



Mapetex System

**Anti-fracture /
de-coupling membrane
for use beneath
ceramic, porcelain and
stone tiled floors**



WHERE TO USE

Mapetex is a special non-woven fabric designed to alleviate stresses within the substrate thus preserving the integrity of the tiled finish. Used correctly **Mapetex** can assist in dissipating the stresses created within certain types of floor substrate. **Mapetex** helps prevent cracks appearing in the tiled finish when used over less than perfect substrates. In many cases, **Mapetex** eliminates the need to overboard with plywood or other suitable boards. Ideal for restoration projects or new build including use with underfloor / undertile heating systems.

Some application examples

- **For problematic substrates**
 - Mixed substrates within the same area
 - Floating chipboard floors
 - Existing tiled floors
 - Heated floors where natural stone finishes are to be installed
 - Old and damaged substrates
- Ideal for use on timber substrates e.g. plywood, T&G floorboards.
- Bridges hairline cracks within the substrate.
- Bridges stress relieving joints in substrates.
- Allows floors areas in adjoining rooms to be interlinked without threshold movement joints.

- Permits tiled floors to be installed diagonally over existing opposing movement joints.
- Installation of tiles onto green concrete and green sand:cement screeds.
- Bridges cracks caused by shrinkage stresses.
- Protects natural stone from substrate generated stresses.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Mapetex is produced using a special technique. The particular fibres of the material ensure high mechanical strength of the non-woven fabric and a surface that ensures the best interaction with MAPEI tile adhesives. **Mapetex** copes with lateral movement within substrates.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Substrates must be flat with no height differentials between adjacent areas.
- There must be no vertical differential movement within the substrate including between those of different types e.g. where **Mapetex** will overlap expansion joints / day joints.
- Where it is necessary to level the floor beforehand, use a suitable MAPEI levelling compound. However, do not bridge cracks with the levelling compound, either chase out and repair with **Eporip** or create a movement joint.

Mapetex System



Application of Keraquick & Latex Plus



Installation of Mapetex over Keraquick & Latex Plus



Smoothing Mapetex in place with trowel

- Suitable for use with electric cable undertile heating systems and natural stone conforming with the requirements of BS 5385, part 5, 2009.
- Suitable for use with hot water piped underfloor heating systems.
- Fix **Mapetex** to the substrate with either **Keraquick** mixed with **Latex Plus**, **Elastorapid** or **Kerabond T** mixed with **Isolastic**.
- When bonding **Mapetex** to large floor areas, always ensure that perimeter movement joints are incorporated as well as joints around any interruptions in the floor such as pillars. Keep to a maximum bay size as outlined in BS 5385-3:2009.
- Not suitable for use in industrial areas or where heavy vehicular traffic such as forklift trucks are present.
- Do not install agglomerate tiles when using **Mapetex** over green concrete or green sand:cement screeds.
- Do not bridge cracks in the substrate greater than 2 mm.
- Cracks in the substrate must be passive and not active i.e. they must be stable.
- Do not bridge structural movement joints with **Mapetex**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Preparing the substrate

The substrate must be dry (except green concrete and sand:cement screeds), clean, flat, mechanically strong and solid. It must be free from adhesion inhibiting substances such as dust, laitance, grease, wax etc. Existing floor finishes must be firmly bonded otherwise they must be removed. Hairline cracks within concrete or screed are acceptable but penetrating or active cracks must be appropriately repaired. Cracks in sand:cement screed may be repaired with MAPEI **Eporip** or MAPEI **Epojet**. Ensure that cracks within the screed are restricted to the screed only are not continuous within the underlying concrete. Penetrating cracks in concrete should be assessed by a qualified Structural Engineer prior to undertaking further work.

Application as an anti-fracture membrane

Pre-cut the **Mapetex** roll to size, using a utility knife or scissors, and loose lay in position.

Bond the **Mapetex** directly to the substrate using one of the recommended adhesives listed. Use a suitable notched trowel such as a 4 mm mosaic trowel. Spread the adhesive ahead of the **Mapetex** to be laid.

Ensure the **Mapetex** is firmly pressed into the wet adhesive preferably using a roller. Ensure the **Mapetex** is fully bedded and that the open time of the adhesive is not exceeded.

