



# Keraflex Maxi



**High performance, deformable cementitious adhesive with extended open time and no vertical slip, for ceramic tiles. Especially suitable for the installation of large-size porcelain tiles and natural stone**

## **CLASSIFICATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH EN 12004**

Keraflex Maxi is an improved (2) slip resistant (T) cementitious adhesive (C) with extended open time (E) of class C2TE.

## **CLASSIFICATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH EN 12002**

Keraflex Maxi is a deformable adhesive of class S1.

## **WHERE TO USE**

- Interior and exterior bonding, up to 15 mm thick, of ceramic tiles of every type and size (single and double fired tiles, porcelain tiles, klinker, terracotta, etc.) on uneven substrates and renders, without having to level the flooring beforehand.
- Interior and exterior bonding of stone materials (provided that they are not sensitive to moisture).
- Spot bonding of insulating material such as expanded polystyrene, rock and glass wool, Eraclit® (wood-cement panels), sound-deadening panels, cork, etc.

## **Some application examples**

- Bonding ceramic tiles (double-fired, single-fired, porcelain tiles, klinker etc.) and stone materials (provided that they are not sensitive to moisture) on conventional substrates such as:
  - cementitious screeds and underfloor heating installations;
  - cementitious renders or lime and cement-based mortar;
  - gypsum board as long as firmly fixed;
  - tiling to timber where it's screw fixed and rigid.



# Keraflex Maxi



External installation of klinker tiles



Installation of hand made terracotta on an uneven substrate



External installation of relief terrazzo "graniglie" tiles

- Ceramic and stone material tiles on existing flooring (ceramic, marble, etc.).
- Installation of floors subjected to heavy traffic.
- Installation of floor and wall coverings on substrates waterproofed with **Mapelastic**.
- Interior and exterior bonding of tiles or strips (porcelain tiles, klinker, single-fired, terracotta) with highly profiled ribs or lugs.

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Keraflex Maxi** is a grey or white powder composed of cement and fine graded sands. It contains a high quantity of synthetic resins and special additives according to a formulation developed in MAPEI's research laboratories.

A mortar with the following features is obtained when mixed with water:

- Low viscosity, therefore easily workable.
- Highly thixotropic: **Keraflex Maxi** can be applied on a vertical surface without sagging or letting even heavy and large tiles slip. Tiles can be installed from the top towards the bottom without using spacer pegs.
- Good capability to accommodate the different deformation of the covering from the substrate.
- Perfect adherence to all materials normally used in building.
- Hardens, even when very thickly applied, without appreciable shrinkage and without decreasing in thickness, until acquiring a considerable resistance.
- Particularly extended open and adjustability time, facilitating installation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Do not use **Keraflex Maxi** in the following cases:

- On wood and wooden conglomerates.
- On metal, rubber, PVC and linoleum surfaces.
- With marble and natural stone slabs subject to efflorescence or stains.
- With natural or artificial stone material slabs subject to movement due to moisture.
- On precast concrete or subject to strong movement.
- When surfaces need to be ready for traffic in a short time.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

### Preparing the substrate

All substrates receiving **Keraflex Maxi** must be cured, mechanically resistant, solid, clean, free of cracks, loose parts, oil, grease, wax and dust and sufficiently dry.

Cementitious substrates should not be subject to shrinkage after the installation of ceramic tiles, therefore during spring and

summer, renders must cure at least one week for each cm of thickness and cementitious screeds must have an overall cure time of at least 28 days, unless they are made with special binders for MAPEI screeds such as **Mapecem**, **Mapecem Pronto**, **Topcem** or **Topcem Pronto**.

Dampen with water to cool surfaces heated from exposure to sunlight.

Gypsum substrates and anhydrite screeds must be perfectly dry, sufficiently hard and free from dust. It is absolutely essential that they be treated with **Primer G** or **Mapecrim SP**, while areas subject to extreme dampness must be primed with **Primer S**.

### Preparing the mix

Mix **Keraflex Maxi** with clean water until a smooth, lump-free paste is obtained. Leave to rest approximately 5 minutes and re-stir.

Use approximately 7 litres of water for every 25 kg of powder.

Mixed this way, **Keraflex Maxi** has a pot life of approximately 8 hours.

### Applying the mix

**Keraflex Maxi** is applied to the substrate using a notched trowel. Choose a trowel that allows for a complete coverage to the backs of the tiles to be installed.

To achieve a good adhesion, spread a first thin layer of **Keraflex Maxi** on the substrate using the straight edge of the trowel. Immediately after, apply the desired thickness of **Keraflex Maxi** using a suitable notched trowel, depending on the type and size of the tiles.

For outdoor ceramic tile floors and walls, sizes greater than 900 cm<sup>2</sup>, floors that must be smoothed at installation or subject to heavy loads, or when applying in swimming pools and basins filled with water, spread the adhesive on the back of the tile (back-buttering) in order to ensure a complete coverage.

### Installing the tiles

There is no need to wet the tiles before installing them. Only with very dusty backs is it recommended to dip the tiles in clean water.

Tiles should be installed under a firm pressure to ensure a good coverage of the adhesive.

