KERABOND T

Cement based adhesive for fixing all types of ceramic tiles and mosaics to internal and external walls and floors.





CLASSIFICATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH EN 12004

Kerabond T is a cementitious (C), unmodified (1), reduced slip (T) adhesive.

WHERE TO USE

- Internal and external fixing of ceramic tiles and mosaics on floors and walls
- Spot bonding of insulating materials such as expanded polystyrene, expanded polyurethane, rock and glass wool, Heraclit® wood-cement and sound-deadening panels, etc.

Some application examples

Paper-faced or mesh-backed mosaics and all types of ceramic tiles (quarry tiles, single fired and klinker tiles, etc.), on:

- conventional renders or cement mortar walls
- ordinary concrete slabs or reinforced floating slabs, provided they are sufficiently well aged and dry;
- gypsum plaster and anhydrite screeds as long as they are first treated with a suitable primer.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Kerabond T is a grey or white powder composed of cement, fine-grade, synthetic resins and special admixtures formulated in the MAPEI Research and Development Laboratories.
Mixed with water, **Kerabond T** becomes an easily trowellable mortar with good bonding strength, low slump and high grab so that it can be applied on wall substrates, without slippage even with larger format tiles. It is possible to install from the top towards the bottom without using spacer pegs. **Kerabond T** hardens without noticeable shrinkage, allowing proper adhesion to all solid conventional materials used in construction.
N.B.: *Mixing **Kerabond T** with **Isolastic** in place of water improves the characteristics to meet the requirements of class C2ES2 (cementitious (C) improved (2) extended open time (E) highly deformable (S2) according to EN 12004.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

Use **Kerabond T** mixed with **Isolastic** in the following cases:

- on insulated concrete walls;
- on pre-cast or cast-concrete structures;
- over underfloor heating installations;

- with large format tiles;
- for the installation of glass mosaics;
- for the installation of stone materials provided that they are not sensitive to moisture.

Do not use **Kerabond T** in the following cases:

- on wooden substrates;
- on gypsum board walls;
- on metal, rubber, PVC and linoleum surfaces;
- for laying tiles which require a layer of adhesive more than 5 mm thick;
- where the surface must be set to light foot traffic rapidly;
- for the installation of non-absorbent tiles (quarry tiles, single-fired tiles, klinker tiles, etc.) on other non-absorbent wall and floor substrates.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Preparing the substrate

The substrates must be cured, mechanically strong, free from loose particles, grease, oils, paint, wax and sufficiently dry.
Cement substrates must not be subject to shrinkage after the installation of the tiles. During spring and summer, renders must be cured for at least one week for every centimetre of thickness and cement screeds must be cured for at least 28 days, unless they have been made with MAPEI special binders for screeds such as **Mapecem**, **Mapecem Pronto**, **Topcem** or with **Topcem Pronto**. Concrete bases must be cured for a minimum of 6 weeks.
Dampen with water to cool surfaces which have been heated by exposure to sunlight.
Gypsum substrates and anhydrite screeds must be perfectly dry, sufficiently hard and free from dust. It is absolutely essential that the surface is abraded and then treated with **Primer G** or **Eco Prim T Plus**.
In general, refer to the relative MAPEI technical documentation regarding substrate preparation before repairing cracks in substrates, consolidating rapid-drying screeds and levelling off installation surfaces.

Preparing the mix

To a clean bucket add 4.8-5.2 liters of clean water and slowly pour in 20kg of **Kerabond T.** Mix with a slow speed mixer until a lump free paste is obtained. Allow the mix to sit for 5-10 minutes before remixing prior to applying. Always refer to the quantity of mixing water prescribed on the packaging. The mix, produced in this way, is workable for at least 8 hours.

Applying the mix

Kerabond T is applied with a notched trowel onto the substrate. Choose a trowel that will give a coverage to the back of the tiles of at least 65-70% for walls. For floors, wet areas and for outdoor applications, the coverage must be 100%. To obtain good adhesion to the substrate the following system is recommended: first apply a thin coat of **Kerabond T** using the smooth side of the trowel and immediately after apply the desired thickness of **Kerabond T** using the toothed side of the trowel. In particular:

- for mosaics up to 5x5 cm, the MAPEI No. 4 square-notched trowel is recommended;
- for normal ceramic wall tiles, the MAPEI No. 5 V-notched trowel (consumption 2.5-3 kg/m^2) is recommended;
- for floors, very irregular surfaces and tiles with high ribs or lugs, the MAPEI No. 6 V-notched trowel (consumption approx. 5 kg/m^2) is recommended;
- in the case of outdoor ceramic floor and wall coverings subject to freezing, or in the case of other special uses such as swimming pools reservoirs, sizes larger than 300 x 300mm, floors to be polished after installation or subject to heavy loads, **Kerabond T** should be applied evenly to the back of the tile (back-buttering).

