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# ARDEX K 55

## Ultra Rapid Drying Self-Levelling Compound

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Ultra rapid drying – ready to receive vinyl after 60 minutes

Extended shelf life – 24 months when stored correctly

Easy to install – 1mm to any thickness in one application

Suitable for residential and commercial applications

Excellent for areas subjected to high stress environments



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# ARDEX K 55

## Ultra Rapid Drying Self-Levelling Compound

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### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX K 55 is an ultra rapid drying levelling and smoothing compound designed to level and smooth internal sub-floors prior to applying floor finishes. It is perfect for projects where a quick turn around time is needed as most floor coverings can be installed after 1 hour.

### SUBSTRATES

New and existing concrete, ARDEX A38, ARDEX A48, ARDEX K 900 BF.

Substrates with special requirements (Contact ARDEX Technical Services or view relevant Technical Bulletin online) - Moisture vulnerable concrete, terrazzo, ceramic tiles, concrete subfloors with electric heating, existing epoxy coatings, high strength concrete greater than 35Mpa.

### SURFACE PREPARATION

Concrete floors must be solid, clean and free of wax, grease, asphalt, latex compounds, curing and sealing compounds and any other surface contaminant. Mechanically clean the floor using recommended preparation methods such as shot blasting, scarifying, diamond grinding, shaving or other suitable methods to provide a roughened, clean, sound, solid and open porous surface. Acid etching is not an acceptable method of cleaning the subfloor. Do not use solvents or sweeping compounds. Subfloors must be dry (AS 1884) and properly primed for successful installation. Subfloor temperatures must be a minimum of 10°C. For further information, contact ARDEX Technical Services.

### PRIMING

ARDEX P 51 can be used over standard concrete floors prior to the installation of ARDEX K 55. Mix 1 part ARDEX P 51 with 2 parts water and apply evenly using a bristle broom. Do not use paint rollers, mops, or spray equipment. Do not leave any bare spots. Brush off all puddles of excess primer. Allow to dry to a thin, clear film (min 3 hours, max 24 hours). Very absorbent concrete may require two applications of primer to avoid pinholes and bubbling in the levelling compound. In such cases, make the initial coat 1 part ARDEX P 51 diluted with 3 parts water. Allow to dry and install a second coat of 1 part ARDEX P 51 diluted with 1 part water. Allow to dry to a thin, clear film (min 3 hours, max 24 hours).

Use ARDEX P 82 ULTRA PRIME for non-absorbent subfloors such as ceramic and quarry tile and terrazzo. Mix part A (red) with part B (white) and apply with a short nap or sponge paint roller, leaving a thin transparent pink coat of primer no heavier than a coat of paint. Do not leave any bare spots. Roll off any areas of excess primer. Allow to dry to a thin, slightly tacky film (min 3 hours, max 24 hours). ARDEX P 82 must be applied in a thin layer within 1 hour of mixing. A thick coat will produce a soft and rubbery surface, which may result in cracking of the levelling compound. Note: Low subfloor temperatures and/or high ambient humidity require longer drying time for ARDEX primers.

Do not install levelling compounds until primers have dried thoroughly.

### MIXING RATIO

5.25 litres of water to 20kg of ARDEX K 55 powder.

### MIXING

ARDEX floor levelling products react and harden quickly when mixed with water. Thorough mixing in the shortest possible time is essential to ensure a lump free mortar. Always mix the powder into the water. The most efficient method of mixing is by using an ARDEX mixing paddle and a heavy duty electric drill (650rpm). Normal mixing time of a 20kg bag is 2 to 3 minutes. Concrete mixers and hand mixing are not suitable methods of mixing. To 5.25 litres of water, add the ARDEX K 55 20kg whilst mixing thoroughly. Do not overwater. The mixed mortar has a working time of 10-15 minutes at 23°C. This time will be extended in cooler temperatures, and reduced at higher temperatures.

