



Concrete Flex - Installation Instructions

Important:

- 1) If installed inside, Concrete Flex should be allowed to acclimate for at least 48 hours prior to installation.
- 2) Surface to which the Concrete Flex is to be applied, should be clean and smooth, free of dirt, waxes, polishes, old adhesive, paint and voids. Follow directions on adhesive manufacturer's label to complete installation.
- 3) It is recommended that the Concrete Flex is applied to primed, painted or sealed substrates, as this will help ensure effective adhesion.
- 4) ***Surface thickness and textures variations are an inherent part of the Concrete Flex material, and these variances are NOT considered a product defect nor warrantable claim.*** Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your supplier prior to installation.
- 5) ***Application of sealer*** – it is highly recommended that a topical sealer is applied to the material either prior to installation, or immediately after. This helps protect the topical pigment from staining, scratching, or any other wear-related marring.

Adhesive:

Concrete Flex is composite concrete material that can be installed in both interior and exterior applications, and with that said, it is important the proper adhesive is used for the proper application.

For **interior applications** (or applications where water and high humidity will not occur) we recommend the use of 2 adhesives:

- 1) a water-based contact cement (recommend: Wakol Loba D3540). Water-based contact cements set very quickly which allows one to start in the middle of the application area, as well as move the installation process in the most time effective manner. Installation surfaces should be primed and/or painted prior to use of the contact cement, with the topical coating be in a 'cured' state. (Please note: unprimed walls will absorb contact cement, diminishing its' effectiveness, and therefore this is not recommended). **FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CONTACT CEMENT SELECTED FOR THE INSTALLATION.** Contact cement is to be applied to both the application substrate and the back of the Concrete Flex tiles and left to dry (for a minimum of 45 minutes) prior to being suitable for the actual installation process to commence. Installing before the contact cement is fully dry (on either surface) will result in ineffective adhesion. Apply pressure to the tiles to ensure full bond adhesion.
- 2) Urethane-modified and trowelable adhesive. We recommend Mapei Eco 373. Though it does not enable an immediate permanent bond like that created with 'contact cement', it is often considered easier in that the adhesive is applied to only one surface (the wall), and by the nature of the product, there is more time to set (and/or move as needed) the Concrete Flex pieces into place on the wall. We typically recommend an 1/8" notched trowel. Allow to dry to tacky phase. Then panels pressed into adhesive. It is important to **follow the manufacturers recommendation** as it relates to the application and ensuring the tiles are applied within the optimal open time.

For exterior applications (or applications likely to occur high humidity or moisture conditions) we recommend either a waterproof tile mastic, or a waterproof construction adhesive. **PLEASE CONTACT SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS FOR MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS. As Always, FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ADHESIVE CHOSEN.**



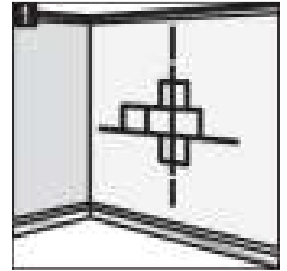
IMPORTANT NOTE: Ineffective adhesion is not a product defect, nor a warrantable claim, and it is always recommended to test the adhesion of a product prior to its use.

Tips:

Establish a level line (if installing horizontally), and a plumb (vertical) line to work from. Use a measuring tape, 4' level and a non-staining chalk line.

Pre-lay or visually lay out the material before applying to the wall. If using contact cement for adhesion, lay the 'back' side face up and coat with contact cement per the manufacturer's instructions.

It may be helpful to pre-cut the Concrete Flex panels on the ground, as opposed to on the wall for vertical seam applications. Use a tile saw, miter saw, tin snips or other suitable cutting apparatus to cut the tiles to size.



Make sure there is suitable (100%) adhesive coverage on the back of the tiles (if contact cement) and/or substrate material to ensure an effective bond. And, remember to follow the adhesive manufacturer's application instructions relative to set and open times. Poor adhesion of the Concrete Flex to the substrate is not a product failure.

****ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING INSTALLATION – Please contact Sustainable Materials or your local representative****

Concrete Flex - Care and Maintenance Instructions

Concrete Flex should be treated like a standard stone or concrete product, which means it is highly recommended to apply a 'sealer' to protect the material from topical stains or scratches. This sealer coating will provide surface protection that aids in stain resistance and the clean ability of the product. We recommend **Behr's Low-Lustre Sealer (Concrete, Brick & Tile)**.

Generally speaking, stains should be removed from any wall or applied surface as quickly as possible to eliminate any possible reaction between the staining agent and the product. Time is especially important for removing materials containing colors or solvents such as ball point pens, nail polish, lipstick, oil shampoo tints, paint, lacquer, enamel, and certain food items.

Precautions: Excess soiling materials such as chewing gum, asphalt, crayon, paint, nail polish, or tar should be carefully scraped off prior to the application of other cleaning attempts.

Cleaning: The normal cleaning of the product should be done with a dry and soft lint-free cloth or dry sponge. If stained, a stronger cleaning is required. Rinse thoroughly with clean, clear water, often to insure the water remains clean and clear. After cleaning an area, be sure to dry with an absorbent cloth so it can be examined to ensure complete cleaning.

NOTE: NEVER USE ABRASIVE CLEANERS OR MIX CLEANING REAGENTS TOGETHER, AS VIOLENT REACTIONS MAY OCCUR WHEN CHEMICALS ARE MIXED WHICH COULD CAUSE VIOLENT REACTIONS. OBSERVE ALL LABEL PRECAUTIONS WHEN USING ANY CLEANING AGENTS.