Installing the tiles

It is not necessary to wet the tiles before installation; if, however, the backs are very dusty, they should be wiped in clean water.
Apply the tiles with a firm pressure and a twisting/sliding action to ensure good contact with the adhesive.
Kerabond T's open time in normal temperature and humidity is 20-30 minutes;
unfavourable weather conditions (strong sun, drying wind, high temperature), or a highly absorbent substrate may shorten this open time, sometimes quite drastically, to just a few minutes.

There must be constant checks to see whether the adhesive has formed a surface skin or is still fresh to the touch. Should a surface skin have formed, the adhesive should be retrowelled. It is not advisable to wet the adhesive when it has formed a skin because, instead of dispersing the skin, a non-adhesive film will be formed.
Adjustment of the tiles, if necessary, should be carried out within 45 minutes following installation, after which time, adjustment will become problematic.
Tiling installed with **Kerabond T** must not be subject to washout or rain for at least 24 hours and must be protected from freezing and direct sun for at least 5-7 days after application.

Spot bonding insulating materials

Spot bonding of sound-deadening or insulating panels should be applied using a float or trowel. The required number and thickness determined by the flatness of the surface and weight of the panels.
In these cases too, the open time must be observed, bearing in mind that a few spots of adhesive on heavy panels may require temporary shoring which should then only be removed after the **Kerabond T** has begun to set.



Fixing ceramic tiles on walls working from the top to the bottom



Mrázovka Tunnel - Prague - Czech Republic

GROUTING AND SEALING

Wall joints between ceramic tiles can be grouted after 4-8 hours and floor joints can be grouted after 24 hours with the specific MAPEI cementitious or epoxy grouts, available in various colours.
Expansion joints must be sealed with the specific MAPEI sealants.

SET TO LIGHT FOOT TRAFFIC

Floors are set to light foot traffic after approximately 24 hours.

READY FOR USE

Floors are ready for use after approx. 14 days.

CLEANING

Tools can be cleaned with plenty of water, while surfaces should be cleaned with a damp cloth; water should be used only in moderate quantities and after a few hours.

CONSUMPTION

Ceramic tiling
Mosaics and small size tiles (trowel No. 4/5): 2-3 kg/m²
Medium size tiles (trowel No. 5/6): 4-5 kg/m²
Large sizes, floors, exteriors (trowel No. 6/10): > 6 kg/m² and over
Spot-bonding insulating materials
Foam materials, etc.: approx. 0.5-0.8 kg/m²
Gypsum wallboard, foamed concrete: approx. 1.5 kg/m²

PACKAGING

Kerabond T is supplied in white and grey in: 20 kg paper sacks.

STORAGE

12 months when stored in a normal environment and original packaging.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION AND APPLICATION

Instructions for the safe use of our products can be found on the latest version of the Safety Data Sheet, available from our website www.mapei.co.uk.
PRODUCT FOR PROFESSIONAL USE.

TECHNICAL DATA (typical values) In compliance with: – European EN 12004 as C1T European EN 12004 as C2ES2 (if mixed with Isolastic) ISO 13007-1 as C1T ISO 13007-1 as C2ES2 (if mixed with Isolastic)	
PRODUCT IDENTITY	
Type:	powder
Colour:	white or grey
Bulk density (kg/m³):	1300
Dry solids content (%):	100
EMICODE:	EC1 Plus - very low emissions
APPLICATION DATA (at +23°C and 50% R.H.)	
Mix ratio:	100 parts **Kerabond T** with approx. 24-26 parts by weight of water
Consistency of mix:	smooth paste
Density of mix (kg/m³):	1450
pH of mix:	13
Pot life:	over 8 hours
Application temperature:	from +5°C to +40°C
Open time (according to EN 1346):	> 20 minutes
Adjustability time:	approx. 45 minutes
Wall grouting:	after 4-8 hours
Floor grouting:	after 24 hours
Set to light foot traffic:	24 hours
Ready for use:	14 days
FINAL PERFORMANCES	
Adhesion strength according to EN 1348 (N/mm²): **– initial adhesion strength (after 28 days):** **– adhesion strength after heat:** **– adhesion strength after water immersion:** **– adhesion strength after freeze-thaw cycles:**	 1.4 0.8 0.9 1.2
Resistance to alkalis:	excellent
Resistance to oils:	excellent (poor for vegetable oils)
Resistance to solvents:	excellent
Temperature resistance after final cure:	from –30°C to +90°C

N.B. *The technical data of **Kerabond T** mixed with **Isolastic** are on the latter's technical data sheet.*



Mrázovka Tunnel - Prague - Czech Republic



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N.B.

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Please refer to the current version of the Technical Data Sheet, available from our website www.mapei.co.uk

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