



Keracolor SF



Special unsanded and smooth cementitious grout for joints up to 4 mm wide



USES

Grouting walls and floors in ceramic tiles of every type, glass mosaic and natural stone up to a maximum joint-width of 4 mm.

Some application examples

- grouting tiles with 1-4 mm joints;
- grouting glass mosaic, including in swimming pools and on façades;
- grouting interior and exterior floors with every type of tiles.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Keracolor SF is an unsanded cementitious grout with special fine-fillers, synthetic resins and water-repelling additives.

Keracolor SF grouts also contain colouring pigments that are unaffected by light.

Keracolor SF is specially formulated not to damage the surface of tiles with soft glaze and the surface of marble during the application.

Mixed with water, **Keracolor SF** becomes an easily trowellable grouting mortar for tiles and can be cleaned off very easily.

Keracolor SF hardens without noticeable shrinkage and become very attractive and mechanically resistant with a very smooth surface.

Keracolor SF is available in several colours.

N.B. By mixing **Keracolor SF** with **Fugolastic** a special synthetic-rubber, latex-based additive, instead of water, extremely mechanically resistant and practically waterproof joints can be produced. This becomes an important requirement wherever steam under pressure is used for cleaning the tiling.

The use of **Fugolastic** is in any case recommended whenever joints are subject to particular stresses, while it is absolutely not recommended when grouting tiles with a porous or unglazed surface (i.e. terracotta, polished porcelain tiles, etc.).

PRECAUTIONS

- Do not use **Keracolor SF** on tiles with a microporous surface or glaze. In cases of doubt make a preliminary test to verify the cleaning process or consult the tile manufacturer.
- For joint widths 4-15 mm, use **Keracolor GG**.
- For acid-resistant joints, use **Kerapoxy**.
- **Keracolor SF** must never be used for expansion joints or joints subject to movement (use **Mapesil AC** instead).
- Floors laid with ordinary mortar, should be grouted with **Keracolor SF** only when the mortar is



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Spreading with a rubber float



Cleaning with a sponge



Final cleaning with a cloth

sufficiently dry (7-10 days), otherwise efflorescences, laitances or discoloration may appear due to soluble salts brought to the surface of the **Keracolor SF** by the residual moisture. The same phenomenon can occur where floors are not isolated from the ground below as this is a potential continuous source of these soluble salts. These stains can be cleaned off with **Keranet** after the residual moisture responsible for them has completely dried out;

- again to avoid efflorescences, never mix **Keracolor SF** with dirty or hard water;
- floors of absorbent ceramic tiles laid with adhesives, especially on flexible substrates (wood etc.) must be grouted only with **Keracolor SF** mixed with **Fugolastic**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Preparing the joints

Before filling, joints must be cleaned from the top to the bottom of the tile thickness. If the tiling has been laid with adhesive, grouting may be carried out after the adhesive has set (not less than 3-4 hours). With conventional laying with mortar, it is advisable to wait 2-3 days for walls and 7-10 days for floors.

Before grouting, uniformly wet the joints to be filled bearing in mind, however, that too much moisture or working at below +5°C can cause irregular colouring particularly to the coloured grouts.

Preparing the mix

Pour the **Keracolor SF** into a clean, rust-free container containing 7-7.9 litres of clean water per 5 kg of powder and mix until a smooth paste is obtained.

Leave to slacken for 2-3 minutes, re-stir and the product is ready for use.

When grouting floors using a rubber squeegee the mix can be made more fluid with a proportion of 7.5-8.4 litres of water per 22 kg of powder.

Applying the mix

Completely fill the joints with the **Keracolor SF** mix and compress it with a smooth rubber trowel or a squeegee in the case of floor. Let the mix firm up for about 10-20 minutes until it is no longer plastic. The correct moment to begin cleaning is when the paste becomes opaque.

Clean the surface of the tiles with a fairly hard sponge or with a slightly damp abrasive sponge of the Scotch-Brite type and remove all the excess **Keracolor SF**.

Only when the **Keracolor SF** in the joints is well hardened can the surface be cleaned with a clean, dry cloth to remove all the remaining traces of powder.

Take care

If cleaning is carried out too early (when the paste is still plastic), the joints may be partially emptied. If, on the other hand, cleaning is carried out with the product perfectly dry, the tiling could be damaged. On warm, windy days, correct hydration for **Keracolor SF** should be maintained by keeping the joints damp with clean water after hardening has begun.

N.B. *If due to incorrect technical application procedures, the surfaces of the tiles are still dirty with hardened **Keracolor SF** then at least 10 days after the grouting operation an acid cleaner such as **Keranet** can be used following the relative instructions.*

Cleaning

Tools, hands and containers can easily be cleaned with abundant water.

