

Thin-Set & Mortar Admix



1. Product Name

Thin-Set & Mortar Admix

2. Product Description

A liquid polymer admix used in place of water to increase performance of cement mortar beds, non-modified thin-set mortars and cement-based grouts. Improves working characteristics, water resistance, shock resistance and freeze-thaw capabilities for tile, stone or masonry installations. Ideal for dense tile and hard-to-bond surfaces.

Key Features

- Increases bond strength and performance
- Improves water resistance
- Mix with CustomBlend

Suitable Substrates

- Concrete
- Gypsum wallboard (interior only)
- Cement mortar beds
- Cement plaster
- Concrete masonry
- Brick/block masonry
- Cement-based precast terrazzo

Composition of Product

Liquid Latex

Benefits of Product in the Installation

When mixed with non-modified thin-set mortars and mortar bed mixes:

- Improves bond strength
- Improves freeze-thaw durability
- Improves Flexibility

Increases performance for:

- Installation of hard-to-bond tiles
- Interior and exterior applications

Limitations to the Product

- When installing green or black marble, water sensitive stone, agglomerates and resin-backed tiles and stones, check with Custom® Building Products; use EBM-Lite™ Epoxy Bonding Mortar 100% Solids.
- Do not bond directly to hardwood, Luan plywood, particle board, parquet, cushion or sponge-back vinyl flooring, metal, fiberglass, plastic and OSB panels.

- When setting dimensional stone larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm), contact Technical Services for recommendations regarding subfloor deflection requirements.
- Thin-set mortar additives, mastics, mortars and grouts for ceramic tile, brick and stone are not replacements for waterproofing membranes. Use RedGuard® Waterproofing and Crack Prevention Membrane, when a waterproofing membrane is required.
- Surfaces must be structurally sound, stable and rigid enough to support ceramic or stone tile, thin brick and similar finishes. Substrate deflection under all live, dead and impact loads, including concentrated loads, must not exceed L/360 for thin bed ceramic tile or brick installations.

Packaging

- 2.5 gal (9.46 L) bottle
- Canada 2.5 gal (9.46 L) bottle

3. Technical Data

Applicable Standards

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) ANSI A108.5; A118.4; A118.11 of the American National Standards for the Installation of Ceramic Tile

Tile Council of North America (TCNA) TCNA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation, TCNA Method EJ171

Environmental Consideration

Custom® Building Products is committed to environmental responsibility in both products produced and in manufacturing practices. Use of this product can contribute towards LEED® v3 certification:

- Up to 2 points towards MR Credit 5, Regional Materials
- Up to 1 point towards IEQ Credit 4.1, Low-Emitting Materials - Adhesives & Sealants

Bonding To Concrete Surfaces

Concrete or plaster must be fully cured and must accept water penetration. Test by sprinkling water on various areas of the substrate. If water penetrates, then a good bond can be achieved; if water beads, surface contaminants are present, and loss of adhesion may occur. Contaminants should be mechanically removed before installation. Concrete must be free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure. Concrete slabs should have a broomed or brushed finish to enhance the bond. Smooth concrete slabs must be mechanically abraded to ensure a good bond.

Bonding to Plywood and OSB Surfaces

Plywood floors, including those under resilient flooring, must be built to industry standards. Deflection not to exceed L/360. For questions about proper subfloor installation, call Technical Services.

Bonding to Cutback Adhesive

Adhesive layers must be removed as they reduce mortar bond strength to cement surfaces. Use extreme caution as adhesives may contain asbestos fibers. Do not sand or grind adhesive residue, as harmful dust may result. Never use adhesive removers or solvents, as they soften the adhesive and may cause it to penetrate into the concrete. Adhesive residue must be wet-scraped to the finished surface of the concrete, leaving only the transparent staining from the glue. Do a test bond area first, to determine desirable results. Refer to the RFCI Pamphlet, "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings", for further information.

Thin-Set & Mortar Admix

Movement Joint Placement

Expansion joints, control joints and cold joints should never be bridged with setting material. They must be brought through the tile work and filled with an appropriate elastomeric sealant.

Mixing Procedures

FOR USE AS AN ADMIX WITH NON-MODIFIED THIN SET MORTAR

Refer to individual product instructions. Mixing details for Thin-Set & Mortar Admix will vary dependant upon non-modified mortar used. See the mixing instructions on [CustomBlend®](#) or [Uncoupling Mat Mortar](#) bag or data sheet for specific directions.

FOR USE WITH PORTLAND CEMENT AND SAND MORTAR MIXES

Thin-Set & Mortar Admix may be used as a fortifying additive to site-mixed or bagged Portland cement and sand mixtures common to masonry or floated mortar beds. Mix 1 part Thin-Set & Mortar Admix with 1 part clean water and use as a direct replacement for the water requirement in any mortar mix. Thin-Set & Mortar Admix can be used full strength for improved performance.

The total amount of liquid added will vary.

FOR USE AS AN UNMODIFIED TILE GROUT ADMIX

When installing tile over wood substrates and when increased tensile and flexural grout qualities are necessary, use Thin-Set & Mortar Admix with water. Mix 1 part clean water with 1 part Thin-Set & Mortar Admix prior to mixing liquid with Portland cement grout. Remove excess grout from surface of tile as soon as possible after grouting, as latex-fortified grout becomes extremely difficult to remove when dry. **Not** for use with Custom's® Polyblend® Grout or Prism® SureColor® Grout.

Cleaning of Equipment

Clean with water before material dries.

Mortar: Clean with water while mortar is fresh.

Grout: Refer to instructions of non-modified grout for installation and cleaning instructions.

Storage

Keep from freezing. Close container after each use.

Health Precautions

Contains latex emulsions. Wear rubber gloves and eye protection. Avoid eye and skin contact. If eye contact occurs, immediately flush with water for 15 minutes and consult a physician immediately. If skin contact occurs, wash immediately with soap and water. Dried material becomes extremely difficult to remove. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

5. Product Warranty

Custom® Building Products warrants to the original consumer purchaser that its product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal and proper usage for a period of one year following the date of original purchase. Custom's® sole liability under this warranty shall be limited to the replacement of the product. Some states, countries or territories do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty will not extend to any product which has been modified in any way or which has not been used in accordance with Custom's® printed instructions. Custom® makes no other warranties either expressed or implied. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary from state to state or from one country/territory to another. For details and complete warranty information, visit our [warranty page](#).

6. Product Maintenance

Properly installed product requires no special maintenance.

7. Technical Services Information

For technical assistance, contact Custom® Building Products.

8. Filing System

Additional product information is available from the manufacturer upon request.

Related Products

CustomBlend® Economical Non-Modified Thin-Set Mortar
Saltillo Grout Mix
Private: Polyblend® Sanded Grout

4. Size & Availability

Location	Item Code	Size	Package
USA	AMA2	2.5 gallon (9.46 L)	Bottle
Canada	CAMA2	2.5 gallon (9.46 L)	Bottle

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Coverage Chart

Refer to CustomBlend® Standard Thin-Set Mortar or Uncoupling Mat Mortar. Coverage for mortar beds will vary dependent upon quantity mixed.