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# ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX

## Rapid Setting Latex Smoothing and Leveling Compound

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Use to level and smooth interior concrete, wood, terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, steel, select epoxy coating systems and non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete

A blend of Portland cement and other hydraulic cements

No water required for mixing; simply mix with latex additive

No mechanical profiling required (except steel substrates; see below)

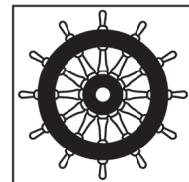
No priming required (except non-ARDEX epoxy substrates; see below)

Trowelable and can smooth floors at 1/8" (3 mm) or less

Walkable in 2 - 3 hours

Suitable for use under ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems

Interior use only



Approved for use as a Primary deck covering on steel decks of ships.



**systemONE**<sup>™</sup>  
warranty

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# ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX

## Rapid Setting Latex Smoothing and Leveling Compound

### Description and Usage

ARDEX K 60™ ARDITEX is a blend of Portland cement and other hydraulic cements that is a self-smoothing, trowelable, latex leveling compound with excellent adhesion, flexibility and moisture resistance. ARDEX K 60 can be used to smooth interior concrete, wood, terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, steel, select epoxy coating systems and non-water-soluble adhesive residue on concrete prior to the installation of finished flooring on-, above- or below-grade. No mechanical profiling is required (except steel substrates; see below). For most applications, no priming is required (see instructions below). ARDEX K 60 is pourable and seeks its own level to produce a smooth, flat, hard surface. It also can be used as a smoothing compound on permanently wet areas prior to the installation of ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems (please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for instructions).

### Substrate Preparation

For all substrates, acid etching, sanding, adhesive removers, solvents and sweeping compounds are not acceptable means for cleaning the substrate. Substrate and ambient temperatures must be a minimum of 50°F (10°C) for the installation of ARDEX products.

All substrates must be solid, structurally sound, thoroughly clean and free of oil, wax, grease, asphalt, latex and gypsum compounds, curing compounds\*, sealers and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. Substrates that are sound, solid and uncontaminated may be bonded to without the need for mechanical profiling. Mechanically clean the surface by shot blasting, scarifying or similar. Sanding is not an effective method to remove contaminants from concrete. Mechanical preparation method must comply with OSHA Silica Standard for Construction CFR §1926.1153. Overwatered, frozen or otherwise weak concrete surfaces must also be cleaned down to sound, solid concrete by mechanical methods. Acid etching and the use of solvents or sweeping compounds are not acceptable means of cleaning the substrate. After mechanical preparation is completed, 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. The concrete must be dry for a successful installation. The concrete surface and ambient temperatures must be a minimum of 50°F (10°C) for the installation of ARDEX K 60. For more detailed information on substrate preparation, please refer to the ARDEX Substrate Preparation Brochure at [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com).

**\*NOTE ON CURING COMPOUNDS:** Test areas of ARDEX K 60 can be installed and evaluated over concrete slabs that have been treated with either silicate or acrylic resin curing compounds. These compounds must be installed in strict accordance with the compound manufacturer's written recommendations. If a silicate type has been used, all residual salts must be removed. For instructions on priming concrete with acceptable curing compounds, please refer to the Priming section of this technical data sheet.

Please be advised, however, that there are a number of curing compounds sold today that are wax- or petroleum-based emulsions. These are permanent bond breakers that must be removed completely prior to patching or leveling. Dissipating compounds must also be removed completely by mechanical means prior to installing any ARDEX material.

It is imperative to be able to determine the type of curing compound that was used before proceeding. Any curing compound that cannot be identified should be completely, mechanically removed.

### Wood

The wood subfloor either must be solid hardwood flooring; a minimum of 3/4" (18 mm) tongue-and-groove, APA-rated Type 1, exterior exposure plywood; or an approved OSB equivalent. The wood subfloor must be constructed according to prevailing building codes and must be solid and securely fixed to provide a rigid base free of undue flex. Any boards exhibiting movement must be properly fastened to create a sound, solid subfloor. The surface of the wood must be clean and free of oil, grease, wax, dirt, varnish, shellac and any contaminant that might act as a bond breaker. If necessary, sand down to bare wood. A commercial drum sander can be used to sand large areas. Do not use solvents, strippers or cleaners. Vacuum all dust and debris. Open joints should be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH®. It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to ensure that the wood subfloor is thoroughly clean and properly anchored prior to the installation of any ARDEX material.

**ADHESIVE RESIDUES ON CONCRETE:** ARDEX K 60 also 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.

**EPOXY COATING SYSTEMS:** As all epoxy coating systems vary, we recommend installing an adequate number of properly located test areas, to include the selected floor coverings, to determine the suitability of the product for its intended use.

### ARDEX MC™ RAPID MOISTURE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR CONCRETE TO RECEIVE ARDEX UNDERLYMENTS:

ARDEX K 60 can be installed over ARDEX MC RAPID, up to a maximum thickness of 1/4" (6 mm) without the use of a primer. Once the final application of ARDEX MC RAPID has cured 4 - 20 hours (70°F / 21°C), the direct application of ARDEX K 60 can proceed.

