

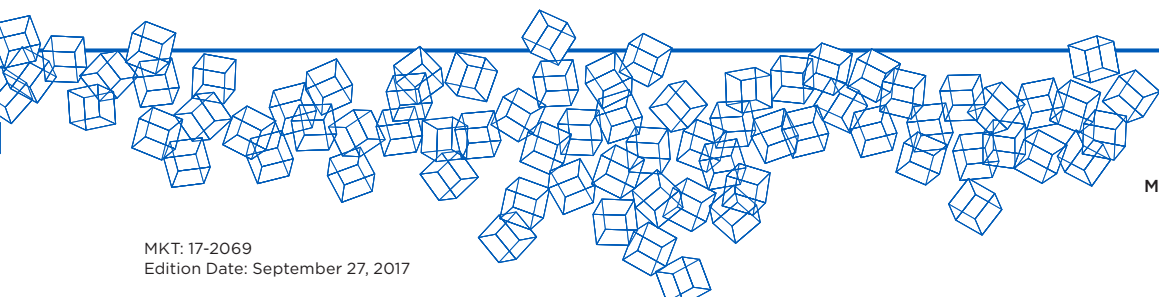
Tile & Stone Installation Systems

Installing tile in hot weather

The following guidelines are for using cement-based mortars and grouts to install tile during hot weather – above 85°F (29°C).

- Before setting tile or grouting, store bags of tile mortar and grout for 24 hours in the shade or, ideally, at room temperature – between 75°F and 85°F (24°C and 29°C). Therefore, when the ambient temperature is hot, never store installation materials in the back of a van/truck or, worse, leave the materials sitting in direct sunlight.
- Mix the tile mortar and grout with the recommended amount of potable water, as referenced on the back of the packaging. If ice is used to cool the mixing water, be certain that all the ice is melted and that the water is measured again to conform to the recommended mixing ratio.
 - Note that mixing with cold water can extend the pot life and open time of the mortar or grout, and the reverse is true about warm or hot water, which shorten the pot life and open time. Do not use water coming from the garden hose that has been sitting in the sun, unless you first leave the water running for a few minutes.
- The surface temperature of the area that will be tiled should not exceed the recommended maximum application temperature for the mortar, nor should the tile surface temperature exceed the maximum application temperature for the grout to be installed there. Minimum and maximum temperature recommendations are given on the packaging and Technical Data Sheets (TDSs) for MAPEI's tile mortars and grouts.
 - Note that rapid-setting, cement-based mortars and grouts require special care when they are used in hot-weather conditions. Rapid-setting products are formulated with accelerators that can be heat-sensitive and may be impractical for use without proper planning. Review the mixing and application times when considering use of rapid-setting products.
- Moisten the substrate with a damp sponge before spreading the mortar. This also applies to pre-moistening the tile surface before applying grout.
- Fill buckets of water for mixing and move them to a shaded area of the jobsite.
- Always clean the mixing bucket before mixing a fresh batch of mortar or grout. Dried material from previous mixes on the sides of the bucket can shorten the pot life and open time, or otherwise affect overall product characteristics.
- When grouting an exterior installation in direct sunlight, carefully evaluate the jobsite conditions. Can you adjust the time of grouting to a cooler or shaded time of the day? Ideally, install grout at the beginning of day or in the evening for cooler temperature conditions. If a naturally shaded or cooler installation time is not possible, consider tenting the installation area to create a shaded environment.
- Avoid prolonged and/or high-speed mixing of the mortar or grout. This may trap air, and the excess heat created from mixing may shorten pot life and accelerate the set times. Follow recommended mixer speeds and mixing times, as stated on the packaging and TDSs for MAPEI's tile mortars and grouts.
- Allow mixed product to slake (that is, "sit") in the bucket for the recommended time. The recommended time will be listed on the packaging and TDS. Find a cool and/or shaded area for the product to slake, and then remix for recommended time and apply promptly.
- Organize the mixing and application processes so that once the appropriate products are mixed, slaked and remixed, the installation can begin immediately and proceed continuously.
- Apply enough mortar to the substrate to ensure mortar contact to the back of the tile. Periodically check coverage and bond by picking up freshly installed tile. Do not allow the mortar to "skin over" in windy or hot conditions. If the mortar does not transfer to the back of the tile, remove affected mortar and install fresh mortar.

For the most current product information, visit MAPEI's Website at www.mapei.com or contact MAPEI's Technical Services Product Support Team.



MKT: 17-2069
Edition Date: September 27, 2017



MAPEI Headquarters of North America
1144 East Newport Center Drive
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) /
(954) 246-8888