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# ARDEX SK 175™

## Waterproofing Membrane and Vapor Retarder for Tile & Stone Installations

The one waterproofing membrane and  
vapor retarder for virtually every job!

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For topside waterproofing over floors and walls

Perm rating acceptable for residential and commercial steam showers

Interior and exterior use\*

Ideal for swimming pools; just one layer required

Use on balconies and terraces

Easy to cut and apply

Use with ARDEX high-performance polymer modified mortars



**systemONE**<sup>™</sup>  
warranty

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# ARDEX SK 175™

## Waterproofing Membrane and Vapor Retarder for Tile & Stone Installations

### Description

ARDEX SK 175™ Waterproofing Membrane and Vapor Retarder for Tile & Stone Installations is a pliable, sheet-applied, bonded waterproof membrane and vapor retarder. ARDEX SK 175 is constructed of polyethylene with a high-performance fleece webbing to securely bond the membrane using ARDEX mortars prior to the installation of tile or stone in areas requiring topside waterproofing and vapor retarding. Tiles can be installed directly onto ARDEX SK 175. ARDEX SK 175 has an acceptable perm rating for commercial steam showers and is ideal for use in swimming pools.

### Substrate Preparation

The substrate must be clean, sound, solid and suitable for the installation of tiles and slabs.

Fill all cracks, holes and low spots with one of the following ARDEX products, as appropriate:

Product	Substrate	Interior	Exterior	Vertical	Horizontal
ARDEX A 38™ Rapid Set Screed or ARDEX A 38 MIX™ Rapid Set, Premixed Screed	Concrete	X	X		X
	Wood	X			X
ARDEX AM 100™ Rapid Set Pre-Tile Smoothing and Ramping Mortar	Concrete	X	X	X	X
	Wood				
ARDEX Liquid BackerBoard® Self-Leveling Underlayment for Interior Wood and Concrete Subfloors	Concrete	X			X
	Wood	X			X
ARDEX TL 1000™ Self-Leveling Underlayment	Concrete	X			X
	Wood	X			X
ARDEX TL PATCH® Tile Leveler, Underlayment Patch and Skimcoat	Concrete	X		X	X
	Wood	X		X	X

Observe the instructions and dry times in the ARDEX technical data sheets.

Per ANSI A 108 AN-3.7, expansion joints must be provided over existing moving joints and moving cracks and where substrate materials change composition or direction.

### Recommended Tools

Scissors or a utility knife, a 1/4" x 3/16" V-Notch trowel and a smooth flat trowel or similar

### Installation

Cut the membrane prior to the installation using scissors or a utility knife to ensure a correct fit. A 1/4" space must be left at each change of plane area to allow for air removal. After cutting, the membrane must be installed with one of the following approved ARDEX tile products\*\*:

- ARDEX X 77™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 78™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced, Semi-Pourable Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 5™ Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 7 R™ Rapid Set, Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX 8+9™ Rapid Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Compound

While considering the mortar open time, apply the bond coat to the substrate using a 1/4" x 3/16" V-Notch trowel. Firmly press the membrane into wet mortar with a smooth flat trowel to ensure proper coverage and to prevent the creation of air bubbles. It is recommended to start in the center of the installation area and move towards the edges of the membrane while pressing. The membrane may be installed by either creating butt joints in conjunction with SK 175™ Seam Tape or by overlapping the membrane seams by 2".

For floor and wall connections, seal with SK 175 Seam Tape, and install all inside and outside corners using ARDEX SK 175™ Inside Corners and ARDEX SK 175™ Outside Corners. ARDEX 8+9™ and ARDEX CA 20 P™ Multi-Purpose Construction Adhesive and Sealant can be used in conjunction with ARDEX SK 175™ Pipe Collar around all piping and valve protrusions to ensure a watertight seal.

### Installation of Commercial Steam Showers, Pools, Steam Rooms, Balconies and Terraces

In order to achieve maximum waterproofing protection, install ARDEX SK 175™ with ARDEX 8+9™ Rapid Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Compound using a 1/4" x 3/16" V-Notch trowel. Follow the directions previously listed for either the overlap or butt joint method.

## Installation of Tile and Grouting

Tile must be installed with one of the following approved ARDEX tile mortars\*\*:

- ARDEX X 77™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 78™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced, Semi-Pourable Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 5™ Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 32™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced, Rapid Set Thin-to-Thick Bed Mortar
- ARDEX FB 9 L™ Pourable ShearFlex® Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX X 7 R™ Rapid Set, Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar
- ARDEX N 23™ Rapid Set Natural Stone and Tile Mortar\*\*\*
- ARDEX S 48™ Rapid Set Tile and Stone Mortar / Mastic Hybrid\*\*\*

Allow the installed ARDEX SK 175 to cure approximately 3 - 12 hours (70°F) prior to installing tile using the selected ARDEX mortar in accordance with its technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.5. If flood testing is required, allow the materials to cure for 24 hours. Grouting can proceed once the tile has set in accordance with the instructions in the appropriate technical data sheets.

## Sizes Available

Waterproofing Membrane 39" wide x 33' long  
(1 m wide x 10 m long) roll

Waterproofing Membrane 39" wide x 98' long  
(1 m wide x 30 m long) roll

ARDEX SK 175 Seam Tape 4.75" wide x 16' long  
(12.1 cm wide x 5 m long) roll

ARDEX SK 175 Seam Tape 4.75" wide x 98' long  
(12.1 cm wide x 30 m long) roll

## Accessories

ARDEX SK 175™ Seam Tape, ARDEX SK 175™ Inside Corners, ARDEX SK 175™ Outside Corners, ARDEX SK 175™ Pipe Collar

## Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

Store upright and in an area protected from frost and sunlight.

\*ARDEX SK 175 is UV-sensitive. Do not expose ARDEX SK 175 to sunlight for extended periods of time.

\*\*ARDEX recommends a polymer modified tile and stone mortar with an ISO 13007 C2 designation and/or that complies with ANSI A118.4 or ANSI A118.15 to install the ARDEX SK 175. ARDEX tile and stone mortars are highly recommended due to their unique hardening and curing capabilities. In addition, the use of an ARDEX tile and stone mortar with the appropriate ARDEX grout qualifies the installation for an ARDEX SystemOne™ 10-Year Limited Warranty.

\*\*\*ARDEX N 23 and ARDEX S 48 may only be used to install tile in interior intermittent wet areas and on shower floors that are protected by an approved waterproofing membrane. For ARDEX N 23 and ARDEX S 48 applications, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

## Precautions

Carefully read and follow all precautions and warnings on the product label. For complete safety information, please refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available at [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com).

## Warranty

ARDEX Engineered Cements Standard Limited Warranty. Also eligible for the ARDEX Americas SystemOne™ 10-Year Limited Warranty when used in conjunction with select ARDEX mortars and grouts. Failure to follow written directions will void the warranty. For complete warranty details, please contact our Customer Service Center at 888-512-7339.

## IMPORTANT TECHNICAL UPDATES

**Technical update effective June 28, 2018:**  
ARDEX Tile Mortar Thicknesses over Membranes

[CLICK HERE](#)

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Supersedes all previous versions. Check [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com)  
for most recent version and for technical updates, which may  
supersede the information herein.

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