

# SOLUTIONS FOR INDUSTRY

## RLA-Flex 2 Part

### Characteristics:

- RLA-Flex is a premium grade, flexible grey 2-Part ceramic tile adhesive designed to withstand movement in the substrate, where conventional adhesives are too rigid.
- It is designed for bonding all types of ceramic, stone and mosaic tiles, with the exception of light coloured and Green Marble, onto a variety of substrates like concrete, render, rendered brickwork, block work, Gyprock, plasterboard, fibre cement, some particle board, and tongue & groove timber surfaces.
- It can be used internally or externally on wall and floor surfaces.
- RLA-Flex can be used for fixing low porosity tiles.
- RLA-Flex can be used for fixing tiles directly over timber floors without using underlays.
- RLA-Flex can be used to fix tiles over most waterproofing membranes. However it is advisable to contact the manufacturer prior to commencing.

### Preparation:

- Ensure all concrete slabs are allowed to cure for at least 6 weeks in accordance with AS 3958.1-1991 and have a wood float finish.
- All rendered surfaces must be allowed to cure for at least 7 days prior to commencing tiling.
- The maximum variation in the plane of the concrete must not exceed 5mm in 3 meters for floors and 4mm in 2 meters for walls.
- Steel trowelled finished concrete surfaces Must be mechanically or chemically abraded prior to commencing tiling.
- Tongue and Groove timber flooring should be fixed in accordance with AS 1684, be firmly nailed in place and not have excessive bounce. The surface should be flat and free from nails and other protrusions. If the surface is sealed / varnished, it should be sanded prior to priming. If the surface has resins / tannins bleeding through, an underlay sheet must be fixed to it prior to commencing tiling.
- In timber frame constructions the load deflection / deformation must not exceed 1/360 of the span.
- Structural Particle Board used as a flooring material must be a minimum of 19mm thick and fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the relevant standards.
- Fibre Cement sheet when used as an underlay or wall / floor material must be a minimum of 6mm in thickness. For heavy duty commercial applications it should be a minimum of 9mm thick and all should be fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the relevant standards.
- Compressed Fibre-Cement sheets when used as a floor substrate must be 15mm thick, and when used a wall substrate must be 9mm thick and must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the relevant standards.
- Gypsum -plasterboard sheets when used as a wall substrate must be a minimum of 10mm thick, and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the relevant standards.
- NOTE: All joists-supported floors should be provided with permanent and adequate ventilation.
- Ensure all surfaces are sound, dry and free from excessive movement, oil, dust, grease, wax, curing compounds, release agents, paints and any other loose contaminating materials.
- It is recommended that all surfaces must be primed with Uniprime, especially porous surfaces, to ensure a sound bond of the adhesive to the substrate.
- When applying the primer onto a floor surface it is recommended to firstly pour some primer in a section then spread the primer using a broom, brush or roller. Then continue this method of application until the entire area is primed. Note: This method of application ensures a thorough coat of the primer on the surface.
- Allow the primer to dry for approximately 5 minutes at 20°C prior to commencing tiling.

### Expansion / Movement Joints

Expansion / movement joints must be provided to allow for movement between adjacent building components. They should be as follows:

- Over Existing joints in the substrate.
- Where two different substrates meet. Eg. Timber and Concrete.
- Around fixed elements in the floor eg. Columns.
- At internal vertical corners.
- Around the perimeter of the floor.
- In internal floors where any dimension exceeds 9m or 6m if subjected to sunlight.
- In external floors where any dimension exceeds 4.5 m.
- On wall surfaces at storey heights horizontally and approximately 3m-4.5m apart vertically. Ideally they should be located over movement joints in the structural background and at structural material changes for example the horizontal joint at the bottom of floor slabs, vertical joints at internal vertical corners, and at junctions with columns. (The above points are in accordance with AS3958.1-1991)
- Movement joints should go right through the tile adhesive bed to the background and kept free from dirt and adhesive droppings. Movement joints must not be less than 6mm and not wider than 10mm. The movement joints must be filled with a flexible sealant like Silicone.

### Mixing:

- The mixing ratio of RLA-Flex is 2x15kg of powder to 15 Litres of Liquid.
- Pour the Liquid into a clean drum and then gradually add the RLA-Flex Powder while mixing continuously until a smooth lump free mix is obtained. Always add powder to liquid.
- Allow the mix to stand for 5 minutes, re-stir and then apply the adhesive onto the substrate.