If the ARDEX MC RAPID is allowed to cure for longer than 20 hours, prime the surface of the ARDEX MC RAPID with ARDEX P 82 in accordance with the technical data sheet. Allow the ARDEX P 82 to dry thoroughly (min. 3 hours, max. 24 hours) prior to installing ARDEX K 60 at a maximum thickness of 1/2" (12 mm).

Please note that temperature warmer than 70°F (21°C) will cause the ARDEX MC RAPID to cure more quickly, thus reducing the maximum time to install ARDEX K 60 over ARDEX MC RAPID without the use of a primer.

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**STEEL:** Steel substrates must be rigid, well supported, properly anchored, and free of undue flex and vibration. Shotblast the surface prior to installation.

**OTHER NON-POROUS SUBSTRATES:** ARDEX K 60 also can be applied over other clean, sound and solidly bonded non-porous substrates, including burnished concrete and ceramic, quarry and porcelain tiles.

**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.

## Recommended Tools

ARDEX T-1 Mixing Paddle, ARDEX T-10 Mixing Drum, ARDEX T-4 Spreader, ARDEX T-5 Smoother or ARDEX T-6 Spiked Roller, steel trowel, a 1/2" (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm) and baseball or soccer shoes with non-metallic cleats for self-leveling applications.

## Priming

No priming is required, with the exception of non-ARDEX epoxy substrates, including epoxy terrazzo. Prime epoxy substrates with ARDEX P 82™ Ultra Prime, following the instructions in the ARDEX P 82 technical data sheet.

Although ARDEX K 60 will bond without priming, to minimize the potential for pinholes, absorbent concrete can be primed with ARDEX P 51™ Primer diluted 1:1 with water. Apply evenly with a soft bristled push broom. Do not use paint rollers, mops or spray equipment. Do not leave any bare spots. Brush off puddles and excess primer. It is critical to ensure that the ARDEX P 51 is dry prior proceeding with the next installation step. To determine if the ARDEX P 51 is dry after a minimum of 30 minutes (max. 24 hours), pour water onto the surface of the primer in several areas and rub it with your finger. If the water remains clear, the primer is dry. If the water turns cloudy or milky, additional drying time is needed.

**NOTE:** If an approved acrylic curing compound is used, test the surface for porosity. If the concrete is porous, the potential for pinholes can be minimized by priming with ARDEX P 51.

## Joints and Cracks

Under no circumstances should ARDEX K 60 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.

As needed, dormant cracks and dormant control joints can be filled with ARDEX FEATHER FINISH® 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 or ARDEX ARDIFIX prior to installing ARDEX K 60, 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 ARDIFIX and ARDEX K 60 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.

## Mixing and Application

Mix each 35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag of ARDEX K 60 Powder with a 1 gallon (3.8 L) bottle of ARDEX K 60 Latex Liquid. **Do not mix with water.** Pour the Latex Liquid in the mixing drum first, and then add the Powder while mixing with an ARDEX T-1 Mixing paddle and a 1/2" (12 mm) heavy-duty drill (min. 650 rpm). Mix thoroughly for approximately 2 - 3 minutes to obtain a lump-free mix.

ARDEX K 60 has a flow time of 10 minutes at 70°F (21°C). Pour the mix onto the floor and spread with the ARDEX T-4 Spreader. Immediately smooth the material with the ARDEX T-5 Smoother. ARDEX K 60 also can be finished using an ARDEX T-6 Spiked Roller. Work in a continuous manner during the entire self-leveling installation. Wear baseball or soccer shoes with non-metallic cleats to avoid leaving marks in the liquid ARDEX K 60.

## Work Practice Control Methods

When mixing ARDEX K 60, ARDEX recommends using the ARDEX DUSTFREE™ or a standard "gutter hook" vacuum attachment in combination with a HEPA dust extraction vacuum system. Handle the bag with care, and empty the bag slowly to avoid creating a plume of dust. Contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for more details on ARDEX products and OSHA Engineering and Work Practice Control Methods.

## Thickness of Application

For self-leveling applications, including installations over epoxy substrates that have been primed with ARDEX P 82, ARDEX K 60 must be installed from a minimum thickness of 1/8" (3 mm) up to a maximum thickness of 1/2" (12 mm) over large areas and also can be featheredged to match existing elevations. Furthermore, ARDEX K 60 is trowelable and can be skim coated.

When installing ARDEX K 60 over wood, steel or non-water soluble adhesive residue on concrete, the maximum installation thickness is 1/4" (6 mm).

To match existing elevations, ARDEX K 60 can be tapered to as thin an application as the sand in the material will allow. If a true featheredge is needed, ARDEX recommends using ARDEX FEATHER FINISH for transitions.

Please note that for thin applications, the profile of the substrate can affect the flatness and smoothness of the ARDEX K 60. The thickness of the application should be calculated based on the surface profile of the substrate and the specified tolerances of the floor covering.

For areas requiring a thickness greater than 1/2" (12 mm), ARDEX recommends using a suitable ARDEX self-leveling underlayment, such as ARDEX K 15® Premium Self-Leveling Underlayment.

