

# DESCRIPTION

TAL PORCELAIN FIX is a quick setting high strength grey cement based adhesive for fixing porcelain tiles. It can also be used to fix other types of tiles. The adhesive was designed for easy use, allowing a 4 hour pot life.

## FEATURES

- high strength
- rapid set trafficable after only 12 hours
- shrinkage compensated

# **TECHNICAL DATA**

	With Water	With TAL Bond
Mix Ratio	20kg / 5ł	20kg / 5ł
Pot Life	4 hours	4 hours
Open Time	15 minutes	15 minutes
Application Temperature Range	10°C - 30°C	10°C - 30°C
Grouting After	6 – 8 hours	6 – 8 hours
Full Service	12 hours	12 hours
Flexibility	Poor	Good
Temperature Resistance	0°C - 60°C	-30°C - 100°C
Ageing	Excellent	Excellent
Resistance to Damp	Good	Excellent
Tensile Adhesive Strength (48 Hours)(EN1348)	> 0. 5N/mm <sup>2</sup>	> 1 N/mm²

# SURFACE PREPARATION

New concrete, screeds and brickwork must have cured for at least 28 days, and new renders must have cured for at least 14 days. The substrate must have a moisture content of 5% or less before tiling can commence.

Screeding and rendering must be firmly attached to the underlying concrete or brickwork, and the substrate must be integrally sound (no crumbling, cracking, etc) and of a quality and consistency suitable for tiling. All defective areas must be removed and made good before proceeding, using TAL RAPIDFIX or TALCEM.

Off-shutter concrete, smooth & dense surfaces, powerfloated & steelfloated surfaces	Clean thoroughly or mechanically abrade to remove shutter release and curing agents, laitance, polishes, etc. *
Existing Tiles	Must be in good condition and firmly attached to the substrate, ie not cracked, loose or hollow sounding. Acid wash and neutralize to remove sealants, polish, etc.*
Existing vinyl flooring / Carpets	Floor coverings must be lifted, and the floor mechanically abraded (chipping, grinding, scabbling, etc) to remove existing fixative. *

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Existing paint or polish	<b>Domestic :</b> Mechanically abrade (chipping, grinding, scabbling, etc) to remove at least 80% of the paint/polish/gypsum skimcoat. <b>*</b>
Existing gypsum skimcoats	<b>Commercial :</b> Mechanically abrade to remove all traces of paint/polish/gypsum skimcoat.
Bitumen adhesive / waterproofing	Mechanically abrade (chipping, grinding, scabbling, etc) to remove completely.*

The surface must be clean and dry and free of all traces of dust, debris, loose particles and surface contaminants before proceeding.

\* Prime the surface with a slurry consisting of 1 part TAL KEYCOAT to 2 parts ordinary Portland cement (by volume), which is applied with a builders block brush. Allow this slurry coat to dry for 4-6 hours before applying TAL PORCELAIN FIX.

# MIXING

Using a mechanical mixer, add 20kg TAL PORCELAIN FIX to 5 litres clean water while mixing (for optimal performance water temperature should be between 20°C and 25°C). Mix well to a creamy, lump-free consistency. Let the mix stand for 3 - 5 minutes before stirring again. Use within  $\pm$  90 minutes. For best results use a full bag in one mix.

For all exterior/exposed and "wet" applications, high traffic areas, areas subjected to thermal stresses or temperature changes, or where some flexibility is required, replace the water in the mix with TAL BOND. **NB**:

- Warm weather conditions may shorten the working time of the adhesive.
- Extremely cold temperatures may adversely affect the adhesive properties.
- Never add more liquid to an adhesive which has been left standing for too long, as this will
  negatively affect the adhesive properties.

# APPLICATION

Ensure that the tiles are dry and the backs are free of dust and contaminants.

Apply the mix to the surface using a notched TAL Wall Trowel for lightweight wall tiles, or a notched TAL Floor Trowel for floor tiles, heavy and/or large format wall tiles and exterior wall tiles where a solid bed of adhesive is essential. TAL PORCELAIN FIX can be applied in bed thicknesses between 5 - 12mm, and up to 20mm in isolated areas only.

Apply only as much adhesive as can be tiled in 10 - 15 minutes to prevent the adhesive from "skinning" before the tiles are applied.

Bed tiles firmly using a TAL Rubber Mallet. When tiling floors or exterior walls ensure that the tile is in full contact with the adhesive. Occasionally, lift a tile to ensure that there are no air pockets. Never fix tiles using the 'spot' method.

Never butt joint tiles. Always leave grout joints between tiles; at least 2mm wide between ceramic wall tiles, 3mm between porcelain, granite and marble tiles, and 5mm between natural stone and ceramic tiles.

Do not tile over structural, expansion or cold joints in the background. These joints must be extended through the various layers to the surface.

Ensure that the grout joints and tile panel movement joints and perimeter joints are raked out and all adhesive residues removed before the adhesive dries.

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# GROUTING

Allow at least 6 - 8 hours after completing the tiling before grouting, depending on atmospheric conditions. Use TAL Grouts according to the instructions. **Do not grout with neat cement**.

## **MOVEMENT JOINTS**

Tile panel movement joints should be located in both directions at maximum 5 metre centres for interior surface bed applications, and maximum 3 metre centres for suspended or exterior applications. Movement joints should also be located around the perimeter of all floors, in all horizontal and vertical corners, against obstructions fixed to the structural background and over all discontinuities in building materials, e.g. at interfaces of concrete and brickwork. In addition, movement joints should be located around any fixtures protruding through the tiled surface such as columns or stairs. These joints must be at least 5mm wide and extend through the tile and tile adhesive layers and must be filled with TAL GOLD STAR SEALMASTER 1000 polyurethane joint sealant in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The full width of the structural joints must be extended through the tiles to the surface.

# COVERAGE

Coverage is approximately 3kg/m<sup>2</sup> when applied using TAL Notched Wall Trowel, and approximately 6kg/m<sup>2</sup> when applied using a TAL Notched Floor Trowel (Actual coverages will be determined by site conditions, workmanship, etc)

### PACKAGING

TAL PORCELAIN FIX is available in 20kg bags.

### **STORAGE & SHELF LIFE**

When stored in dry, internal conditions between 10°C and 30°C and out of direct sunlight the product has a shelf life of 6 months from date of manufacture. Never store directly on a concrete floor.

## WARNING

DO NOT INGEST. USE ONLY AS DIRECTED. WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES AND GOGGLES. USE A SUITABLE DUST MASK WHEN MIXING. WORK IN A WELL VENTILATED AREA. DISPOSE OF THIS PRODUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAT REGULATIONS. CONTACT TAL FOR FURTHER HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION.

### TAL GUARANTEE

TAL products are manufactured and tested to TAL procedures, which are maintained in accordance with Quality System Standard ISO 9001 : 2008. TAL products are guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects and fit for design purposes. TAL guarantees the performance of its products when used strictly in accordance with TAL's materials and methods specifications and good working practice.

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# TAL TECHNICAL ADVICE CENTRE

For a detailed Materials and Methods Specification contact the TAL Technical Advice Centre on 0860 000 TAL(825), or e-mail taltech@norcrossa.com Branches : Gauteng (011) 206-9700; Cape (021) 386-1810; Natal (031) 579-2263

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