COVERAGE

Coverage of **Keracolor SF** varies depending on the thickness and size (width and depth) of the joints. Bearing in mind that 1 litre of **Keracolor SF** is obtained by mixing about 1.5 kg of powder, the table on the next page shows coverage in kg/m² for certain types of tiles on the basis of tile size and the thickness and width of the joints.

PACKAGING

Keracolor SF is available in 22 kg bags.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION AND INSTALLATION

Contains cement that when in contact with sweat or other body fluids produces an irritant alkaline reaction and allergies to those predisposed. Use protective gloves and goggles. For further information consult the safety data sheet.

FOR PROFESSIONALS.

WARNING

Although the technical details and recommendations contained in this product report 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 applications: 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.

TECHNICAL DATA (typical values)

In compliance with:

- ISO norm as ISO 13007-3 as CG2 WA
- European norm as EN 13888 as CG2
- American ANSI A118.6 - 1999

PRODUCT IDENTITY

Type:	fine powder
Colour:	see colour chart
Density (g/cm ³):	1.0-1.4
Dry solid content (%):	100
Storage:	12 months in a dry place in original packaging
Hazard classification according to EC 99/45:	irritant. Before using refer to the "Safety Instructions" paragraph and the information on the packing and safety data sheet
Customs class:	3824 50 90

APPLICATION DATA at +23°C and 50% R.H.

Mixing ratio:	100 parts Keracolor SF with 32-38 parts of water by weight
Consistency of mix:	thin paste
Density of mix (g/cm ³):	1.98 ± 0.02
pH of mix:	about 12
Pot life:	about 2 hours
Application temperature range:	from +5°C to +35°C
Grouting after installation: - on walls bonded with normal setting adhesive: - on walls bonded with fast setting adhesive: - on walls with mortar: - on floors bonded with normal setting adhesive: - on floors bonded with fast setting adhesive: - on floors with mortar:	4-8 hours 1-2 hours 2-3 days 24 hours 3-4 hours 7 days
Waiting time for finishing:	upon initial setting
Set to light foot traffic:	24 hours
Ready for use:	7 days

FINAL PERFORMANCES

Flexural strength after 28 days (EN 12808-3):
Compressive strength after 28 days (EN 12808-3):
Flexural strength after freeze-thaw cycles (EN 12808-3):
Compressive strength after freeze-thaw cycles (EN 12808-3):
Abrasion resistance (EN 12808-2):
Shrinkage (EN 12808-4):
Water absorption after 30 min. (EN 12808-5):
Water absorption after 4 hours (EN 12808-5):

In compliance with European norm EN 13888 as CG2 and ISO 13007-3 as CG2 WA

Resistance to moisture:	excellent
Resistance to ageing:	excellent
Resistance to solvents, oils and alkali:	excellent
Resistance to acids:	good if pH > 3
Resistance to temperature:	from -30°C to +80°C



Grouting with colours matching the tiles



Keracolor SF

All relevant references of the product are available upon request



Grouting tight-joint tiles

CONSUMPTION TABLE DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF THE TILE AND WIDTH OF THE JOINTS (kg/m²)

Size of the tile (mm)	Width of the joint (mm)		
	2	3	4
20 X 20 X 4	1.2		
50 X 50 X 4	0.5		
75 X 150 X 6		0.6	0.7
100 X 100 X 6		0.6	0.7
100 X 100 X 10		0.9	1.2
100 X 200 X 6		0.4	0.5
100 X 200 X 10			0.9
150 X 150 X 6		0.4	0.6
200 X 200 X 8		0.4	0.45
120 X 240 X 12			0.85
250 X 250 X 12			0.55
250 X 250 X 20			0.90
250 X 330 X 8		0.3	0.34
300 X 300 X 8		0.3	0.30
300 X 300 X 10		0.3	0.38
300 X 300 X 20			0.75
300 X 600 X 10		0.3	0.28
330 X 330 X 10		0.3	0.34
400 X 400 X 10		0.3	0.28
450 X 450 X 12			0.30
500 X 500 X 12			0.25
600 X 600 X 12			0.23

CONSUMPTION CALCULATION FORMULA:

$$\frac{(A + B)}{(A \times B)} \times C \times D \times 1.4 = \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^2}$$

A = length of tile (in mm) C = thickness of the tile (in mm)
 B = width of the tile (in mm) D = width of the joint (in mm)



This symbol is used to identify MAPEI products which give off a low level of volatile organic compounds (VOC), as certified by GEV (Gesellschaft Emissionskontrollierte Verlegewerkstoffe e.V.), an international organization for controlling the level of emissions.



Our Commitment To The Environment
 More than 150 MAPEI products assist Project Designers and Contractors create innovative LEED (The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified projects, in compliance with the U.S. Green Building Council.

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