### INSTALLATION

Pour the mixed ARDEX K 55 onto the prepared subfloor and spread in place using the ARDEX stand-up spreader or ARDEX hand trowel. Use the ARDEX gauging tool with height adjustment to obtain an even thickness. Use the ARDEX smoother for smoothing, featheredging and touch up. Do not rework the ARDEX K 55 after 5-7 minutes. Wear football boots with rubber or nylon studs to avoid leaving marks in the liquid ARDEX K 55. ARDEX K 55 is pumpable.

Subsequent levelling work should be done immediately after the area is trafficable. Even thick layers are ready to receive floor coverings after 60 minutes. Do not use in permanent wet areas or externally.

## THICKNESS

ARDEX K 55 can be applied from 1mm to any thickness in one application. For areas requiring a thickness over 10mm, ARDEX K 55 should be mixed with a well washed and dried 2mm – 5mm aggregate in equal volume. Mix ARDEX K 55 with water first then add the aggregate in equal volume to mixed mortar whilst mixing.

## DRYING -HARDENING

Drying time is dependent on jobsite temperature, humidity, installation thickness and floor covering type. (Based on 23°C and 50% RH.)

Walkable from 45-60 minutes.

Ready for floor coverings from 1-2 hours.

## COVERAGE

Approximately 1.4kg powder/mm/m<sup>2</sup>.

A 20kg bag will cover approximately 4.75m<sup>2</sup> at 3mm thickness.

## STORAGE

ARDEX K 55 has a shelf life of 24 months if stored in dry conditions in unopened packaging.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

ARDEX K 55 contains Portland cement and quartz sand. Avoid generation of dust. Do not inhale dust. Avoid contact with eyes or skin. Wear suitable protective gloves and safety glasses. In case of contact with eyes, rinse opened eye for several minutes under running water.

In case of contact with skin, rinse effected areas thoroughly with running water. If dust is inhaled, remove to fresh air, ensure breathing passages are clear, and rinse mouth with running water. If symptoms persist, seek medical advice. Safety Data Sheets are available on request.

## TECHNICAL DATA

According to ARDEX quality standards:

**Mixing ratio:** approx. 5.25 L water:  
20kg powder

**Bulk density:** approx. 1.2kg/L

### Fresh mortar

**Weight:** approx. 1.8kg/L

**Material requirement:** approx. 1.4kg  
of powder per m<sup>2</sup> @ 1mm

**Working time:** approx. 15 minutes

**Walkability:** approx. 60 minutes

**Ready to receive  
Floorcoverings:** after 60 minutes

**Compressive  
strength:** after 1 day approx. 20 MPa  
after 7 days approx. 30 MPa  
after 28 days approx. 35 MPa

**Tensile bending  
strength:** after 1 day approx. 6 MPa  
after 7 days approx. 8 MPa  
after 28 days approx 10 MPa

**Resistant to  
chair castors:** Yes

**Suited for  
floorheating:** Yes

**Packaging:** Special bags with 20kg net

**Storage:** Can be stored for approx.  
24 months in dry rooms in  
originally sealed packaging

## GUARANTEE

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd ("we" or "us") guarantees this product ("our goods") is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 10 years from the date of purchase. Our liability under this guarantee is limited at our option to replacement of the product, repair of any damage to the immediate surface or area of application of the product, or compensation, in each case if we are satisfied loss or damage was due to a breach of this guarantee. This guarantee does not apply if damage or loss is due to failure to follow published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; Toll Free: 1800 224 070; Email: [technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com](mailto:technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com)) and provide evidence of your purchase of the product within 30 days of any alleged loss or damage occurring. We reserve the right to ask you for satisfactory evidence of any alleged loss or damage. Any claim under this guarantee is at your cost. This guarantee is in addition to any rights or remedies you may have as a "consumer" under the Australian Consumer Law and to that extent you need to be aware that: "Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and for compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss of damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure".

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This data sheet was issued in December 2018 and is valid for 3 years. In some instances a newer version may be published. Always refer to [www.ardexaustralia.com](http://www.ardexaustralia.com) for the latest technical data from ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd

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