
CUSTOMBLEND® STANDARD THIN-SET MORTAR

- Economical formula for basic tile jobs
- For installations over concrete floors
- Meets ANSI A118.1 without additives
- Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 when mixed with Acrylic Mortar Admix

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

CustomBlend® offers economy with good bond strength for most tile projects and is recommended for floor installations. Good for setting Saltillo and other similar clay pavers. Offers good working time to apply and adjust tiles. Mix with Acrylic Mortar Admix for best results when setting dense tile or setting over EGP plywood, existing flooring and for exterior applications. Meets ANSI A118.1 without additives. Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 when mixed with Acrylic Mortar Admix.

USES — TILE TYPES

- Vitreous, semi-vitreous or absorptive tile:
 - ceramic, quarry, cement
- Brick and mini-brick
- Precast terrazzo
- Natural stone tile
- Impervious porcelain tile – mix with Acrylic Mortar Admix

AREAS OF USE

When Mixed with Water – ANSI A118.1 Specifications:

- Interior floors, walls, countertops
- Concrete, mortar beds, masonry, Portland cement plaster
- Gypsum wallboard (dry areas)
- Water-resistant wallboard
- WonderBoard®, RhinoBoard™ cement backerboards

Mix with Acrylic Mortar Admix – ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 Specifications:

- Interior or exterior floors, walls, countertops
- Areas subject to freeze-thaw cycles
- Exterior grade plywood (interior residential and light commercial dry areas)
- Existing ceramic tile
- Sheet vinyl flooring, VCT
- Plastic laminates

LIMITATIONS

- Do not bond directly to hardwood, Luan plywood, particle board, parquet, cushion or sponge-back vinyl flooring, metal, fiberglass, plastic and OSB panels.
- When setting moisture sensitive natural stone or agglomerates use OptiCure™ Fortified Thin-Set Mortar or 100% Solids Epoxy Mortar.
- Do not use to install resin-backed stone.
- When setting dimensional stone larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm), contact Technical Support for recommendations regarding subfloor deflection requirements.

SURFACE PREPARATION

General Surface Preparation:

Surfaces must be structurally sound, clean, dry and free from grease, oil, dirt, curing compounds, sealers, adhesives or any other contaminant that would prevent a good bond. Glossy or painted surfaces must be sanded, stripped and cleaned of waxes, dirt or any contaminants. Ambient temperature, surfaces and materials should be maintained at a temperature above 50° F (10° C) or below 100° F (38° C) for 72 hours.

Cementitious Surfaces:

Concrete or plaster must be fully cured and accept water penetration. Test by sprinkling water on various areas of the substrate. If water penetrates, then a good bond can be achieved. If water beads, surface contaminants are present and loss of adhesion may occur. The contaminants should be removed before installation. Concrete must be free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure. Concrete slabs should have a broomed or brushed finish to enhance the bond. Smooth concrete slabs must be roughened to ensure a good bond.

Plywood Substrates:

Plywood floors including those under resilient flooring must be built to industry standards. Deflection not to exceed L/360. For questions about proper subfloor installation, call Technical Support.

WonderBoard® and RhinoBoard™ Backerboards:

As a superior alternative to an additional layer of plywood, WonderBoard or RhinoBoard backerboards may be installed over plywood subfloors. Refer to their respective data sheets for installation information.



CUSTOM®
BUILDING PRODUCTS

Existing Ceramic Tile, Resilient Flooring or Plastic Laminates:

Plywood flooring must be structurally sound and meet all ANSI and deflection requirements. Resilient flooring or plastic laminates must be well bonded, clean and free of all contaminants. Roughen the surface by sanding or scarifying, rinse and allow to dry. Do not sand flooring containing asbestos. For existing well-bonded ceramic tile, mechanically abrade with carborundum stone. Rinse and allow to dry. When sanding we recommend the use of an approved respirator.

Expansion Joints:

Expansion joints, control joints and cold joints should never be bridged with setting material. They must be brought through the tile work and filled with an appropriate elastomeric sealant.

MIXING

For installations requiring an ANSI A118.1 mortar, thoroughly mix 2 gallons (7.55 L) clean, cool water and 50 lb. (22.68 Kg) CustomBlend together to a smooth, paste-like consistency. For mortar meeting A118.4 or A118.11 requirements, use 2 gallons (7.55 L) of Acrylic Mortar Admix in place of water. Mix by hand or use a low speed (150 - 200 RPM) 1/2" (13 mm) drill. Let slake or stand 5 - 10 minutes, stir again and use. Stir occasionally to keep fluffy, but do not add more water. When properly mixed, troweled ridges will stand with no slump.

APPLICATION

INSTALLATION TO CONFORM TO ANSI A108.5. Use proper sized notch trowel to ensure 100% coverage under tiles. Using flat side of trowel, apply skim coat of mortar to the surface. Apply additional mortar with notched side of trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Press tile firmly into place in a perpendicular motion across ridges, moving back and forth. Perpendicular pressing flattens ridges and closes valleys allowing maximum coverage. With some tile, back buttering is advisable. Adjust tile promptly and beat in with block and rubber mallet. Periodically pull up a tile and check the back to ensure complete coverage with the adhesive. Do not spread more material than can be tiled in 15 minutes or while material has wet tack (sticky to the touch). If material has skinned over (not sticky), recomb with notch trowel. If too dry, remove and replace with fresh material. Material in bucket will remain workable in excess of 2 hours.

CURING

Allow to cure for a minimum of 24 hours before grouting or light traffic, depending upon temperature and humidity. Polyblend® Tile Grout is recommended.

COVERAGE

85 - 95 sq. ft. per 50 lbs. (7.9 - 8.8 m²/22.68 kg) applied with a 1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" (6 x 6 x 6 mm) square-notch trowel.

CLEAN-UP

Clean with water before material dries.

STORAGE

Store in a cool dry area.

SAFETY

Contains Portland cement. Avoid eye contact or prolonged contact with skin. Wash thoroughly after handling. If eye contact occurs, flush with water for 15 minutes and consult a physician. This product contains free silica. Do not breathe dust; wear NIOSH approved respirator.

ORDERING INFORMATION

	ITEM CODE	SIZE	COLOR	PACKAGE
USA	CBTSG50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	Gray	Bag
USA	CBTSW50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	White	Bag
Canada	CCBTSG50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	Gray	Bag

TECHNICAL DATA

Exceeds ANSI A118.1 specifications when mixed with water.
Exceeds ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 specifications when mixed with Acrylic Mortar Admix.

	CUSTOMBLEND MIXED WITH WATER	CUSTOMBLEND MIXED WITH AMA
Open Time	55 minutes	50 - 55 minutes
Adjustment Time	40 - 45 minutes	40 - 45 minutes
Shear Bond @ 28 Days:		
Bisque Tile	250 psi (17.6 kg/cm ²)	340 psi (24 kg/cm ²)
Porcelain Tile	195 psi (13.7 kg/cm ²)	265 psi (18.6 kg/cm ²)
Quarry Tile to Plywood		150 psi (10.6 kg/cm ²)

