

# Ultraflex LFT

Premium, Large-and-Heavy-Tile Mortar with Polymer



## DESCRIPTION

Ultraflex® LFT™ is a premium, nonsag, large-and-heavy-tile mortar and thin-set mortar designed for large-format and heavy tile and stone for interior/exterior floor, wall and countertop installations. This mortar has a high content of unique dry polymer, resulting in excellent adhesion to the substrate and tile. This product features a very low emission of volatile organic compounds and includes an offset of greenhouse gas emissions. It is formulated with Easy Glide Technology™ for ease of application.

## CO<sub>2</sub> FULLY OFFSET PRODUCTS

Ultraflex LFT is part of the “CO<sub>2</sub> Fully Offset in the Entire Life Cycle” line of products. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions measured throughout the life cycle of products from the Zero line in 2025, using Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) methodology, verified and certified with EPDs, have been offset through the acquisition of third-party-certified carbon credits in support of forestry protection projects: A commitment to the planet, to people and to biodiversity. For more details on how emissions are calculated and on climate-mitigation projects that are financed through certified carbon credits, visit [www.mapei.com/us/sustainable-products](http://www.mapei.com/us/sustainable-products).

## FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Polymer-enriched for high performance and deformability
- Nonsag formula for large-format tile and stone in wall applications

- Nonslump for large-format and heavy tile and stone in floor applications
- For thicker bond coats from 3/32" to 1/2" (2.5 to 12 mm)
- Smooth and creamy consistency makes it easy to apply.

## INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND APPROVALS

- ISO 13007: Classification C2TESIP1
- ANSI: Exceeds ANSI A118.4HET, ANSI A118.11 and ANSI A118.15HET requirements

## WHERE TO USE

- Interior/exterior residential and commercial installations on floors and walls in dry and wet areas (see wall specifications in the "Limitations" section below)
- Installation of ceramic and porcelain tile; cultured stone; quarry tile; pavers; Saltillo tile; and most types of marble, granite and natural stone
- For installing ceramic or porcelain tile in submerged applications (pools, fountains, water features)

## LIMITATIONS

- Install only at temperatures between 40°F and 95°F (4°C and 35°C).
- Do not use for moisture-sensitive stone (green marble; some limestone and granite), agglomerate tiles, cultured marble or resin-backed tiles. Instead, use suitable epoxy or urethane adhesives. See the respective Technical Data Sheets for more information.
- Do not use over dimensionally unstable substrates such as hardwood flooring, oriented strand board (OSB), substrates containing asbestos, or metal. See the "Suitable Substrates" section below.
- To use directly over gypsum-based patching or leveling substrates, apply a suitable primer/sealer before use. See the technical bulletin "Tiling over gypsum" in the Tile & Stone Installation Systems section of MAPEI's Website.
- Do not use for transparent or translucent glass tile.
- For light-colored and translucent natural stone, a white mortar is recommended.
- Consult building code requirements for use on exterior commercial building facades.
- Installations of tile over nonporous surfaces, such as waterproofing membranes and existing tile, may require extended setting/curing times. Dimensionally weak stone (limestone, travertine) is limited to thin-set applications only.
- Large-and-heavy-tile mortars are not designed to correct uneven floors. Substrates must be flat and level (according to substrate flatness requirements in ANSI A108.02) before the installation of large-format tile.

## SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

- Concrete (cured for at least 28 days)
- Masonry cement block, brick, cement mortar beds, render coats and leveling coats
- Cement backer units (CBUs) – see manufacturer's installation guidelines
- Foam backer board
- Gypsum wallboard and plaster – interior walls in dry areas only (priming may be required). See the "Surface preparation requirements" reference guide in the Tile & Stone Installation Systems section of MAPEI's Website.

