

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

SikaCeram[®]-488 Floor Leveler

Polymer modified cementitious floor levelling compound for resilient flooring and ceramic tiles.
2–15 mm

DESCRIPTION

SikaCeram[®]-488 Floor Leveler is a very low emission, polymer modified cementitious floor levelling compound. It provides a smooth finish compound on sub-floors before the application of resilient flooring and ceramic tiles. SikaCeram[®]-488 Floor Leveler can be applied manually or by pump to level floors at a thickness between 2–15 mm. Compatible with all SikaCeram[®] cementitious tile adhesives. Interior use.

USES

Formulated for smoothing and levelling interior residential and non-industrial subfloors before applying:

- Ceramic tiles
- Resilient floor coverings (linoleum, vinyl)
- Textile coverings (carpet)

CHARACTERISTICS / ADVANTAGES

- Self-smoothing
- Smooth finish
- Polymer modified
- Fast application because of the good flow and cohesion of the fresh product
- Easy to place by pump or manually
- Low tension / stress on substrate
- Good bond and compaction
- Fast hardening and quick drying
- Good surface hardness
- Layer thickness: 2–15 mm
- Low odour
- Compatible with SikaCeram[®] tile adhesives range

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Chemical base	Portland cement, selected aggregates and polymers
Packaging	20 kg bag
Shelf life	12 months from date of production
Storage conditions	The product must be stored in dry conditions in original sealed undamaged packaging at temperatures between +5 °C and +35 °C. Protect from direct sunlight, heat and moisture.
Appearance / Colour	Grey powder

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Compressive strength	Curing time	Compressive strength	(ASTM C109)
	1 d	≥ 10 N/mm ²	
7 d	≥ 15 N/mm ²		
28 d	≥ 20 N/mm ²		

All values at +30 °C, dry cure.

SYSTEM INFORMATION

System structure	Layer	Product
	Primer	SikaCeram®-935 Floor Leveler Primer
	Levelling screed	SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler
	Covering	SikaCeram® tile adhesive with tiles or any other resilient floor covering

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Mixing ratio	Water to powder ratio by weight 0.23–0.25	Quantity of water per bag 4.6–5.0															
Fresh mortar density	2.05 ± 0.05 kg/L	(EN ISO 2811-1)															
Consumption	~1.55 kg/m ² per mm thickness (dry powder) This figure is theoretical and does not include any additional material required due to surface porosity, surface profile, variations in level or wastage etc.																
Layer thickness	Minimum	2 mm															
	Maximum	15 mm															
Ambient air temperature	+10 °C min. / +35 °C max.																
Relative air humidity	75 % max.																
Substrate temperature	+10 °C min. / +35 °C max.																
Pot life	≥ 20 minutes (100 g mass, +30 °C)																
Waiting time / Overcoating	<p>Important: Before applying floor covering, make sure the SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler has achieved the required moisture content value required by the covering manufacturer. (Refer to the covering Product Data Sheet).</p> <p>SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler can be covered as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Floor covering</th> <th>Layer thickness</th> <th>Waiting time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Resilient</td> <td>≤ 3 mm</td> <td>~24 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient</td> <td>≤ 5 mm</td> <td>~48 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient</td> <td>≤ 10 mm</td> <td>~72 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ceramic tiles</td> <td>2–10 mm</td> <td>~4–6 hours</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Times are approximate and measured at +20 °C (ambient) / +15 °C (substrate) / 65 % r.h. Note: Application times will be affected by changing substrate and ambient conditions, layer thickness and water content.</p>		Floor covering	Layer thickness	Waiting time	Resilient	≤ 3 mm	~24 hours	Resilient	≤ 5 mm	~48 hours	Resilient	≤ 10 mm	~72 hours	Ceramic tiles	2–10 mm	~4–6 hours
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Applied product ready for use	Ready for foot traffic in ~3 hours																
	<p>Note: Values determined in laboratory conditions at +23 °C and 50 % r.h. Time will be affected by changing substrate and ambient conditions, layer thickness and water content.</p> <p>Important: In some conditions, finished floor will develop several white spots during the curing process. This is normal and has no effect on the performance of the cured floor.</p>																

BASIS OF PRODUCT DATA

All technical data stated in this Product Data Sheet are based on laboratory tests. Actual measured data may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

FURTHER DOCUMENTS

- Sika Method Statement: SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler
- Product Data Sheet of primer and SikaCeram® tile adhesives to be used

ECOLOGY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

User must read the most recent corresponding Safety Data Sheets (SDS) before using any products. The SDS provides information and advice on the safe handling, storage and disposal of chemical products and contains physical, ecological, toxicological and other safety-related data.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

EQUIPMENT

Select the most appropriate equipment required for the project:

Substrate preparation equipment

- Abrasive blasting cleaning equipment
- Planing machine
- Scarifying machine
- High pressure water blasting equipment
- Sanding equipment

For other types of preparation equipment, contact Sika Technical Services.

