

# CUSTOMBLEND® STANDARD THIN-SET MORTAR

- Economical formula for basic tile jobs
- For installations over concrete floors
- Meets ANSI A118.1 without additives
- Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 when mixed with Thin-Set Mortar Admix



## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

CustomBlend® offers economy with good bond strength for most tile projects and is recommended for floor installations. Good for setting Saltillo and other similar clay pavers. Offers good working time to apply and adjust tiles. Mix with Thin-Set Mortar Admix for best results when setting dense tile or setting over EGP plywood, existing flooring and for exterior applications. Meets ANSI A118.1 without additives. Meets ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 when mixed with Thin-Set Mortar Admix. Protected by MoldGard® Technology to resist mold and mildew growth.

## USES — TILE TYPES

- Vitreous, semi-vitreous or absorptive tile: ceramic, quarry, cement
- Brick and mini-brick
- Precast terrazzo
- Natural stone tile
- Impervious porcelain tile, glass mosaics – mix with Thin-Set Mortar Admix or CustomFlex® Additive

## AREAS OF USE

### When Mixed with Water – ANSI A118.1 Specifications:

- Interior floors, walls, countertops
- Concrete, mortar beds, masonry, Portland cement plaster
- Gypsum wallboard (dry areas)
- Water-resistant wallboard
- Backerboards such as WonderBoard® and EasyBoard®

### When Mixed with Thin-Set Mortar Admix – ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 Specifications:

- Interior or exterior floors, walls, countertops
- Areas subject to freeze-thaw cycles
- Exterior grade plywood (interior residential and light commercial dry areas)
- Existing ceramic tile
- Sheet vinyl flooring, VCT
- Plastic laminates

## LIMITATIONS

- Do not bond directly to hardwood, Luan plywood, particle board, parquet, cushion or sponge-back vinyl flooring, metal, fiberglass, plastic and OSB panels.
- When setting moisture sensitive natural stone, tile or agglomerates (check with manufacturer) use 100% Solids Epoxy Mortar.
- Do not use to install resin-backed tile.
- When setting dimensional stone larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm), contact Technical Services for recommendations regarding subfloor deflection requirements.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

### General Surface Preparation:

Surfaces must be structurally sound, clean, dry and free from grease, oil, dirt, curing compounds, sealers, adhesives or any other contaminant that would prevent a good bond. Glossy or painted surfaces must be sanded, stripped and cleaned of waxes, dirt or any contaminants. Ambient temperature, surfaces and materials should be maintained at a temperature above 50° F (10° C) or below 100° F (38° C) for 72 hours.



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### Cementitious Surfaces:

Concrete or plaster must be fully cured and accept water penetration. Test by sprinkling water on various areas of the substrate. If water penetrates, then a good bond can be achieved. If water beads, surface contaminants are present and loss of adhesion may occur. The contaminants should be removed before installation. Concrete must be free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure. Concrete slabs should have a broomed or brushed finish to enhance the bond. Smooth concrete slabs must be roughened to ensure a good bond.

### Plywood Substrates:

Plywood floors including those under resilient flooring must be structurally sound and meet all ANSI and deflection requirements. For questions about proper subfloor installation, call Technical Services.

### Backerboards and Underlayments:

Tile backerboards such as WonderBoard® and EasyBoard® are a superior alternative to using a second layer of plywood as a final substrate for tile installation. EasyMat™ is an underlayment that can be used in the same regard. Each provide unique benefits to tile installation but all can be installed over plywood to ensure that maximum bond strengths and performance are achieved. Refer to respective data sheet for installation information.

### Existing Ceramic Tile, Resilient Flooring or Plastic Laminates:

Plywood flooring must be structurally sound and meet all ANSI and deflection requirements. Resilient flooring or plastic laminates must be well bonded, clean and free of all contaminants. Roughen the surface by sanding or scarifying, rinse and allow to dry. Do not sand flooring containing asbestos. For existing well-bonded ceramic tile, mechanically abrade with carborundum stone. Rinse and allow to dry. When sanding we recommend the use of an approved respirator.

