

flexbone 2Easy

Unique, loose-laid, floating uncoupling mat for unprepared and difficult substrates

DESCRIPTION

BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY is a loose laid uncoupling mat, providing a floating system over difficult substrates i.e. bitumen and anhydrite screeds for new tiling, it is also ideal to protect existing floor coverings

USE FOR

- Ideal for the installation of large format, ceramic and porcelain tiles, slabs and natural stone with a minimum 200mm x 200mm format size.
- 100% uncoupling loose lay mat without the need to bond to the substrate.
- Can be used on most internal and difficult floor substrates, providing the surface is flat (SR1 minimum).
- Counteracts and therefore minimises tension stresses between substrate and rigid floor finish to be installed.
- Prevents reflective cracking caused by shrinkage cracks, board joints and lateral movement.
- Allows a safe installation onto challenging substrates.
- Suitable for internal flooring; renovation and new construction, domestic and commercial areas in medium duty applications.
- Suitable for light trafficked commercial areas such as office walkways, department store concessions, trade show stands etc.
- Suitable for car showrooms, if cars are manually moved (not driven) onto completed tiled floors.
- Recommended for heated floors, new cement screeds, rigid and deflection free timber and existing load bearing floor surfaces.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Colour: Grey

Pack sizes: 20m rolls

Sheet width: 1m plus 50mm overlapping

Sheet thickness: 3mm

Sheet weight: Approx. 1.8kg / per sheet

Roll weight: Approx. 18kg

Restrictions: NOT suitable for

- **Use with levelling clip systems.**
- Exterior environments.
- Substrates with deflection (vertical movements).
- Uneven floor surfaces.
- Cement:sand screed subjected to curling.
- Bridging movement joints.
- Heavy traffic areas.
- Translucent/Moisture sensitive stone used on new damp concrete or screed.

Additional Benefits:

- **Fast installation:** Preparation of level, solid floors only require a simple sweep of the floor. No removal of residue, laitance or priming required with immediate tiling to contaminated and stained floors, wooden floors, cracked screeds and mixed substrates.
- **Significantly reduced labour time and costs:** Minimal preparation (above) with no residue remover, tools or adhesive required to bond down the mat.
- **Fast-track tiling for fresh screeds:** Laid on cement:sand screeds when they are ready to be walked on, or fresh calcium sulfate screeds up to a maximum of 1.5% CM residual moisture
- **Tiled surface can be easily removed and replaced:** perfect for rental properties, heritage projects and retail stores as well as domestic projects.
- **Can be stored for approx. 48 months** in dry rooms, away from direct sunlight.

TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE

-30°C to 70°C **N.B** Tiling should not be carried out below 5°C

SURFACE PREPARATION

General

Ensure surfaces to be tiled are flat to SR1 tolerance as recommended in BS 5385: Part 3.

Substrates must be load-bearing, pressure resistant, level and even to SR1, and free of deflection. The BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY is suitable for bridging static cracks providing differences in height can be excluded.

Always ensure the correct BAL adhesives and BAL grouts are selected for the installation. *see BAL TECHNICAL DATA SHEET on adhesives and grouts for more information.*

BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY can be used in internal domestic and medium duty commercial dry floor areas.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Do NOT install BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY or tiles in temperatures below 5°C.

The use of the uncoupling mat should not be considered if the agglomerated stone tile exhibits a tendency to curl. Seek further guidance from the tile manufacturer.

TILES

Type of Floor Material	Minimum Size	Minimum Thickness
Ceramic	200 mm x 200 mm	10mm
Porcelain	200 mm x 200 mm	8 mm
Natural Stone	200 mm x 200 mm	15 mm

Contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE for further advice on other materials.

AREAS OF APPLICATION

BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY can be loose laid on most floor background types providing the surface is level and flat, brushed clean, suitably load-bearing and pressure resistant.

- New and existing cement:sand screeds/concrete.
- Calcium Sulfate/Anhydrite (Gypsum) based screeds**.
- Bitumen Surfaces and Mastic Asphalt screeds*.
- Wooden Surfaces*.
- Substrates with problem adhesion such as contaminated areas.
- Ideal for heritage floor areas where existing floors must be protected.

**For further information contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE.*

***Up to 1.5%CM residual moisture content.*

Surface regularity

Surface Regularity is defined as the deviation in height of a surface. In simpler terms, it is the 'flatness' or 'measure of unevenness' of the surface.

BAL LEVEL MAX or BAL LEVEL FAST may be used to correct floors to SR1

(3mm or less under a 2 metre straight edge).

N.B. When using larger format tiles, it is essential that the substrate is as level as possible, ideally better than SR1, as this will avoid excessive bedding out of adhesive

BACKGROUNDS / BASES / APPLICATION AREAS

Fresh, Slightly Damp Concrete	✓	Timber Floors	✓
BAL BOARD/Tile Backer/Fibre Cement Boards	✓	Unglazed Ceramic Tiles / Hard Natural Stone	✓
Cement:Sand Screed (including new green screeds when walkable)	✓	Fresh Anhydrite/Calcium Sulfate Screeds	✓
Glazed Tiles	✓	All Timber Floors	✓
Mastic Asphalt	✓	Vinyl Tiles/Sheets (non-cushioned)	✓
DPM/Epoxy Coatings	✓	Bitumen	✓
Existing and Cracked Tiles	✓	Metal	✓

BAL FLEXBONE 2Easy can be used on most internal floor surface if the floor is sound, flat and dry in line with recommendations.

