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# ARDEX P 4™

## Pre-Mixed, Rapid-Drying, Multipurpose Primer

Ready-to-use, rapid priming with a tenacious bond!

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Ready to use (pre-mixed)

For use over most common substrates

Dries in as little as 30 minutes

Textured surface for tenacious bond

Drip and splash-free consistency

White color to clearly identify primed areas

For use prior to the installation of ARDEX Tile & Stone systems  
and ARDEX self-leveling underlayments

Interior and exterior use



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# ARDEX P 4™

## Pre-Mixed, Rapid-Drying, Multipurpose Primer

### Description and Usage

ARDEX P 4™ Pre-Mixed, Rapid-Drying, Multipurpose Primer is a pre-mixed, single-component, rapid-drying, multi-purpose primer for interior and exterior use. The consistency of ARDEX P 4 has been formulated to virtually eliminate dripping and splashes. Use prior to the installation of ARDEX Tile & Stone mortars and ARDEX self-leveling underlayments. ARDEX P 4 produces a textured surface and can be used on smooth surfaces to create a bond. It is the ideal primer for use in areas that may become damp or wet, such as kitchens, bathrooms, porches, etc.

### Suitable Substrates\*

#### For self-leveling underlayments and tile mortars:

- Concrete (absorbent, non-absorbent, steel troweled)
- Cementitious terrazzo
- Gypsum\*\*
- Cementitious patching and smoothing compounds
- Dry sand/cement screeds
- Porcelain, ceramic, glass and quarry tiles and most natural stone
- Non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete (ARDEX Tile & Stone mortars only)
- ARDEX PU 50™ One-Component, Polyurethane, Vapor Retarder
- ARDEX MC™ RAPID One-Coat Moisture Control System for Concrete to Receive ARDEX Products
- Exterior grade plywood subfloors
- Natural stone floor tiles
- Glass tiles
- Cement-based agglomerate tiles
- Glazed cement masonry units

#### For tile mortars only:

- Properly prepared epoxy terrazzo
- Agglomerate marble and poured epoxy flooring

\*While ARDEX P 4 is approved for use over these substrates, not all self-leveling underlayments and tiling systems are approved for use over these substrates or for use with ARDEX P 4 in all cases. Please refer to the technical data sheets of the individual tiling and self-leveling products for approved uses.

\*\* Dilute ARDEX P 4 with water as detailed in the Application section below.

### Substrate Preparation (Proper Prep™)

For each of the substrates listed below, acid etching, adhesive removers, solvents and sweeping compounds are not acceptable means of cleaning the substrate. Mechanical preparation methods must comply with OSHA Silica Standard for Construction CFR §1926.1153. After mechanical preparation is completed and prior to priming, ensure that all dust and debris is removed from the substrate by vacuuming thoroughly. The vacuum filter must comply with OSHA Silica Standard for Construction CFR §1926.1153.

Substrates must be dry and properly primed for a successful installation. Substrate and air temperatures must be a minimum of 50°F (10°C) for the installation of ARDEX P 4. For further information, please refer to the ARDEX Substrate Preparation Technical Data Sheet.

#### Concrete

All concrete substrates must be solid, structurally sound, thoroughly clean and free of oil, wax, grease, asphalt, latex and gypsum

compounds, sealers, curing compounds and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. If necessary, mechanically clean down to sound, solid concrete by shot blasting, scarifying or similar.

Overwatered, frozen or otherwise weak concrete surfaces must also be cleaned down to sound, solid concrete by mechanical methods. Sanding is not an effective method to remove contaminants from concrete.

#### Adhesive Residues on Concrete (ARDEX Tile & Stone mortars only)

For direct tile installations where a self-leveling underlayment will not be installed, ARDEX P 4 can be installed over non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete only. The adhesive must first be tested to make certain it is not water-soluble. Water-soluble adhesives must be removed mechanically down to clean concrete.

Non-water-soluble adhesives must be prepared to a thin, well-bonded residue using the wet-scraping technique as recommended by the Resilient Floor Covering Institute ([www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com)) to remove thick areas and adhesive build-up. If the adhesive is not well-bonded to the concrete or is brittle, powdery or otherwise weak, it must be completely, mechanically removed down to clean, sound, solid concrete. Any existing patching materials below the adhesive must also be removed completely.

#### Cementitious Patching and Smoothing Compounds and Dry Sand/Cement Screeds

ARDEX P 4 can be installed over cementitious patching and smoothing compounds as well dry sand/cement screeds that are sound, solid, thoroughly clean and free of dirt, debris and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. If necessary, mechanically clean the floor down to sound, solid material by shot blasting or similar.

#### Gypsum

ARDEX P 4 can be installed over gypsum underlayments that are sound, solid and well-bonded. The gypsum must be thoroughly clean and free of dirt, debris, sealers and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. If necessary, mechanically clean the floor down to sound, solid gypsum by shot blasting or similar.

Please be advised, however, that the fact remains that the substrate is gypsum, and therefore has inherent weakness. ARDEX P 4 cannot change the fact that a weak substrate lies below.

#### Other Non-Porous Substrates

ARDEX P 4 can also be applied over clean, sound and solidly bonded non-porous substrates, including cementitious terrazzo, burnished concrete and porcelain, ceramic, glass and quarry tiles and most natural stone. The substrate must be clean, including the complete removal of existing sealers, dust, dirt, debris and any other contaminant that may act as a bond breaker. Where necessary, substrate preparation must be by mechanical means, such as shot blasting.