## Wear Surface

ARDEX K 60 is not to be used as a permanent wear surface, even if coated or sealed. ARDEX K 60 must be covered by a suitable floor covering material, such as carpet, vinyl flooring, ceramic tile, etc. For resurfacing and leveling indoor concrete floors in warehouses, storage areas, hallways or other areas where a wear surface is required, use ARDEX SD-T® Self-Drying, Self-Leveling Concrete Topping, ARDEX K 520™ Self-Leveling Concrete Topping or ARDEX K 301™ Exterior Self-Leveling Concrete Topping.

## Installation of Flooring (Dry Times Calculated at 70°F / 21°C)

ARDEX K 60 is walkable 2 - 3 hours after installation. Moisture-insensitive tiles such as ceramic, quarry and porcelain can be installed after 6 hours. Porous-backed carpet can be installed after 12 hours. Other flooring structures can be installed after 16 - 24 hours. Skim coating applications may be suitable for the installation of finish flooring in as little as 4 hours under ideal drying conditions. Drying time is a function of jobsite temperature and humidity conditions. Low substrate temperatures and/or high ambient humidity will extend the drying time. Adequate ventilation and heat will aid drying. Forced drying can dry the surface of the underlayment prematurely and is not recommended.

## Use as a Pre-Smoothing Compound beneath ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems

If using ARDEX K 60 as a pre-smoothing compound beneath an ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control System, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for instructions on substrate preparation and installation.

### Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

When properly mixed and installed, ARDEX K 60 meets UL's standards for the International Maritime Organization's Fire Test Procedures (FTP Code) as well as the required limits of the Smoke and Toxicity and Surface Flammability Tests. ARDEX K 60 is eligible for use as a Primary Deck Covering in merchant vessels.

This product is not a vapor barrier and will allow free passage of moisture. **Follow the directives of the floor covering manufacturer regarding the maximum allowable substrate moisture content, and test the substrate prior to installing ARDEX K 60.** Where substrate moisture exceeds the maximum allowed, ARDEX recommends the use of ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control Systems. For further information, please refer to the ARDEX technical data sheets at [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com).

Always install an adequate number of properly located test areas, including the finish flooring, to determine the suitability of the products for the intended use. As floor coverings vary, always contact and rely upon the floor covering manufacturer for specific directives, including maximum allowable moisture content, adhesive selection and intended end use of the product.

For installations over electrical, in-floor heating systems, please contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

Never mix with cement or additives other than ARDEX-approved products. Observe the basic rules of concrete work. Do not install below 50°F (10°C) surface and air temperatures. Install quickly if the substrate is warm, and follow warm weather instructions available from the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

Do not reuse container. 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 a partial, in-lab mix. Mixing and testing completed at 70°F / 21°C and in accordance with ASTM C1708, where applicable.

<b>Mixing Ratio:</b>	1 gallon (3.8 L) of ARDEX K 60 Latex Liquid per 35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag ARDEX K 60 Powder
<b>Coverage:</b>	21 sq. ft. per bag at 1/4" (1.95 sq. m at 6 mm) 42 sq. ft. per bag at 1/8" (3.9 sq. m at 3 mm) Up to 84 sq. ft. per bag at 1/16" (7.8 sq. m at 1.5 mm)
	Coverage will vary depending on the texture of the surface being smoothed.
<b>Flow Time:</b>	10 minutes
<b>Initial Set (ASTM C191):</b>	Approx. 30 minutes
<b>Final Set (ASTM C191):</b>	Approx. 60 minutes
<b>Brinell Hardness (ASTM E10 modified):</b>	Approx. 3,000 psi (211 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ) at 24 hours
<b>Compressive Strength (ASTM C109 Modified):</b>	3,500 psi (245 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ) at 28 days
<b>Walkable:</b>	2 to 3 hours
<b>Install Flooring:</b>	Please see Installation of Flooring section above.
<b>VOC:</b>	0
<b>Packaging:</b>	35 lb. (15.9 kg) bag, 1 Gallon (3.8 L) bottle
<b>Storage:</b>	Store in a cool, dry area. Do not leave bags exposed to sun. Do not allow liquid to freeze.
<b>Shelf Life:</b>	Powder - 1 year, if unopened Latex Liquid - 9 months, if unopened
<b>Warranty:</b>	ARDEX, L.P. Standard Limited Warranty applies. Also eligible for the ARDEX/HENRY SystemOne™ Warranty when used in conjunction with select HENRY® Flooring Adhesives.

### IMO FTP Code Part 2 (Smoke and Toxicity Test) and Part 5 (Test for Surface Flammability):

Certificate Number 20161101-R38625  
Report Reference R38625-20161031

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Supersedes all previous versions. Check [www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com) for most recent version and for technical updates, which may supersede the information herein.

## IMPORTANT TECHNICAL UPDATES

Technical update effective April 27, 2018:  
ARDEX Underlayments and Non-Porous Substrates

[CLICK HERE](#)

Visit [www.youtube.com/ARDEX101](http://www.youtube.com/ARDEX101) to watch ARDEX K 60 product demonstration video.

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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