



# Kerabond T

**Cementitious adhesive with no vertical slip for ceramic tiles**



## CLASSIFICATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH ISO 13007

**Kerabond T** is a normal (1) slip-resistant (T) cementitious (C) adhesive of class C1T.

## WHERE TO USE

- Indoor and outdoor fixing of ceramic tiles and mosaics of all types on floors, walls and ceilings.
- For fixing porcelain tiles (for large format tiles, e.g. more than 600x300 mm on wall, consult your local MAPEI technical advisor).
- Spot bonding of insulating materials such as expanded polystyrene, expanded polyurethane, rock and glass wool, wood-cement boards and sound-deadening panels etc.

## Some application examples

Paper-faced or mesh-backed mosaics and all types of ceramic tiles (quarry tiles, single fired and klinker tiles, etc.), on:

- conventional renders or cement mortar walls;
- ordinary concrete slabs or reinforced floating slabs, provided they are sufficiently well aged and cured;
- gypsum boards and anhydrite screeds as long as they are first treated with an appropriate primer.

## TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Kerabond T** is a grey or white powder composed of cement, fine-grade, synthetic resins and special additives formulated in the MAPEI Research and Development Laboratories.

Mixed with water, **Kerabond T** becomes an easily trowellable mortar with good bonding strength, low slump and high grab so that it can be applied vertically without sagging, even holding heavy tiles. Tiles can be installed from the top towards the bottom without using spacer pegs.

**Kerabond T** hardens without noticeable shrinkage to become extremely resistant, adhering perfectly to all the conventional materials used in construction.

**N.B.:** *Mixing **Kerabond T** with **Isolastic** in place of water improves the characteristics to meet the requirements of class C2ES2 (highly deformable improved cementitious adhesive) according to ISO 13007 and EN 12004.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Use **Kerabond T** mixed with **Isolastic** in the following cases:

- on foamed concrete walls and light weight blockwork;
- over underfloor heating or cooling installations;
- with large-size tiles;
- for the installation of glass mosaics;
- for the installation of stone materials as long as they are classified as stable and moisture proof.

# Kerabond T



Fixing ceramic tiles on walls working from the top to the bottom



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Do not use **Kerabond T** in the following cases:

- on wooden substrates;
- on gypsum board walls unless pre-treated with an appropriate primer and properly fixed to obtain a suitable bearing;
- on metal, rubber, PVC and linoleum surfaces;
- for laying tiles which require a nominal layer of adhesive more than 10 mm thick;
- where the surface must be set to light foot traffic rapidly;
- for the installation of non-absorbent tiles (quarry tiles, single-fired tiles, klinker tiles, etc.) on other non-absorbent wall and floor substrates.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

### Preparing the substrate

The substrate must be adequately cured, mechanically sound, free of loose particles, grease, oil, paint, wax and other deleterious material or surface contamination and should be sufficiently dry.

Cementitious substrate must not be subject to shrinkage after tile installation. In mild weather, renders must have cured at least 1 week for each centimeter of thickness and cementitious screeds must have cured at least 28 days, unless they have been made with MAPEI special binders for screeds such as **Mapecem**, **Mapecem Pronto**, **Topcem**, **Topcem Pronto**.

Surfaces that could become too hot due to exposure to sunlight, consider shading or cooling down with clean water. Gypsum substrate and anhydrite screeds must be perfectly dry (maximum residual moisture 0.5%), sufficiently hard and free of dust. It is absolutely essential that they are treated with **Primer G** or **Eco Prim T**.

### Preparing the mix

**Kerabond T** must be mixed with clean water to obtain an homogenous paste free of lumps; leave to rest approximately 5 minutes and re-mix, the paste is then ready to use.

The quantity of water to be used is 25-27 per 100 parts (by weight) equal to 6.25-6.75 litres of water for 25 kg of **Kerabond T** grey and 27-29 per 100 parts (by weight) equal to 6.75-7.25 litres of water for 25 kg of **Kerabond T** white.

The mix, produced in this way, is workable for at least 8 hours (at +23°C).

Always refer to the quantity of mixing water prescribed on the packaging.

### Applying the mix

**Kerabond T** is applied with a notched trowel onto the substrate. Choose a trowel that will give a coverage to the back of the tiles of at least 65-70% for walls or for indoor light foot traffic. For heavy traffic, total immersion and

for outdoor application, the coverage must be 100%.

To obtain good adhesion to the substrate the following system is recommended: first apply a thin coat of **Kerabond T** using the smooth side of the trowel and immediately after apply the desired thickness of **Kerabond T** using the toothed side of the trowel. In particular:

- for mosaics up to 5x5 cm, the MAPEI No. 4 square-notched trowel is recommended;
- for normal ceramic wall tiles, the MAPEI No. 5 V-notched trowel (consumption 2.5-3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) is recommended;
- for floors, very irregular surfaces and tiles with high ribs or lugs, the MAPEI No. 6 V-notched trowel (consumption approx. 4 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) is recommended;
- in the case of outdoor ceramic floor and wall coverings subject to freezing, or in the case of other special uses such as swimming pools, reservoirs, tile sizes larger than 900 cm<sup>2</sup>, floors to be polished after installation or subject to heavy loads, **Kerabond T** should be applied evenly to the back of the tile (back-buttering).

