Westbuild
INNOVATIVE BUILDING PRODUCTS

Tiling Specification General Guide to Surface Preparation

Scope

The below surface preparation methods should be followed in addition to normal procedures and best practice prior to tiling.

Preparation

Surface preparation is vital for optimum adhesion and results. Ensure all substrates are structurally sound, able to support the overlaying system, free from loose contaminating material and completely dry.

All surfaces to be tiled should be sound, dry and free of all contaminants including; dust, waxes, polishes and release agents.

Surface Preparation and Adhesive Guide

Surface	Preparation Method	Relevant Adhesive
Dusty Surfaces	Prime surface using a brush or broom with Westbuild PRO™ Flexible Additive Fortifier & Primer.	Westbuild PRO™ Flexible Additive Fortifier & Primer All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Painted Surfaces	Must be sanded and scored to remove 80% of the original hard sub-surface.	All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Tiled Surfaces	All surfaces should be cleaned thoroughly with rinsed with water and left to dry. Mechanical scoring and sanding is not required. Any drummy tiles should be replaced prior to full tiling. Prime the existing surface with Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep.	Flexbond High Performance OR if first primed with Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep, then HTS White or Mastic can be used.
Brick, block and mortar walls	Prior to any adhesive being used, all surfaces should be left to cure thoroughly. If using waterproofing on the opposite side, ensure this has also cured.	All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Render and Screeds	Finish with a wooden float or similar to create a smooth surface with a good mechanical key. Renders and screed should be left a minimum of 7 days to dry.	All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Concrete - Green or Uncured	Prior to tiling, green concrete should be mechanically abraded to ensure a good mechanical key and further promote adhesion with the adhesive. Ensure a flexible, high quality / high polymer adhesive is used.	Flexbond High Performance

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Technical Specification

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Surface Preparation and Adhesive Guide (cont.)

Surface	Preparation Method	Relevant Adhesive
Concrete - Cured	Ensure surfaces are clean and dry. Smooth concrete should be abraded to ensure maximum adhesion with tile adhesive. Any release agents should be suitably removed.	All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Concrete >35MPa	Any release agents should be suitably removed. Dense concrete must be mechanically roughened to promote adhesion for the tile adhesive. Where mechanical abrasion is not viable, chemically etch the surface and prime with Westbuild PRO™ Flexible Additive Fortifier & Primer.	Westbuild PRO™ Flexible Additive Fortifier & Primer Flexbond High Performance
Concrete >40MPa	Any release agents should be suitably removed. Dense concrete must be mechanically roughened to promote adhesion for the tile adhesive. Where mechanical abrasion is not viable, prime the surface with Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep.	Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep Flexbond High Performance
Timber/Steel Frame	Noggins should be installed 450mm maximum central to the areas to be tiled. All sheeting should be installed as per manufacturer's specification.	All WESTBUILD adhesives suited to the application.
Vinyl	All surfaces should be free of all waxes and polishes. Lightly sand the area and remove all dusts.	Flexbond High Performance
Hard, non-porous coating i.e. epoxy coating, laminates	All surfaces should be cleaned thoroughly with rinsed with water and left to dry. Prime the existing surface with Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep.	Flexbond High Performance, HTS White, Mastic, Ultragrip
Steel, Including Galvanized iron and Zincalume	Metal surfaces must be free from all rust and oxidization film. Before applying on metals, plastics or glazed surfaces – ensure all solvent or film residue is removed using a degreaser or similar. Ensure the surface is completely rinsed with potable water. Prime the existing surface with Westbuild PRO™ Multi Surface Prime N' Prep.	Flexbond High Performance, HTS White, Mastic, Ultragrip

Mixing and Application

Refer to product packaging and relevant Technical Data Sheets.

Technical Specification

The above information is a general specification only and does not make provision for specific site and project requirements. Please consult with the Technical Data Sheet or directly with Westbuild for a unique and tailored specification for your project.