#### Note on Asbestos-Containing Materials

Please note that when removing existing flooring, any asbestos-containing materials should be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.

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## Joins and Cracks

Under no circumstances should ARDEX P 4 be installed over any moving joints or moving cracks. All existing expansion joints, isolation joints and construction joints, as well as all moving cracks, must be honored up through the underlayment and flooring. For tile and stone applications, please note that expansion joints must be provided over existing moving joints and moving cracks and where substrate materials change composition or direction per ANSI A 108.01-3.7 and TCNA EJ171.

As needed, dormant cracks and dormant control joints can be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH®, ARDEX SKM™ or ARDEX ARDIFIX™, following the instructions in each product's technical data sheet. Please note that if ARDEX ARDIFIX is used, it must be sand-broadcasted to refusal.

However, please be advised that while dormant control joints and dormant cracks in the slab may be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH, ARDEX SKM or ARDEX ARDIFIX prior to installing ARDEX P 4, this filling is not intended to act as a repair method that will eliminate the possibility of joints and cracks telegraphing. ARDEX FEATHER FINISH, ARDEX SKM, ARDEX ARDIFIX and ARDEX P 4 are non-structural materials and are, therefore, unable to restrain movement within a concrete slab. This means that while some dormant joints and dormant cracks may not telegraph through the ARDEX materials and up into the finish flooring, cracks will telegraph in any area that exhibits movement, such as an active crack, an expansion or isolation joint, or an area where dissimilar substrates meet. We know of no method to prevent this telegraphing from occurring.

## Recommended Tools

Short-nap roller, sponge paint roller or paintbrush

## Application

As some settling may occur, it may be necessary to stir the ARDEX P 4 prior to use to ensure that all settled components are in full suspension. Apply a thin, even layer to the substrate using a short-nap roller, sponge paint roller or paintbrush. Allow the primer to dry to a thin, opaque white film (min. 30 - 60 minutes; 70°F / 21°C). Once dry, there is no time limit before the tile or ARDEX self-leveling underlayment installation may proceed. However, please note that the tile or ARDEX self-leveling underlayment installation should proceed as soon as possible to avoid surface contamination or damage to the primed surface.

If an ARDEX self-leveling underlayment will be installed, the underlayment thickness must not exceed 1/2" (12 mm).

When installing an ARDEX self-leveling underlayment over ARDEX MC™ RAPID primed with ARDEX P 4, the underlayment thickness must not exceed 1/4".

Please also note that, when installing ARDEX K 13™ Premium Self-Leveling Underlayment or ARDEX K 15® Premium Self-Leveling Underlayment over ARDEX MC RAPID, ARDEX P 82 must be used. Please see the corresponding technical data sheets for details.

To allow for ease of application and to minimize the risk of air bubbles over absorbent substrates, ARDEX P 4 can be diluted with water. For these applications, ARDEX P 4 can be diluted with up to 0.75 quarts (0.7 L) of water per 1-gallon (3.79 L) tub and up to 2.5 quarts (2.4 L) of water per 3.5-gallon (13.25 L) tub. If the ARDEX P 4 is diluted with water, stir thoroughly before use.

Drying time is a function of jobsite conditions. Low substrate temperatures and/or high humidity can cause extended dry times for ARDEX primers.

## Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

All tools should be cleaned with water immediately after use.

ARDEX P 4 may be used over substrates with in-floor heating. Please note that the heating system temperature must not exceed 85°F (29°C).

ARDEX P 4 is not for use in submerged applications, including swimming pools.

Install at surface temperatures between 50°F (10°C) and 85°F (29°C).

Store at temperatures between 40 and 90°F (5 - 32°C). Do not freeze.

Never mix with cement or additives. Observe the basic rules of tile work.

ARDEX recommends the installation of test areas to confirm the suitability of the product for the intended use.

Seal the container of any unused portion of ARDEX P 4 to prevent it from drying out. Dispose of packaging and residue in accordance with federal, state and local waste disposal regulations. Do not flush material down drains.

## 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).

## Technical Data According To ARDEX Quality Standards

Physical properties are typical values and not specifications. All data based on recommended application instructions at 70°F (21°C).

<b>Mixing Ratio:</b>	Primer may require stirring prior to use. Diluting with water is not required. For absorbent substrates, can be diluted with water as detailed above.
<b>Approximate Coverage:</b>	300 sq. ft. (27.8 sq. m) per 1-gallon (3.79 L) unit 1,050 sq. ft. (97.5 sq. m) per 3.5-gallon (13.25 L) unit
Coverage will vary depending on substrate texture and porosity.	
<b>Drying Time:</b>	Min. 30 minutes
<b>VOC:</b>	< 7 g/L, calculated SCAQMD
<b>Packaging:</b>	1-gallon (3.79 L) tub 3.5-gallon (13.25 L) tub
<b>Storage:</b>	Store in a cool, dry area. Do not expose container to sun. Keep from freezing.
<b>Shelf Life:</b>	1 year, if unopened
<b>Warranty:</b>	ARDEX Engineered Cements Standard Limited Warranty applies.

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For easy-to-use ARDEX Product Calculators and Product Information On the Go, download the ARDEX App at the iTunes Store or Google Play.



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