### Installing the tiles

It is not necessary to wet the tiles before installation; only in the case of very dusty back washing is recommended, by quickly immersing them in clean water. The tiles must be installed in the normal way, placing them firmly to ensure good contact with the adhesive. The open time of **Kerabond T** in normal conditions of temperature and humidity, is 20-30 minutes; unfavorable environmental conditions (strong sunlight, drying wind, high temperature as well as a highly absorbent substrate), could drastically reduce this time to a few minutes.

Therefore one must constantly check that the adhesive has not formed a superficial skin and is still "fresh"; where there is a formation of a superficial skin, the adhesive must be reworked with the notched trowel. Wetting the adhesive after it has produced the skin is not recommended because the water forms an anti-adhesive film instead of dissolving it. The "adjustability" of the tiles must be carried out within 45 minutes (at +23°C) after installation.

Tiles installed with **Kerabond T** must not be subject to running water or rain for at least 24 hours and must be protected from frost and strong sunlight for at least 5-7 days after installation.

### Spot bonding insulating materials

Spot bonding of sound-deadening or insulating panels should be applied using a float or trowel. The required number and thickness determined by the flatness of the surface and weight of the panels.

In these cases too, the open time must be observed, bearing in mind that a few spots of adhesive on heavy panels may require temporary shoring which should then only be removed after the **Kerabond T** has begun to set.

## TECHNICAL DATA (typical values)

In compliance with:

- European EN 12004 as C1T
- ISO 13007-1 as C1T
- European EN 12004 as C2ES2  
(if mixed with Isolastic 100%)
- ISO 13007-1 as C2ES2 (if mixed with Isolastic 100%)
- American ANSI A 118.1, A 118.4

### PRODUCT IDENTITY

Type:	powder
Colour:	white or grey
Bulk density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ):	1300
Dry solids content (%):	100
EMICODE:	EC1 R Plus - very low emissions

### APPLICATION DATA (at +23°C and 50% R.H.)

Mix ratio:	100 parts <b>Kerabond T</b> with 25-27 parts water by weight for <b>Kerabond T</b> grey and 27-29 parts water by weight for <b>Kerabond T</b> white
Consistency of mix:	very pasty
Density of mix (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ):	1450
pH of mix:	13
Pot life:	over 8 hours
Application temperature:	from +5°C to +40°C
Open time (according to EN 1346):	> 20 minutes
Adjustability time:	approx. 45 minutes
Wall grouting:	after 4-8 hours
Floor grouting:	after 24 hours
Set to light foot traffic:	24 hours
Ready for use:	14 days

### FINAL PERFORMANCES

Adhesion strength according to EN 1348 (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	
- initial adhesion strength (after 28 days):	1.4
- adhesion strength after heat:	0.8
- adhesion strength after water immersion:	0.9
- adhesion strength after freeze-thaw cycles:	1.2
Resistance to alkalis:	excellent
Resistance to oils:	excellent (poor for vegetable oils)
Resistance to solvents:	excellent
Temperature resistance after final cure:	from -30°C to +90°C
VOC:	0 g/l



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**N.B.** The technical data of **Kerabond T** mixed with **Isolastic** are on the latter's technical data sheet.

# Kerabond T



## GROUTING AND SEALING

Wall joints between the ceramic tiles 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.

Grout with the appropriate MAPEI grout (see Technical Data Sheet of grouts for details).

## SET TO LIGHT FOOT TRAFFIC

Floors are set to withstand light foot traffic after approximately 24 hours.

## READY FOR USE

Floors are ready for use after approx. 14 days.

## Cleaning

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

## CONSUMPTION

### Ceramic tiling

Mosaics and small size tiles  
(trowel No. 4; size 4x4 mm): 2 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Normal size tiles  
(trowel No. 5; size 5x5 mm): 2.5-3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Large sizes, floors, exteriors  
(trowel No. 6; size 6x6 mm): 4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and over

### Spot-bonding insulating materials

Foam materials, etc.: approx. 0.5-0.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Gypsum wallboard,  
foamed concrete: approx. 1.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

## PACKAGING

**Kerabond T** is supplied in white and grey in: 25 kg bags.

## STORAGE

When stored in dry conditions in the original, unopened bags, **Kerabond T** has a shelf life of 12 months. If stored at high temperature and or high humidity conditions the shelf life may be reduced.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTION FOR PREPARATION AND INSTALLATION

**Kerabond T** is an irritant containing cement that when in contact with sweat or other body fluids causes irritant alkaline reactions and allergic reactions to those predisposed. It is recommended to use protective gloves and goggles and to take the usual precautions for handling chemicals.

If the product comes in contact with the eyes or skin, wash immediately with plenty of

water and seek medical attention.

For further and complete information about the safe use of our product please refer to the latest version of our Material Safety Data Sheet.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

*Whilst we try to ensure that any advice, recommendations or information given in our literature is accurate and correct, we have no control over the circumstances in which our product is used. It is therefore important that installers satisfy themselves that the product and conditions are suitable for the envisaged application. No warranty can be given or responsibility accepted other than, that the product supplied by us will meet our written specification. The installer should ensure that our latest product data and safety information sheets have been consulted prior to use.*

Please refer to the current version of the Technical Data Sheet, available from our website [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com)

## LEGAL NOTICE

*The contents of this Technical Data Sheet ("TDS") may be copied into other project-related documents, but the resulting document shall not supplement or replace requirements per the TDS in force at the time of the MAPEI product installation. The most up-to-date TDS can be downloaded from our website [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com).*

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**Our Commitment To The Environment**  
MAPEI products assist Project Designers and Contractors create innovative LEED (The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) in compliance with the U.S. Green Building Council or other Environmental/sustainable certified projects.

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