Does NOT require any priming. Contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE for further advice.

USAGE & SERVICE CONDITIONS

Walls	✗	Floor	✓
Interior	✓	External	✗
Dry	✓	Wet Areas	✗
Light/Medium Duty	✓	Heavy Duty	✗
Underfloor Heating Systems	✓	Limited Movement/Vibration	✓

New/existing Timber Floors (Incl. T & G Floorboards)

NOTE: As of May 2024 Plywood/Timber is no longer a suitable base for floor tiling directly to BS 5385 -3: 2024

Option 1 - Overlay with a suitable tile backer board of appropriate thickness and fixed as per manufacturers instructions.

Option 2 - An uncoupling matting such as BAL Flexbone Varied/2 Easy, BAL RAPID-MAT - can be selected providing that the plywood/timber floor is:

- the correct grade
- sufficiently dry, rigid and stable
- able to carry all anticipated static and dynamic loads without deflection
- have adequate ventilation below
- flat and level (SR1)
- securely fixed (screwed to joists at 300mm centres, including any cross-noggins, if necessary)

Electric Undertile Heating

The background must be suitably load bearing and free from any deflection. Ensure the electric heating system is installed correctly in accordance with the heating manufacturer's recommendations. All electrical undertile heating elements must be encapsulated within a BAL levelling compound i.e. BAL LEVEL MAX. Allow to dry before installing BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY.

Heated Cement: Sand Screeds

- Allow Portland cement:sand screeds to dry for a minimum of 3 weeks (at 20°C) and commission heating system in accordance with BS requirements prior to tiling.

When using BAL Quickset Cement, please refer to the BAL QUICKSET CEMENT data sheet for typical drying times.

APPLICATION

1. The substrate must be even, load bearing and swept free from debris.
Only if necessary, the floor can be levelled using a suitable BAL smoothing and levelling compound such as BAL LEVEL MAX or BAL LEVEL FAST.
 2. Roll out the BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY with the blue mesh side up. Roll out from the corner and cut precisely to the required length and sizes as required for the floor. Trim off any excesses around up-stands using scissors or a utility knife. Note: leave a 6mm movement joint around the perimeter or use BAL AQUADRAIN EDGE foam strip.
 3. Butt join the edges of the BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY. The overlapping blue mesh covers the joints between the roll lengths. BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY is to be laid with all necessary expansion joints in place. To ensure freedom of movement of the subsequent covering structure, tape all movement joints using a suitable proprietary self-adhesive tape to protect against the entry of the wet adhesive bedding material through the joints onto the existing floor during the installation.
 4. Apply the BAL Wattec ST Seam Reinforce Mesh Tape to all FLEXBONE 2Easy roll end joints.
 5. To apply tiles, mix and apply a BAL flexible adhesive to the mat using a minimum 10mm Notched Trowel. If using a 20mm Notched LARGE FORMAT TROWEL, ensure the final bed thickness of the tile adhesive does not exceed 5mm over the BAL FLEXBONE 2EASY.
- NOTE: Following application of the BAL Flexbone 2Easy and the commencement of tiling, care should be taken to ensure that the membrane does not lift from the base. When lifting tiles to check solid bed fixing, ensure the mat is weighted down (boxes of tiles/boards etc.) or when laying tiles on any new section of the BAL FLEXBONE 2Easy mat.*
6. Once the BAL Flexible tile adhesive is dry, select a suitable grout such as BAL MICROMAX3 ECO GROUT. BAL MICROMAX SEALANT can be used for all perimeter movement joints (but not for acid-sensitive tiles.)
 7. Ensure you follow all manufacturer installation instructions for the adhesive used and all applicable industry standards.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE

For free expert guidance on use of this product, or any aspect of tiling, contact the BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE on Tel: 01782 591120 or 03330 030160 or Email: info@building-adhesives.com

SHELF LIFE

48 months under normal dry conditions. Protect from frost, damp and sunlight.

QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Manufacturing quality assurance standards conform to BS EN ISO 9001. Satisfies the environmental management requirements and operational scope of ISO 14001.

25 YEAR GUARANTEE

All BAL products are supplied with a 25-year product guarantee to be free from manufacturing defects and to be fit for purpose. The guarantee covers materials replacement costs and labour. This guarantee is subject to use of product in accordance with BAL's instructions and technical data, and good working practice. No liability can be accepted for any loss or damage arising from incorrect use of products or poor workmanship, over which BAL has no control. While products may be suitable for installations internally or externally, products when used externally are exempt from cover under the BAL 25 Year Guarantee. Terms and conditions apply. Full details are available for your review at www.bal-adhesives.com.

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CONDITIONS OF SALE

Sold subject to the Company's Conditions of Sale. *Available on request.*

For sales and technical queries, contact:

BUILDING ADHESIVES LTD

Longton Road, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 8JB, England
www.bal-adhesives.com

Sales

Tel: +44 (0) 1782 591160

Fax: +44 (0) 1782 591131

Technical

Tel: +44 (0) 1782 591120 or

+44 (0) 3330 030160

Email: info@building-adhesives.com
Ireland

Unit 622, Phase III

Northwest Business Park

Ballycoolin, Dublin 15, Ireland

Tel: +353 (0) 1 880 9210

Fax: +353 (0) 1 880 9211

NOTE: BAL reserves the right to update instructions, technical data and other information at any time without notice.

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