Mixing equipment

- Electric single or double paddle mixer (< 600 rpm) with helical disc-shaped or spiral helix paddle
- Scraper
- Clean mixing containers

For other types of mixing equipment, contact Sika Technical Services.

Application equipment

- Mixed material carrier
- Pin-leveller (Pin-rake)
- Surface blade
- Screed rake
- Notched trowel
- Smoothing trowels
- Spike roller

For types of pumping equipment, contact Sika Technical Services.

SUBSTRATE QUALITY

- Suitable substrates are concrete, cementitious screeds, rapid cement screeds or calcium sulphate screeds.
- Cementitious substrates (concrete / screed) must be sound.
- Substrates must be clean, dry and free of all contam-

inants such as dirt, oil, grease, polish, coatings, water-soluble and water-resistant adhesives, varnish, laitance, surface treatments and loose friable material.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- Prepare substrates and remove separation and sinter layers mechanically by selecting and using abrasive blast cleaning, grinding or planing / scarifying equipment for the type of substrate.
- The final texture of the substrate must be open textured and gripping.
- Remove weak cementitious and levelling layers.
- Surface defects such as blow holes and voids must be fully exposed using the surface preparation equipment.
- Use products from the Sikafloor®, Sikadur® and Sikagard® range of materials to level the surface or fill cracks, blow holes and voids. Contact Sika Technical Services for additional information on products for levelling and repairing defects.
- Products must be cured before applying SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler.
- Use industrial vacuuming equipment to remove all dust, loose and friable material from the application surface before applying the product.
- To improve the adhesion and provide a pore free surface for subsequent coverings, use SikaCeram®-935 Floor Leveler Primer.

MIXING

Important: Do not add more than 5.0 litres of water to 20 kg of powder.

Important: Do not mix or blend with OPC cements or other binders.

Important: In case of higher water temperature, the water could be cooled down by using clean ice.

Requirement: Use an electric single or double paddle mixer (< 600 rpm) with helical disc-shaped mixing paddle.

1. Pour ~4.6 L of clean water into a clean mixing container.
2. Mix the water slowly while gradually adding the complete bag of powder.
3. Mix continuously for ~5 minutes to achieve a smooth, uniform mix. If necessary, add more water to achieve the required consistency.
4. To allow entrained air to escape and mature, do not mix for ~5 minutes.
5. Mix for a further ~15 seconds.
6. Pour the mixed product onto the substrate primed with Sikafloor®-935 Floor Leveler Primer (diluted with water 1:1).
7. Spread the product evenly using a smoothing trowel, surface blade, screed rake or pin-leveller (pin-rake) to the required thickness.
8. Allow product to smoothen over the substrate. If required, spike roller immediately to remove any trowel marks or surface defects.
9. If a 2nd layer of SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler is to be applied, prime the hardened 1st layer with SikaCeram®-935 Floor Leveler Primer (diluted with water 1:1).

APPLICATION

Important: Do not apply on substrates with rising moisture. If rising moisture can occur, an effective damp proof membrane must be applied before applying SikaCeram®-488 Floor Leveler.

Important: Edge and movement joints must be brought through to the finished surface and must be protected so the product will not flow into the joint.

Important: The product must be applied to the required thickness and surface flatness as specified by the floor covering manufacturer.

Important: Use an isolating strip / tape to prevent product bonding onto vertical surfaces, i.e. pipes, ducts, conduits, walls, columns etc.

Important: To reduce the risk of cracking, protect freshly applied product from high ambient temperatures, direct sunlight and draughts.

Important: The finished floor must be covered within ~7 days of installation.

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CLEANING OF TOOLS

Clean all tools and application equipment with water immediately after use. Hardened material can only be mechanically removed.

LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

Note that as a result of specific local regulations the declared data and recommended uses for this product may vary from country to country. Consult the local Product Data Sheet for exact product data and uses.

LEGAL NOTES

The information, and, in particular, the recommendations relating to the application and end-use of Sika products, are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions in accordance with Sika's recommendations. In practice, the differences in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. The user of the product must test the product's suitability for the intended application and purpose. Sika reserves the right to change the properties of its products. The proprietary rights of third parties must be observed. All orders are accepted subject to our current terms of sale and delivery. Users must always refer to the most recent issue of the local Product Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request.

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