

SECTION 03 53 00
CEMENT BASED FINISHING UNDERLAYMENT

PART I - GENERAL

1.01 SUMMARY

A. An underlayment formulated from a blend of Portland cement and other hydraulic cements that provides a smooth, permanent finish for a variety of substrates prior to the installation of today's demanding floor coverings, including sheet vinyl and VCT (vinyl composition tile). Allows the installation of most types of floor covering in as little as 15 minutes over all types of interior concrete, masonry, wood, terrazzo, and ceramic and quarry tile - as well as properly prepared residues of cutback and other non-water-soluble adhesives on concrete - all without the need for priming or the use of a latex additive.

B. Product mixes with water only to a creamy, smooth consistency, for easy application. Engineered around a self-drying matrix, all of the mix water is chemically combined within the product itself. Using this unique technology, flooring installation problems associated with dis-bonding, crumbling, mold, mildew and staining are eliminated, thus preserving the floor manufacturer's full product warranty.

1.02 QUALITY ASSURANCE

A. Installation of the cement-based, finishing underlayment shall be persons regularly employed in floor installations, with experience in the proper application techniques.

B. One coat pass for areas receiving new carpet, two coat pass for areas receiving new VCT, three coat pass for all other areas, including seamless vinyl floor finishes. All new floor finishes shall receive underlayment coating. Dependable floor type compounds are not permitted.

D. The surface shall be suitable to receive all types of wear surfaces or sealers when allowed to properly dry in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

E. Topping shall be walkable after 2 to 3 hours, and able to be coated with a traditional wear protection coating after 24 hours.

1.03 SUBMITTALS

A. Manufacturer's literature and MSDS

1.04 DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING

A. Deliver materials in their unopened packages and protect from extreme temperatures and moisture. Protect liquids from freezing.

1.05 SITE CONDITIONS

A. All concrete substrates must be solid, thoroughly clean and free of oil, wax, grease, asphalt, latex and gypsum compounds, curing compounds, sealers and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. If necessary, mechanically clean the floor down to sound, solid concrete by shot blasting, grinding or similar. Over-watered, frozen or otherwise weak concrete surfaces must also be cleaned down to sound, solid concrete by mechanical methods.

B. Acid etching, adhesive removers, solvents and sweeping compounds are not acceptable means for cleaning the substrate. Sanding equipment is not an effective method to remove curing and sealing compounds.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.01 MATERIALS

A. Approved manufacturer of cement-based finishing underlayment such as Ardex Feather Finish or approval equal. Portland cement based, exceptional bonding strength, smooth finish over a variety of substrates prior to floor covering. One coat for carpet, two coats for VCT, 3 coats for all other including seamless vinyl floor finishes. Easy to mix and apply, with water and no primers or additives. Mold and mildew resistant, will not contribute to staining, for interior use only.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.01 PREPARATION

A. This product is intended for all floor surfaces where new finishes are indicated for application. All subfloors must be sound, solid, cleaned and primed (per manufacturer's recommendations):

1. All concrete substrates must be of adequate strength, clean and free of all oil, grease, dirt, curing compounds and any substance that might act as a bond breaker before priming. Over watered, frozen or otherwise weak concrete surfaces must also be cleaned down to sound, solid concrete by mechanical methods.

2. For the treatment of cracks, use of a two-part epoxy and joint filler such as MM-80, manufactured by Metzger/McGuire or equal. Use the epoxy to fill nonmoving (dormant) cracks in existing concrete surfaces. Cracks greater than a hairline in width (1/32") must be filled with MM-80 or similar in strict accordance with the installation instructions provided by the epoxy manufacturer.

B. JOINT PREPARATION (per manufacturer's recommendations)

1. Moving Joints - honor all expansion, isolation and construction joints up through the topping.

2. Saw Cuts and Control Joints - fill all non-moving joints with MM-80 (or equal) as stated above.

C. PRIMING: (per manufacturer's recommendations)

3.02 APPLICATION per manufacturer's recommendations)

A. Recommended tools are ring mixing paddle, mixing bucket, margin trowel, steel trowel, razor, scraper and a 1/2" heavy duty drill.

B. Depending on temperature and humidity, between coats applications are approximately 30 minutes. A circulating fan helps to dry product. Obtain COR approval between coats.

C. One coat for carpet, two coats for VCT, 3 coats for all other including seamless vinyl floor finishes.

END OF SECTION