In normal temperature and humidity conditions, the open time of **Keraflex Maxi** is at least 30 minutes. Unfavourable weather conditions (strong sun, drying wind, high temperatures, etc.) or a highly absorbent substrate can reduce the open time, even to just a few minutes.

Careful checks must be made to ensure that a skin does not form on the surface of the spread adhesive, which should stay fresh. If not, re-freshen the adhesive by re-spreading with a notched trowel. It is not recommended to wet the adhesive with water once a skin has formed because, instead of dissolving the skin, the water will form an anti-adhesive film.

If necessary, tiles should be adjusted within 60 minutes after installation.

Tiling installed with **Keraflex Maxi** must not

## TECHNICAL DATA (typical values)

In compliance with:

- European EN 12004 as C2TE
- European EN 12002 as S1
- American ANSI A 118.4 - 1999
- Canadian 71 GP 30 M type 2

### PRODUCT IDENTITY

<b>Type:</b>	powder
<b>Colour:</b>	grey, white
<b>Bulk mass density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>):</b>	1400
<b>Dry solid content (%):</b>	100
<b>Storage:</b>	12 months in a dry place in original packaging
<b>Hazard classification according to EC 99/45:</b>	irritant. Before using refer to the "Safety Instructions for the preparation and application" paragraph and the information on the packing and safety data sheet
<b>Customs class:</b>	3824 50 90

### COMPOSITION AND PROPERTIES OF MIXTURE at +23°C and 50% R.H.

<b>Mixing ratio:</b>	100 parts <b>Keraflex Maxi</b> grey with 26-28 parts water by weight 100 parts <b>Keraflex Maxi</b> white with 27-29 parts water by weight
<b>Consistency of mix:</b>	pasty
<b>Mass density of the mix (kg/m<sup>3</sup>):</b>	1500
<b>pH of mix:</b>	over 12
<b>Pot life:</b>	over 8 hours
<b>Application temperature:</b>	from +5°C to +35°C
<b>Open time (accordig to EN1346):</b>	> 30 minutes
<b>Adjustability time:</b>	approx. 60 minutes
<b>Ready for grouting on walls:</b>	after 4-8 hours
<b>Ready for grouting on floors:</b>	after 24 hours
<b>Set to light foot traffic:</b>	24 hours
<b>Ready for use:</b>	14 days

### FINAL PERFORMANCES

<b>Tensile adhesion strength in compliance with EN 1348 (N/mm<sup>2</sup>):</b>	
- initial tensile adhesion strength (after 28 days):	2.6
- tensile adhesion strength after heat ageing:	2.5
- tensile adhesion strength after water immersion:	1.1
- tensile adhesion strength after freeze/thaw cycles:	1.3
<b>Resistance to alkali:</b>	excellent
<b>Resistance to oils:</b>	excellent (poor to vegetable oils)
<b>Resistance to solvents:</b>	excellent
<b>Temperature when in use:</b>	from -30°C to +90°C
<b>Deformability according to EN 12002:</b>	S1 - deformable



*Thickly applied  
porcelain tiles on  
a wall*



*Installation of external  
hewn back stones with  
or without buttering,  
depending on  
thickness*

# Keraflex Maxi



be washed or exposed to rain for at least 24 hours and must be protected from frost and strong sun for at least 5-7 days.

### Spot-bonding insulating materials

For spot-bonding sound-deadening or insulating panels, apply **Keraflex Maxi** with a trowel or a float, in the necessary thickness required by the levelness of the surfaces and by the weight of the panels.

### GROUTING AND SEALING

Wall joints 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 different colours. Expansion joints must be sealed with the specific MAPEI sealants.

### SET TO LIGHT FOOT TRAFFIC

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

### POLISHING

Surfaces can be polished after approximately 14 days.

### READY FOR USE

Surfaces are ready for use after approximately 14 days.

### Cleaning

Tools and containers should be cleaned with plenty of water while **Keraflex Maxi** is still fresh. Surfaces should be cleaned with a damp cloth, before the adhesive dries.

### CONSUMPTION

#### Bonding ceramic tiles

– 1.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup> per mm of thickness.

#### Bonding panels

– Applied with a trowel  
approx. (rounded notch): 6-7 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

– Spot-bonding (with a trowel): 4-6 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

### PACKAGING

**Keraflex Maxi** is available in 25 kg paper bags.

### STORAGE

**Keraflex** can be stored 12 months in a dry place in original packaging.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION AND INSTALLATION

The product contains cement that when in contact with sweat or other bodily fluids, produces an irritant alkaline reaction and allergic reactions to those predisposed. Use protective gloves and goggles. For further information, consult the safety data sheet.

FOR PROFESSIONALS.

### WARNING

*Although the technical details and recommendations contained in this product report correspond to the best of our knowledge and experience, all the above information must, in every case, be taken as merely indicative and subject to confirmation after long-term practical applications: for this reason, anyone who intends to use the product must ensure beforehand that it is suitable for the envisaged application: in every case, the user alone is fully responsible for any consequences deriving from the use of the product.*

**All relevant references  
of the product are available  
upon request**