- Plywood underlayments must be a Group 1 exterior-grade plywood CC-plugged or better, conforming to APA classification and U.S. Product Standard PS 1-95 or a "SELECT" or (SEL-TF) CANPLY classified exterior-grade plywood conforming to CSA-0121 standard for Douglas fir for direct-bond applications (interior, residential and light commercial floors and countertops in dry conditions only).
- Vinyl composition tile (VCT), vinyl and cutback residue (interior installations)
- Existing ceramic and porcelain tile, quarry tile and pavers (interior and dry conditions only)
- MAPEI waterproofing, crack-isolation, sound-reduction and uncoupling membranes

Consult MAPEI's Technical Services Department for installation recommendations regarding substrates and conditions not listed.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

- All substrates should be structurally sound, stable, dry, clean and free of any substance or condition that may reduce or prevent proper adhesion.
- Substrates to receive thin porcelain tiles must be perfectly flat. When installing thin-body porcelain tile, consult the recommendations regarding surface preparation, trowel selection and mechanical edge-leveling systems in MAPEI's reference guides for thin-body porcelain tile 3 to 6 mm thick for walls, and 4.5 to 6 mm thick for floors. These reference guides can be found in the Tile & Stone Installation Systems section of MAPEI's Website.
- See the "Surface preparation requirements" reference guide in the Tile & Stone Installation Systems section of MAPEI's Website.

## MIXING

Before product use, take appropriate safety precautions. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for details.

1. Pour clean, potable water into a clean mixing container.
2. a. For nonsag/nonslump applications: Use about 6.5 to 7.5 U.S. qts. (6.15 to 7.10 L) of water.  
b. For MAPEI uncoupling and peel-and-stick membranes: Use about 7.5 to 8 U.S. qts. (7.10 to 7.57 L) of water.
3. Gradually add 50 lbs. (22.7 kg) of powder while slowly mixing.
4. Use a low-speed mixing drill (at about 300 rpm), with an angled cross-blade mixer or spiral mixer. Mix thoroughly until the mixture becomes a smooth, homogenous, lump-free paste. Avoid prolonged mixing.
5. Let mixture stand ("slake") for 5 minutes.
6. Remix.
7. If the mixture becomes heavy or stiff, remix it without adding more liquid.

## PRODUCT APPLICATION

Read all installation instructions thoroughly before installation.

1. Choose a notched trowel (see the "Approximate Coverage" chart below) with sufficient depth to achieve greater than 80% mortar contact to both the tile and substrate for all interior applications, and greater than 95% for exterior installations and wet applications. It may be necessary to back-butter the tile in order to meet these requirements. (Refer to ANSI A108.5 specifications and TCNA handbook guidelines.)
2. With pressure, apply a coat by using the trowel's flat side to key the mortar into the substrate.

3. Apply additional mortar, combing it in a single direction parallel to the tile's shortest dimension, with the trowel's notched side. If thin tile is being installed, it should be placed so that the troweled ridges on its back are oriented in the same parallel direction as the trowel ridges on the substrate.
4. Spread only as much mortar as can be tiled before the product skins over. Open time can vary with jobsite conditions.
5. Place the tiles firmly into the wet mortar. Push the tiles back and forth in a direction perpendicular to trowel lines, to collapse the mortar ridges and help achieve maximum coverage. Ensure proper contact between the mortar, tile and substrate by periodically lifting a few tiles to check for acceptable coverage.
6. Remove excess mortar from the joint areas so that at least 2/3 of the tile depth is available for grouting (see ANSI A108.10 guidelines).

## EXPANSION AND CONTROL JOINTS

- Provide for expansion and control joints as specified per TCNA Method EJ171 or TTMAC Specification Guide 09 30 00, Detail 301MJ. Do not cover expansion joints with mortar.

## CLEANUP

- Clean tools and tile with water while the mortar is fresh.

## PROTECTION

- Do not disturb the installation, allow light traffic or grout any tiles for at least 24 to 48 hours.
- Protect the installation from general traffic for at least 72 hours, and from heavy traffic for at least 7 days.
- Protect the installation from rain for 72 hours, and from freezing for 21 days.
- Cure for 28 days before water immersion

Note: When working in cold temperatures, protect tilework for an extended time for this dry-set mortar to cure before grouting and/or allowing traffic.

### ISO 13007 Classification

Classification Code	Classification Requirement
<b>C2 (cementitious, improved adhesive)</b>	≥ 145 psi (1 MPa) after standard aging, heat aging, water immersion and freeze/thaw cycles
<b>T (vertical slip resistance)</b>	≤ 0.019" (0.5 mm)
<b>E (extended open time)</b>	≥ 72.5 psi (0.5 MPa) after 30 minutes
<b>S1 (normal deformation of mortar)</b>	≥ 0.1" (2.5 mm)
<b>P1 (normal adhesion to plywood)</b>	≥ 72.5 psi (0.5 MPa)

