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# ARDEX FG-C™ MICROTEC®

## Unsanded Floor & Wall Grout

### For an Ultra-Smooth Finish

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**Creamy consistency provides fuller grout joints and an ultra-smooth finish**

**Excellent color consistency**

**Water and stain resistant, no sealing required**

**Use with porcelain, glass, quarry, ceramic, mosaic and most natural stone tiles\***

**For joints up to 1/4" (6 mm); Porcelain tile joints up to 1/8" (3 mm)\*\***

**For interior or exterior applications – floors, walls and showers**

**Open to traffic in just 4 hours**

**Easy to mix and apply**

**Naturally resistant to mold and mildew**

**Antimicrobial protection**

**High strength; resists cracking**

**No slake time required**

**Available in 36 colors**



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# ARDEX FG-C™ MICROTEC®

## Unsanded Floor & Wall Grout

### Description and Usage

ARDEX FG-C™ MICROTEC® Unsanded Floor & Wall Grout is a high-performance, Portland cement-based, unsanded grout that delivers fuller, more aesthetically pleasing grout joints with an ultra-smooth finish for floor and wall tile joints up to 1/4" (6 mm) or porcelain tile joints up to 1/8" (3 mm).\*\*

Use for installations of porcelain, glass, quarry, ceramic and mosaic tile, as well as most natural stone tiles.\*

ARDEX FG-C is freeze/thaw stable, naturally resistant to mold and mildew formation and can be open to traffic in just 4 hours. With its flexibility and high strength, ARDEX FG-C is ideal for interior and exterior floors, walls, countertops and showers.

Sand free and enhanced with MICROTEC® technology, ARDEX FG-C has a smooth, creamy consistency that can be worked easily into even the narrowest grout joints and creates an exceptionally smooth finish. ARDEX FG-C also has built-in antimicrobial protection.

### Preparation

The existing tile must be set firmly. The tile joints must be clean and free of all setting materials, dust, moisture and foreign materials. Clean the tile surface to remove contaminants that may discolor the grout.

Expansion joints must be provided over existing moving joints and cracks, where substrate materials change composition or direction and around the perimeter at all walls per ANSI A108 AN-3.7.

In accordance with industry standards, the surfaces of highly absorbent, textured or porous tiles may require sealing or treating with a grout release before grouting to prevent permanent staining. Avoid applying sealers and/or grout release agents in the grout joints.

### Recommended Tools

ARDEX mixing bucket, rubber float, ARDEX T-2™ Ring Mixing Paddle, 1/2" (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm), ARDEX sponge (or similar) and a white Scotch-Brite® pad (or similar).

\*ARDEX FG-C™ is not suitable for use with moisture-sensitive stone. For moisture sensitive stone, please refer to the ARDEX WA™ technical data sheet.

\*\*For porcelain tile joints 1/8" or wider, use ARDEX FL™ Rapid Set, Flexible, Sanded Grout.

### Mixing and Application

Mix each 25 lb. (11.3 kg) bag of ARDEX FG-C with 3 3/8 - 3 5/8 qt. (3.2 - 3.4 L) of clean water.

Mix each 10 lb. (4.5 kg) box of ARDEX FG-C with 1 3/8 - 1 1/2 qt. (1.3 - 1.4 L) of clean water.

To mix smaller quantities by hand, use 3 parts of powder to 1 part of clean water by volume.

Starting with the lowest amount of water specified above\*, pour the water in the mixing container first, and then add the ARDEX FG-C. Gradually add additional water as needed to achieve the desired consistency. Do not exceed the highest amount of water specified above. To obtain a stiffer grout consistency, use slightly less water. NOTE: Less water may cause the material to set faster.

For best results when mixing full batches, mix with an ARDEX T-2 Ring Mixing Paddle and 1/2" heavy-duty drill. Mix at a low speed until a creamy, smooth, lump-free consistency is obtained.

When mixing small batches, use a margin trowel, and mix vigorously for 2 to 3 minutes. Just prior to application on the substrate, the mixture should be stirred again to ensure a creamy, smooth, lump-free consistency.

Installation should proceed in accordance with ANSI A108.10. Using a high-quality rubber float, work the grout into the joints until they are filled completely. ARDEX FG-C has a working time of approximately 90 minutes at 70°F (21°C). Mix only as much as can be applied within this time.

As the work proceeds, remove all excess grout from the face of the tile using the rubber float, working at a 45° angle to the tile to avoid removing the grout from the joints.

Once the grout has taken a firm set in the joints (approximately 10-20 minutes, 70°F / 21°C)\*, the joints can be formed, and the residual grout on the face of the tile can be removed easily by using a lightly dampened ARDEX sponge. Do not use excessive water.

Any dry film (haze) remaining on the tile surface can be removed easily by finishing or polishing with a dry or slightly damp terrycloth towel or ARDEX sponge after the grout has hardened completely in the joints.

In extremely warm conditions, if the residual grout has hardened on the face of the tile faster than normal, the residual grout can be re-emulsified using a white Scotch-Brite® pad and a small amount of water. Apply gentle pressure to the pad, and work in a circular motion to loosen the grout. Carefully remove the slurry with a barely damp ARDEX sponge, rinsing the sponge with clean water after each pass.

While not required, a penetrating, breathable grout sealer can be applied. Follow sealer manufacturer's recommendations for substrate preparation, application and cure.

