

# MASTERTILE™ 15

Coloured, joint grout for ceramic tiles

## Description

MASTERTILE 15 is a fine coloured powder which, when mixed with water, gives a smooth, easily applied creamy paste for clean grouting of ceramic tiles. It sets to a decorative water resistant finish (it is not suitable for heavily trafficked floor areas).

## Uses

- Swimming pools & shower rooms
- Ceramic tiles, vitrified tiles
- Medium and small sized mosaic

## Advantages

- Water-resistance
- Self-coloured. Aesthetically pleasing finish
- Resistance to cracking in joints up to 3mm wide.
- Tiles can be grouted as soon as they are walkable.
- Ideal for internal and exterior applications.
- Easy to apply.

## Typical Properties

Aspect	: Free flowing powder
Fresh wet density	: 1.70 ± 0.10 kg/litre
Water/powder ratio, by weight	: 0.33
Open time	: 60 Minutes at 25°C
Walkable after	: 24 Hours at 25°C
Temperature resistance	: - 20°C to 80 °C
Chloride ion content	: < 0.2%

## Standards Compliance:

BS 5980 - Cementitious Adhesives and Grouts

## Specification Clause:

All the ceramic tile joints shall be grouted using MASTERTILE 15, crack resistant, cementitious, water resistant joint grout. The joint grout shall be formulated to maintain water powder ratio less than 0.35 and shall be free of chlorides. The product shall comply with BS 5980.

## Directions for use

### Substrate preparation

Ensure to maintain 2 – 3 mm wide joints using spacers while fixing the tiles in position.

Immediately after setting the tiles, rake joints & clean to a uniform depth corresponding to the thickness of the tile. Allow bedding mortar to set.

Protect all connections and movement joints by inserting polystyrene profiles or foam sections. Remove polystyrene profiles prior to applying elastic sealants.

## Mixing

Decide the gauging water in the range of 300 to 350 ml per Kg of MASTERTILE 15, based on the consistency of mixed grout required, environmental conditions and open time warranted for the application.

Fill gauging water in a clean mixing container. Add powder and stir until a plastic, lump-free grout is achieved. Mix partial quantities up to 1 Kg intensively by hand. For larger quantities use a suitable paddle attached to slow-speed (300-500 rpm) electric drill.

Leave to stand for 15 minutes before using.

Apply to tile joints with a squeegee or rubber float. Fill joint flush with tile surface. Re-grout if necessary. Allow the grout to firm up in the joint (until it is resistance to thumb use thumb pressure) and scrap off excess grout with a slightly damp sponge or sponge board.

After drying remove the remaining grout film with a damp sponge. Do not use a dry cloth for cleaning as there is risk of discolouration by rubbing dried grout in to the damp joint.

## Watch points

A grout film and/or pigment stains especially with very dark colours may remain on unglazed or matt glazed tiles after grouting. Follow the tile manufacturer's recommendations. A trial grouting might be recommendable. Remove any remaining haze carefully while still fresh. Joint have to be adequately pre-wet if acid-washing is necessary.

Seal joints between tile surfaces, fitted elements and pipe penetrations as well as corner and connection joints with the elastic sealants SONOLAC or MASTERFLEX 472.

There is risk of discoloration with light colours if, due to unfavourable conditions on site, soluble, colouring elements (e.g. pieces of tiles, additives for screeds or plasters/renders) are transported in to the joint by moisture. In such cases use MASTERTILE 550, epoxy tile grout instead.

- Grouting in commercially used areas and swimming pools, subjected to increased

mechanical and chemical stress should be carried out with DURAFUG NT or MASTERTILE 550.

- Never add water or fresh grout and/or powder to a grout mix which has already begun to set.
- Slight deviations in colour of MASTERTILE grouts are possible, it is therefore recommended to only use grouts with the same batch number for the same project.
- For optimum hydration of cement make sure to keep the surface moist by sprinkling water (in particular with non-absorbent tiles and adhesives)
- Exposure to acid-containing, cement-attacking cleaning agents can cause damage to hardened grout.

#### Coverage

5kg is sufficient for approximately 20 square meters using standard 150 x 150mm tiles including normal wastage.

#### Packaging

MASTERTILE 15 is available in 5kg bags.

#### Storage and Shelf life

Store under cover, out of direct sunlight and protect from extremes of temperature. In tropical climates the product must be stored in an air-conditioned environment.

Shelf life is 6 months when stored as above.

Failure to comply with the recommended storage conditions may result in premature deterioration of the product or packaging. For specific storage advice please consult BASF's Technical Services Department.

#### Safety precautions

As with all chemical products, care should be taken during use and storage to avoid contact with eyes, mouth, skin and foodstuffs (which can also be tainted with vapour until product fully cured or dried). Treat splashes to eyes and skin immediately. If accidentally ingested, seek immediate medical attention. Keep away from children and animals. Reseal containers after use. Do not reuse containers for storage of consumable item. For further information refer to the material safety data sheet. MSDS available on demand or on BASF construction chemicals web site.

#### Note

All BASF Technical Data Sheets are updated on regular basis; it is the user's responsibility, to obtain the most recent issue.

Field services where provided, does not constitute supervisory responsibility, for additional information contact your local BASF representative.

#### Disclaimer

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