When used as an anti-fracture membrane, **Mapetex** can be laid either way up.

For best results it is recommended that the **Mapetex** sheets are overlapped by 10 mm. Ensure that there is adhesive contact within the overlap. Note: Where mosaics are to be installed (small domestic / light duty areas only) adjacent runs of **Mapetex** should be butt jointed.

When the adhesive has hardened, after approximately 3 hours for rapid setting products or 24 hours for standard setting products, the tiled finish can be installed.

The choice of adhesive will depend on the type and size of tile to be fixed as well as the substrate type directly beneath the **Mapetex**.

Floors can be grouted with **Ultracolor Plus**, **Keracolor FF** or **Keracolor GG**. Adding **Fugolastic** to the **Keracolor** grouts improves their long term durability.

Application as a removable floor system

Mapetex can also be used as a substrate for the installation of floor tiles, where it may be necessary to remove the flooring. Suitable for use in display areas in tile showrooms.

Prime absorbent substrates.

Mapetex Strips should be at least 10 cm long. Bond these **Mapetex Strips** to the floor. With the 1 m wide **Mapetex Rolls**, fix a minimum of 3 strips per edge for each linear metre of fabric. When using the 2 m wide **Mapetex**, fix 3 strips per edge and 3 strips in the centre for each linear metre of fabric.

Once the strips have been positioned on the floor and are bonded in place, apply **Mapetex** (printed side down) and fix by firmly pressing it onto the **Mapetex Strips**. Butt joint adjacent sections of the **Mapetex** ensuring that **Mapetex Strips** are in the centre of the two sections.

To prevent adhesive penetrating through into the substrate beneath, cover the butt joints with tape.

Use an adhesive appropriate to the tile type and size and also suitable for use with the underlying substrate.

Flooring can be installed over intermediate movement joints or stress relieving joints

MAPETEX: TECHNICAL DATA (typical values)

Material:	synthetic non-woven fabric
Colour:	white
Density (g/cm²):	200
Width:	1 and 2 m
Storage:	no expiry date

MAPETEX-STRIP: TECHNICAL DATA (typical values)

Material:	adhesive tape
Colour:	white
Density (g/cm²):	200
Width:	50 and 410 mm
Storage:	no expiry date
Resistance to temperature:	from -30°C to +75°C



Application of suitable MAPEI tile adhesive over Mapetex



Installation of tiles over Mapetex

but structural movement joints must be brought through to the surface of the tiled finish.

Floors can be grouted with **Ultracolor Plus**. If **Keracolor FF** or **Keracolor GG** are preferred they should be mixed with **Fugolastic**.

Removal of the flooring

Using a suction cup, cold chisel or a trowel, carefully remove a tile (preferably in a corner) together with the adhesive and underlying **Mapetex** from the **Mapetex Strip**. It may be necessary to cut the **Mapetex** using a utility knife. Lift and remove the tiled floor.

If another floor finish is to replace that removed, the **Mapetex Strips** which remain bonded to the substrate can be left in position and used again.

Avoid the build-up of dust, dirt or other substances which could affect the adhesion to the **Mapetex Strip**.

Install the new tiled floor as described above.

PACKAGING

Mapetex

50 m long rolls x 1 m wide
50 m long rolls x 2 m wide

Mapetex Strip

25 m long rolls x 50 mm wide
5 m long rolls x 410 mm wide

PRODUCT FOR PROFESSIONAL USE.

WARNING

Although the technical details and recommendations contained in this product data sheet correspond to the best of our knowledge and experience, all the above information must, in every case, be taken as merely indicative and subject to confirmation after long-term practical application: for this reason, anyone who intends to use the product must ensure beforehand that it is suitable for the envisaged application: in every case, the user alone is fully responsible for any consequences deriving from the use of the product.

Please refer to the current version of the Technical Data Sheet, available from our website www.mapei.com

**All relevant references
for the product are available
upon request and from
www.mapei.com**

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Questo adesivo per fissare
MAPETEX per la posa
rimovibile di piastrelle di
ceramica o porcellane a pavimento
autodesivo ideale per
pavimenti a pannelli radianti



*Removal of flooring
with suction cups and
folding to make the job
easier*



BUILDING THE FUTURE