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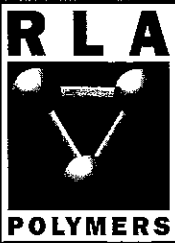
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The information supplied is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. The actual application of the product is beyond the manufacturer's control. Any failure or damage caused by the incorrect usage of the product is not the responsibility of the manufacturer. The manufacturer insists that all workmanship must be carried out in accordance with AS3958.1-1991. It is also the responsibility of the end user to ensure that the literature in their possession is the latest issue.



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## Application:

- ⬇ Once the surface has been appropriately prepared in accordance with the above instructions then apply the adhesive onto the substrate using an appropriate notched trowel.
- ⬇ For floor tiling use a 10mm x 10mm square notched trowel for tiles up to 300mm x 300mm. For tiles 300mm x 300mm and larger use a 12mm x 12mm square notched trowel. For mosaic tiles use a 6mm x 6mm square notched trowel.
- ⬇ For wall tiling use 6mm x 6mm square notched trowel for tiles up to 150mm x 150mm. For tiles larger than 150mm x 150mm use a 10mm x 10mm square notched trowel.
- ⬇ RLA-Flex should be applied onto the substrate at a rate of 1m<sup>2</sup> at a time. Application rates greater than this can result in the adhesive skinning before the tiles are laid into it.
- ⬇ Once the adhesive is applied onto the substrate ensure that it does not skin prior to bedding the tiles into it. Once the adhesive skins **do not lay tiles into it, but remove it and apply fresh adhesive.**
- ⬇ When placing the tiles into the adhesive press them in by using a twisting or sliding action. Ensure no voids occur and full coverage of adhesive is under the tiles.
- ⬇ For tiles with lugs, grooves or uneven backing it may be required to butter the back of the tile with adhesive in addition to trowelling the adhesive onto the substrate.
- ⬇ The final bed thickness of the adhesive should be at least 2mm for wall tiling and 3mm for floor tiling.
- ⬇ Over Tongue and Groove Timber floors it is recommended to have a final bed thickness of 4mm.
- ⬇ Once the tiling is completed do not disturb the tiled surface for at least 24 hours at 20°C.

## Clean Up:

- ⬇ Excess adhesive from the face of the tiles can be cleaned up with damp cloth while the adhesive is still wet.
- ⬇ Adhesive that has cozed out into the grout joint must be raked out with a knife / spatula etc.
- ⬇ Tools and other equipment can be cleaned up using water while the adhesive is still wet.

## Coverage:

- ⬇ A 15lt/2x15kg powder unit of RLA-Flex will cover approximately 13-15m<sup>2</sup> using a 12mm notched trowel.

## Grouting Application:

- ⬇ Grouting application can commence 24 hours after the completion of tiling.
- ⬇ Refer to RLA/Atlas grout data sheets for all technical information.

## Packaging / Shelf Life:

- ⬇ RLA-Flex is available in 15lt/2x 15kg powder.
- ⬇ A bag/pail of RLA-Flex, when stored in a cool, dry environment, and is stored above ground level, will have a shelf life of approximately 12months.

## Handy Tips:

- ⬇ Do not apply RLA-Flex in temperatures above 40°C and below 5°C.
- ⬇ RLA-Flex cannot be used for fixing tiles in permanently immersed situations like swimming pools, spas etc and permanently damp concrete slabs like those present around the pool surrounds etc. In such applications use Tilebond Extra with Uniflex additive.
- ⬇ When using RLA-Flex externally ensure sufficient falls are provided.
- ⬇ RLA-Flex is not suitable for applications where heavy traffic or high point loads will be applied over the tiling installation.
- ⬇ In cooler temperatures and when laying non-porous tiles over non-porous substrates, RLA-Flex may take longer than 24 hours to dry.
- ⬇ For applications / situations not mentioned in this data sheet please contact your nearest RLA/Atlas office.
- ⬇ RLA-Flex being cement based is alkaline in nature, and therefore may cause dermatitis. It is recommended that applicators wear PVC gloves or similar and safety goggles.
- ⬇ For a full MSDS on this product please contact your nearest RLA/Atlas office.
- ⬇ Q-Bond should not be used under vehicular traffic or under heavy point loads.

## Technical Data:

Properties	Results
Appearance	Powder: Grey, Liquid: White
Bulk Density	Powder: 1.25+/- 0.05, Liquid: 1.10+/- 0.05
Open Time	Approx. 45 minutes @ 20°C
Pot Life	Approx. 90 hours @ 20°C
Drying Time @ 20°C	Approx. 24 hours

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