



MTA 991

NORMAL CEMENTITIOUS TILE ADHESIVE



DESCRIPTION

MTA 991 is a standard cement-based tile adhesive. MTA 991 complies with C1 classification requirements in accordance with EN 12004 standards.

FEATURES & APPLICATIONS

- Suitable for installing ceramic wall and floor tiles, as well as natural stone materials that are not prone to discolouration or translucency.
- Ideal for use on cement-based substrates such as concrete render, brickwork, and cementitious screeds, provided they are sufficiently cured and dry.
- Designed for interior and exterior applications on both walls and floors.
- For dense or low-porosity tiles (e.g., vitrified porcelain, marble, and granite), MTA 991 must be mixed with MTA Admix 123 to ensure optimal bond strength.

PACKAGING

- 25 kg / bag

TECHNICAL DATA

(In compliance with EN 12004 under controlled laboratory conditions)

Property	Value
Appearance	White / Grey powder
Specific Gravity	1.5 ± 0.1 kg/litre
Pot Life (25°C)	1–2 hours
Open Time (25°C)	Approx. 20 minutes
Trafficable	After 24 hours
Tensile Adhesion Strength:	
After 28 days	≥ 0.5 N/mm ²
After water immersion	≥ 0.5 N/mm ²
After heat ageing	≥ 0.5 N/mm ²
Open time	≥ 0.5 N/mm ²

♦ **Note:** Specifications are subject to change without Notice. Test values are obtained under laboratory conditions and are representative only. Actual performance may vary depending on tile type, installation method, and site conditions.

APPLICATIONS

Substrate Preparation

- Ensure all substrates are structurally sound, clean, dry, and free from contaminants such as oil, grease, paint, wax, laitance, and loose particles.
- Incorporate movement joints in accordance with BS 5385: Parts 1–4.
- Painted surfaces must be scabbled or abraded to expose at least 80% of the original surface.
- Newly rendered or screeded surfaces must be wood-floated and thoroughly cleaned.
- Allow new concrete to cure for a minimum of 28 days. Screeds should cure for 7 days followed by 2 weeks of continuous air drying before tiling. Refer to BS 5385 or MS 1294.
- Remove dust from masonry and pre-wet absorbent surfaces before adhesive application.

MIXING RATIO

MTA 991	:25 kg
Clean water or MTA Admix 123	:6.5–7.0 litres

Mixing Instructions:

- Pour the required amount of clean water or MTA Admix 123 into a clean mixing container.
- Gradually add MTA 991 while continuously mixing using a low-speed mechanical mixer.
- Mix until a smooth, lump-free, creamy consistency is achieved.
- Allow the mixture to stand for 5 minutes, then remix briefly before application.

PRODUCT APPLICATION

- Use a notched trowel suitable for the tile size. The choice of trowel should be based on tile size, tile back profile, and substrate flatness.
- Use the flat side of the trowel to spread a thin layer of adhesive over approximately 1 m², followed by combing with the notched side in a single direction.
- Firmly press tiles into the adhesive bed with a slight twisting motion to ensure full contact.
- Apply tiles only while the adhesive remains fresh—do not use adhesive that has begun to “skin over”.
- Do not rehydrate skinned adhesive with water, as it may create a weak bond.
- Back-buttering may be required for large-format or textured tiles to ensure full coverage.
- Be aware that adverse conditions such as direct sunlight, wind, high temperatures, or highly absorbent substrates may shorten the open time.

COVERAGE

APPROXIMATE COVERAGE

Notched Trowel Size	Approx coverage
3mm x 3mm	2.0 – 3.0 kg/m ²
6mm x 6mm	5.0 – 5.5 kg/m ²
12mm x 12mm	10.0 – 11.0 kg/m ²

♦ **Note:** Coverage may vary depending on the nature and flatness of the substrate surface.

GROUTING

Grouting should preferably be carried out at least 24 hours after tiling is completed, or once the adhesive has sufficiently set and dried.

CLEANING

Clean tiles and tools with water while the adhesive is still fresh.

SHELF LIFE

- 6 months from the production date.

STORAGE

- Store in a dry, sealed environment.
- Protect from humidity and weather.
- Once opened, use the remaining product promptly.

HEALTH & SAFETY

This product contains cement, which may cause skin irritation or dermatitis.

- Wear protective gloves and goggles during application.
- In case of skin contact or irritation, seek medical attention.
- Follow standard safety practices when handling cement-based materials.

AVAILABILITY

Distributed by:

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DISCLAIMER

This technical data sheet is provided for general informational purposes only. It is the user's responsibility to assess the suitability of the product for their specific application. MTA Tile Adhesive Specialist Sdn Bhd accepts no liability for any loss, damage, or injury resulting from improper use or installation. Specifications are subject to change without prior notice as part of our continuous product improvement efforts.