\*When grouting very porous tiles, such as certain ceramic tiles, mix the ARDEX FG-C to its highest water ratio, and wipe the tiles with a damp sponge within 10 minutes of applying the grout.



## Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

At 70°F (21°C), the working time of ARDEX FG-C is approximately 90 minutes, and the pot life is approximately 90 minutes. Job site conditions and temperature may affect working time and pot life.

Please be advised that although this product will resist staining and clean more easily than virtually all other cement-based grouts, this material is not stain-proof and should be cleaned and maintained regularly to keep the installation looking its best.

ARDEX FG-C is intended for installation at material and surface temperatures between 50° and 85°F (10° to 29°C). Do not install below 50°F (10°C) surface and air temperatures.

For warm weather installation instructions, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

For high chemical resistance and specialized applications, please refer to the ARDEX WA High Performance, 100% Solids Epoxy Grout and Adhesive technical data sheet.

Some types of tiles may be prone to surface discoloration when using grout. As always, ARDEX recommends the installation of test areas to confirm the suitability of the product for the intended use.

## Precautions

Carefully read and follow all precautions and warnings on the product label. For complete safety information, please refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available at [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com).

Never mix with cement or additives. Observe the basic rules of tile work. Dispose of packaging and residue in accordance with federal, state and local waste disposal regulations. Do not flush material down drains.

## Color Variance

Actual grout color may vary when dry, depending on installation conditions, substrate, type of tile installed and other factors.

To minimize the possibility of color variance between bags of the same color used on the same installation, mix all grout using the same amount of water.

Also refer to the ARDEX Grout Color Chart, available at your local ARDEX distributor.

## Technical Data According to ARDEX Quality Standards

All data based on a mixing ratio of 3 parts powder to 1-part water by volume at 70°F (21°C). Physical properties are typical values and not specifications.

<b>Mixing Ratio:</b>	3 3/8 - 3 5/8 qt. (3.2 - 3.4 L) of water to one 25 lb. (11.3 kg) bag. 1 3/8 - 1 1/2 qt. (1.3 - 1.4 L) of water to one 10 lb. (4.5 kg) box. For smaller batches, use 3 parts powder to 1-part water by volume.
<b>Pot Life:</b>	Approx. 90 minutes
<b>Working Time:</b>	Approx. 90 minutes
<b>Open to Traffic:</b>	Approx. 4 hours
<b>Brinell Hardness:</b>	<p><b>1 Day</b> 5,000 psi 351.5 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> 34.5 MPa</p> <p><b>3 Days</b> 8000 psi 562.4 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> 55.2 MPa</p> <p><b>7 Days</b> 9500 psi 667.9 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> 65.6 MPa</p> <p><b>28 Days</b> 10800 psi 759.2 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> 74.5 MPa</p>
<b>VOC:</b>	0
<b>Packaging:</b>	25 lb. (11.3 kg) net weight per bag 10 lb. (4.5 kg) net weight per box
<b>Storage:</b>	Store in a cool, dry area. Do not leave package exposed to sun.
<b>Shelf Life:</b>	1 year, if unopened.
<b>Warranty:</b>	ARDEX, L.P. Standard Limited Warranty applies. Also eligible for the ARDEX SystemOne™ Warranty when used in conjunction with select ARDEX tile and stone installation products.

## Coverage in Sq. Ft.

Tile Size (inches)			Grout Joint Width (inches)			
Width	Length	Thickness	1/16	1/8	3/16	1/4
1	1	1/4	97.3	50.3	34.6	26.9
2	2	1/4	191.4	97.3	65.7	50.3
2	2	3/8	127.6	64.8	43.8	33.5
4 1/4	4 1/4	5/16	322.2	162.3	108.7	82.4
4	8	1/2	252.6	127.0	84.9	64.2
6	6	1/2	284.1	142.8	95.5	72.2
8	8	3/8	504.5	253.2	169.0	127.6
12	12	3/8	755.7	378.9	252.6	190.4
13	13	3/8	818.6	410.3	273.5	206.1
16	16	3/8	1007.0	504.5	336.1	253.2
18	18	3/8	1132.6	567.3	377.9	284.6
24	24	3/8	1509.5	755.7	503.2	378.9

## Coverage in M<sup>2</sup>

Tile Size (mm)			Grout Joint Size (mm)			
Width	Length	Thickness	1.5	3.0	4.5	6.0
25	25	6	9.5	4.9	3.4	2.6
51	51	6	18.8	9.5	6.5	4.9
51	51	10	12.5	6.4	4.3	3.3
108	108	8	31.7	15.9	10.7	8.1
102	203	13	24.8	12.5	8.4	6.3
152	152	13	27.9	14.0	9.4	7.1
203	203	10	49.6	24.9	16.7	12.5
305	305	10	74.3	37.2	24.9	18.7
330	330	10	80.5	40.3	26.9	20.3
406	406	10	99.0	49.6	33.1	24.9
457	457	10	111.4	55.8	37.2	28.0
610	610	10	148.4	74.3	49.6	37.2

Coverage based on a 25 lb. (11.3 kg) bag. Actual coverage may vary based on jobsite conditions tile textures and installation methods.

Made In The U.S.A  
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For easy-to-use ARDEX Product Calculators and Product Information On the Go, download the ARDEX App at the iTunes Store or Google Play. Visit [www.youtube.com/ARDEX101](http://www.youtube.com/ARDEX101) to watch our product demonstration videos.



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