

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

MCB™ A-20

A RIGID SET, HIGH STRENGTH, CEMENT BASED ADHESIVE USED FOR BONDING MOST TYPES OF TILES OVER MASONRY SUBSTRATES

DESCRIPTION

MCB™ A-20 is a rigid set, high strength, cement based adhesive used for bonding most types of tiles over masonry substrates. It can be used for both internal and external situations for floor and wall tiling. The non slip/slump characteristics makes it ideal for installing large and heavy tiles. MCB™ A-20 can be mixed with ECO SYSTEMS™ ECO LASTIC to improve adhesion, flexural and compressive strength. It is also suitable for continuous immersion applications.

PRODUCT FEATURES

- C2 – High bond strength
- E – Extended open time
- T – Non slip/slump
- Easy to use
- White
- Self priming
- Water washable
- Low VOC
- Thin & Thick bed applications

SUITABLE TILE TYPES

- Terracotta
- Slate
- Quarry
- Bicottura
- Monocottura
- Porcelain
- Natural Stone: including marble, granite, limestone & travertine
- Glass mosaics

AREAS OF USE

- Interior & exterior applications
- Walls & floors
- Concrete
- Sand / cement screeds
- Cement render
- Tiling over waterproofing membranes that have been certified by Sika®*
- Continuous immersion applications[∇]

* MCB A-20 must be mixed with undiluted ECO SYSTEMS™ ECO LASTIC

[∇] ECO SYSTEMS™ ECO LASTIC to improve adhesion, flexural and compressive strength. It is also suitable for continuous immersion applications.

SURFACE PREPARATION

General: Ensure that the surface is dry and clean. Remove any loose material and all contaminants such as grease, oil and dust prior to applying. Make certain that there are no undulations in the surface that may require MCB™ A-20 to be applied at a thickness in excess of 12mm. If necessary, level floors using Sikafloor® Self Levelling Underlayment.

PERFORM THE SUBSTRATE TEST

No water absorbed	Mechanically prepare the surface / Use Eco Prep 'N' Prime
Moderate water absorbed	Clean with a damp sponge and fresh water
All water absorbed	Broom on liberal amounts of water

This simple indicative test is performed after vacuuming or sweeping a number of test areas and applying a single drop of clean water from the end of your finger. This should be approximately 10 to 20mm wide when it first hits the floor – if it beads and remains whole then “No water is absorbed”. If it loses all gloss within 20 to 60 seconds then “Moderate water is absorbed”. If the gloss disappears instantly or within 20 seconds then the substrate has “All water absorbed”. Look for different surface appearances on the substrate and test each area to ensure the test is representative of the whole area. Perform this test in both a cool shaded area and an exposed sunny area if tiling externally.

SUBSTRATES / BACKGROUNDS

Concrete Floors: Allow at least 28 days for the concrete to cure. A flexible adhesive is recommended for installations over post tensioned and suspended concrete slabs. Concrete should be left with an open surface - standard helicopter finishes are generally acceptable if they display the “Moderate water absorption” in the substrate test. Wood float or broom finish is preferred where possible. All traces of curing compounds (or sealers) should be removed prior to tiling as these can act as release agents. The surface should be flat and even unless falls are incorporated where required.

Sand / Cement Screeds and Renders: The screeds and / or renders must conform with the appropriate standard and should be left with a wood float finish and left to cure for at least 7 days per 25mm thickness.

Sika® Certified Waterproofing Membranes: Waterproofing membranes must be allowed to cure as per the product's specification.

MIXING

Pour room temperature, potable water into a clean mixing container before slowly adding the adhesive powder. A 20kg bag of MCB™ A-20 will require approximately 4.5 litres of water. Always add powder to the water and mix until a smooth toothpaste consistency is achieved. Allow mixture to stand for 5 minutes to allow the chemicals to slake – then restir and the product is ready for immediate use. DO NOT ADD MORE WATER. Restirring may be necessary from time to time within this period.

APPLYING

- Tiles should be fixed in accordance with Australian Standard AS3958.1 – 2007.
- Ensure the back of each tile is clean and free from dust or other contaminants.
- The adhesive should be applied in areas not exceeding one square metre at a time to ensure the adhesive does not skin prior to fixing. Notch on the adhesive with the correct sized trowel in a straight line avoiding swirls.
- While pressing the tiles into the adhesive, slide them at 90 degrees to the direction of the notches for about the distance of the notch; i.e. 10mm for the 10mm notched trowel. This ensures that the whole back of the tile is in contact with the adhesive.
- It is advisable to remove tiles regularly to check that the whole of the back of the tile has maximum coverage as per the Standard. Contact Sika® if you are unsure of the requirements. Large tiles may require “back buttering” to ensure full adhesive contact with the back of the tile.
- All adhesive residue must be removed from the face of tiles, joints and fittings before the adhesive sets.

OPEN TIME

30 minutes at 23°C and 60% relative humidity.

POT LIFE

2.5 hours at 23°C and 60% relative humidity.

CURING

Tiles can accept foot traffic and may be grouted after 24 hours. This is dependent on the density of the background and tiles and the ambient temperature and humidity.

GROUTING

Tiles should be grouted using the appropriate PROBLEND™ premium grout. Select colour and range to suit joint width and preferred finish.

CLEANING

Tools and equipment can be washed using clean water before the adhesive has set.

INCORPORATING MOVEMENT JOINTS

Movement Joints must be installed according to Australian Standard AS3958.1 - 2007.

COVERAGE

Notched Trowel Size	Coverage Per 13.5kg bag
6MM	6.6 m ²
12MM	3.3 m ²

STORING

When MCB™ A-20 is stored in its original unopened package in a dry area at a temperature of 23°C and a relative humidity of 60%, it should be usable for approximately 12 months.

HANDLING

Sika® supports best practice in material handling: Gloves, mask and protective clothing should be worn. For further information refer to product SAFETY DATA SHEET.

PACK SIZE

Available in 20kg paper bags.

LIMITATIONS

- MCB™ A-20 cannot be used directly over flexible substrates including fibrous cement sheeting, plasterboard, tongue and grooved timber flooring, particleboard, medium density fibreboard or masonite.
- MCB™ A-20 is not suitable for use with moisture sensitive tiles or stone.
- MCB™ A-20 must not be used directly over solvent based polyurethane waterproofing membranes.
- MCB™ A-20 can only be used over high quality water based waterproofing membranes that have been certified by Sika® when mixed with undiluted ECO SYSTEMS™ ECO LASTIC.
- Special fixing techniques are required when tiling externally at heights that exceed 2.7 metres.
- The performance of MCB™ A-20 will be compromised when tiling in temperatures below 5°C and above 35°C.
- Contact Sika® for advice if further information is required.