in cold conditions, reduce the temperature of the screed to below 15°C prior to tiling. When tiling has been completed allow 1 week for full cure of tile adhesive and grout before switching the heating on. When doing so, start with a low temperature and gradually increase the temperature on a daily basis by no more than 2°C per day.

**Concrete Blocks:** Ensure surface is dry and free of contaminants, loose dust and dirt. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus and allow to dry.

**Anhydrite/Gypsum Screed:** Anhydrite/Gypsum screeds must be confirmed dry via consistent moisture readings across the whole floor. As an approximate guide for drying times, allow 1 day per mm up to an overall depth of 40mm and 2 days per mm for anything above 40mm. The drying of anhydrite/gypsum screeds can be assisted by commissioning the underfloor heating system, for further information, please contact our Technical Helpline. **All anhydrite/gypsum screeds must be mechanically sanded/abraded prior to tiling in order to remove the laitance from the surface of the screed.**

Tilemaster Adhesives preferred tile adhesive for use on anhydrite/gypsum screeds is Tilemaster AnhyFix. Tilemaster AnhyFix is a gypsum based tile adhesive which is 100% compatible with anhydrite/gypsum screeds. When using Tilemaster Anhyfix, the residual moisture content of the screed must be less than 1.0%. Alternatively, the relative humidity must be 85% or below. Once these levels have been reached and the surface is free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt, prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus and allow to become touch dry. Tiling can then commence with Tilemaster Anhyfix.

Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid is also suitable for use on Anhydrite/Gypsum screeds providing the residual moisture content of the screed is below 0.5%. Alternatively, the relative humidity must be 75% or below. When using Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid onto Anhydrite/Gypsum screed, the surface of the screed needs priming with **2 coats** of Tilemaster Primeplus in order to provide a barrier between the screed and tile adhesive. The first coat of Tilemaster Primeplus must be diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus. Apply the first diluted coat and allow to become touch dry before applying a second coat of neat Tilemaster Primeplus.

**Tile Backer Board:** Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus and allow to dry. Alternatively refer to the board manufacturers priming instructions.

**Existing Vinyl Tiles/Sheet Vinyl:** Make sure the existing vinyl tiles/sheet vinyl is firm, stable and well adhered to the substrate to which the vinyl was originally applied to. Ensure the surface is dry and free of any contaminants, loose dust or dirt. Existing vinyl that has been previously treated with sealer must be sufficiently cleaned in order to remove any surface treatments. Prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Prime + Grip and allow to dry.

**Power Floated Concrete:** Ensure the surface has been allowed 7 days to cure. Power floated concrete can leave a loose top layer and/or laitance once it has cured. Remove the loose top layer and any laitance from the surface mechanically or by acid etching and remove all dust and particles ideally by vacuum. Once all laitance has been removed, prime the surface with one coat of Tilemaster Primeplus diluted 3 parts water to 1 part Tilemaster Primeplus.

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Standard Conformity	Conforms to BS EN 12004 C2 FT
Bed Thickness	3mm – 12mm
Coverage	20kg will cover approximately 5 – 6 m <sup>2</sup> at 3mm bed application
Open Time/Working Time	Approximately 30 minutes at 20°C
Before Grouting	Approximately 3 hours depending on temperature and substrate The set time will be increased by lower temperatures and reduced at higher temperatures * Tiling onto an impervious substrate with a non-porous tile will increase the set time
Storage	Store unopened, clear of the ground in cool, dry conditions
Shelf Life	Stored correctly this product has a shelf life of 6 months
Colours	Grey and White
Pack Sizes	20kg
Note	All work must be carried out in accordance with British Standard Code of Practice for floor and wall tiling BS5385

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

Tilemaster Trade FlexiRapid Adhesive contains cement. Contact with moisture or gauging water sets off an alkaline reaction which may cause skin irritation and/or caustic burns to mucous membranes (e.g. eyes). Irritant to respiratory system. Risk of serious damage to eyes, therefore avoid contact with eyes and prolonged contact with skin. Do not breathe dust. In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. After contact with skin, take off immediately all contaminated clothing, and wash immediately with plenty of water and soap. Wear suitable gloves (e.g. cotton gloves soaked in nitrile) and eye/face protection. If swallowed, seek medical advice immediately and show this container or label. Keep out of reach of children. Low in chromates.

For further information refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet.

The information contained on this spec sheet is given voluntarily and in good faith. It is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate; however it may contain information which is inappropriate under certain conditions of use. The company cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage due to inappropriate use or the possibility of variations of working conditions and of workmanship outside our control.

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<b>EN 12004:2007 + A1:2012</b> Improved fast setting cement based adhesive with reduced slip	
Transverse Deformation	N/A
<b>Bond Strength, as:</b>	
• early tensile adhesion strength	>0.5 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
• initial tensile adhesion strength	> 1.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
<b>Durability, for:</b>	
• tensile adhesion strength after heat ageing	> 1.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
• tensile adhesion strength after water immersion	> 1.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
• tensile adhesion strength after freeze/thaw cycles	> 1.0 N/mm <sup>2</sup>

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