## ANSI Specifications\*

Test Method	Specification Standard	Test Results
ANSI A118.11 – shear strength, quarry tile to plywood	> 150 psi (1.03 MPa) at 28 days	170 to 310 psi (1.17 to 2.14 MPa)
ANSI A118.15 – shear strength, impervious ceramic (porcelain) mosaics	> 400 psi (2.76 MPa) at 28 days	465 to 625 psi (3.21 to 4.31 MPa)
ANSI A118.15 – shear strength, glazed wall tile	> 450 psi (3.10 MPa) at 7 days	570 to 780 psi (3.93 to 5.38 MPa)
ANSI A118.15 – shear strength, quarry tile to quarry tile	> 150 psi (1.03 MPa) at 28 days	310 to 450 psi (2.14 to 3.10 MPa)
ANSI A118.15H – mortar for large and heavy tile	ASTM C627 Robinson Floor Test Lippage change < 1/64" (0.4 mm)	Pass
ANSI A118.15E – extended open time	≥ 75 psi (0.52 MPa) at 30 minutes	Pass
ANSI A118.15T – sag on vertical surfaces	< 0.02" (0.5 mm) at 20 minutes	Pass

\* Anything that meets A118.15 by definition exceeds A118.4.

## Shelf Life and Application Properties

before mixing

Shelf life	1 year when stored in original, unopened packaging at 73°F (23°C)
Colors	Gray, white

## Application Properties

at 73°F (23°C) and 50% relative humidity

Open time**	30 to 35 minutes
Pot life**	4 hours
Time before grouting (walls)**	8 to 16 hours
Time before grouting (floors)**	24 hours
VOC content	0 g per L

\*\* Open time, pot life and time before grouting vary based on jobsite conditions.

## Packaging

Size and Color
Bag: 50 lbs. (22.7 kg), gray
Bag: 50 lbs. (22.7 kg), white

## Approximate Coverage<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

per 50 lbs. (22.7 kg)

Typical Trowel	Coverage
1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" (6 x 6 x 6 mm), square-notched trowel	85 to 95 sq. ft. (7.90 to 8.83 m <sup>2</sup> )
1/4" x 3/8" x 1/4" (6 x 10 x 6 mm), square-notched trowel	65 to 75 sq. ft. (6.04 to 6.97 m <sup>2</sup> )
1/2" x 1/2" x 1/2" (12 x 12 x 12 mm), square-notched trowel	40 to 50 sq. ft. (3.72 to 4.65 m <sup>2</sup> )
3/4" x 9/16" x 3/8" (19 x 14 x 10 mm), U-notched trowel	35 to 40 sq. ft. (3.25 to 3.72 m <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Trowel dimensions are width/depth/space. Actual coverages will vary according to substrate profile and tile type.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Reference Guide: "Surface preparation requirements" for tile and stone installation systems<sup>†</sup>
- Technical Bulletin: "Tiling over gypsum"<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> At [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for specific data related to health and safety as well as product handling.

For information on MAPEI's commitment to sustainability and transparency, as well as how MAPEI products may contribute to green building standards and certification systems, contact [sustainability\\_USA@mapei.com](mailto:sustainability_USA@mapei.com) (USA) or [sustainability-durabilite@mapei.com](mailto:sustainability-durabilite@mapei.com) (Canada).



## WARNING

The test results shown in the TECHNICAL DATA table were obtained in compliance with test methods and curing cycles, if applicable, defined in the industry standards referenced on the Technical Data Sheet. Please note that the use of test procedures or methods other than those indicated in the table could lead to different values and that, in such cases, any liability of our company is excluded.

### LEGAL NOTICE

The contents of this Technical Data Sheet ("TDS") may be copied into another project-related document, but the resulting document shall not supplement nor replace requirements per the TDS in effect at the time of the MAPEI product installation. For the most up-to-date TDS and warranty information, please visit our website at [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com). **ANY ALTERATIONS TO THE WORDING OR REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN OR DERIVED FROM THIS TDS SHALL VOID ALL RELATED MAPEI WARRANTIES.**

Before using, the user must determine the suitability of our products for the intended use, and the user alone assumes all risks and liability. **ANY CLAIM SHALL BE DEEMED WAIVED UNLESS MADE IN WRITING TO US WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE IT WAS, OR REASONABLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN, DISCOVERED.**

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For the most current product data and BEST-BACKED<sup>SM</sup> warranty information,  
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