### Expansion Joints:

Expansion joints, control joints and cold joints should never be bridged with setting material. They must be brought through the tile work and filled with an appropriate elastomeric sealant.

### MIXING

For installations requiring an ANSI A118.1 mortar, thoroughly mix 2 gallons (7.55 L) clean, cool water and a 50 lb. (22.68 kg) bag of CustomBlend together to a smooth, paste-like consistency. For mortar meeting A118.4 or A118.11 requirements, use 2 gallons (7.55 L) of Thin-Set Mortar Admix in place of water. Mix by hand or use a low speed (150 - 200 RPM) 1/2" (13 mm) drill. Let slake or stand 5 - 10 minutes, stir again and use. Stir occasionally to keep fluffy, but do not add more water. When properly mixed, troweled ridges will stand with no slump.

### APPLICATION

INSTALLATION TO CONFORM TO ANSI A108.5. Use proper sized notch trowel to ensure 100% coverage under tiles. Using flat side of trowel, apply skim coat of mortar to the surface. Apply additional mortar with notched side of trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Press tile firmly into place in a perpendicular motion across ridges, moving back and forth. Perpendicular pressing flattens ridges and closes valleys allowing maximum coverage. With some tile, back buttering is advisable. Adjust tile promptly and beat in with block and rubber mallet. Mortar can be applied up to 1/4" (6 mm) thick after beat in. For thicker applications, use a medium bed mortar. Periodically pull up a tile and check the back to ensure complete coverage with the adhesive. Do not spread more material than can be tiled in 15 minutes or while material has wet tack (sticky to the touch). If material has skinned over (not sticky), recomb with notch trowel. If too dry, remove and replace with fresh material. Material in bucket will remain workable in excess of 2 hours.

### CURING

Allow to cure for a minimum of 24 hours before grouting or light traffic, depending upon temperature and humidity. Polyblend® or Prism® SureColor® Grout is recommended.

### COVERAGE

SQUARE FOOT COVERAGE PER 50 LB. BAG (SQUARE METER PER 22.68 KG) TROWEL SIZE	COVERAGE
1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" Square-Notch (6 x 6 x 6 mm)	85 - 95 sq. ft. (7.9 - 8.8 m <sup>2</sup> )
1/4" x 3/8" x 1/4" Square-Notch (6 x 9 x 6 mm)	60 - 67 sq. ft. (5.6 - 6.2 m <sup>2</sup> )
1/2" x 1/2" x 1/2" Square-Notch (13 x 13 x 13 mm)	42 - 47 sq. ft. (3.9 - 4.4 m <sup>2</sup> )
3/4" x 9/16" x 3/8" U-Notch (19 x 14 x 9 mm)	34 - 38 sq. ft. (3.2 - 3.5 m <sup>2</sup> )

### CLEAN-UP

Clean with water before material dries.

### STORAGE

Store in a cool dry area.

### SAFETY

Contains Portland cement. Avoid eye contact or prolonged contact with skin. Wash thoroughly after handling. If eye contact occurs, flush with water for 15 minutes and consult a physician. This product contains free silica. Do not breathe dust; wear NIOSH approved respirator.

## ORDERING INFORMATION

	ITEM CODE	SIZE	COLOR	PACKAGE
USA	CBTSG50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	Gray	Bag
USA	CBTSW50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	White	Bag
Canada	CCBTSG50	50 lb. (22.68 kg)	Gray	Bag

## TECHNICAL DATA

Exceeds ANSI A118.1 specifications when mixed with water.  
Exceeds ANSI A118.4 and A118.11 specifications when mixed with Thin-Set Mortar Admix.

	CUSTOMBLEND® MIXED WITH WATER	CUSTOMBLEND® MIXED WITH THIN-SET MORTAR ADMIX
Open Time	55 minutes	50 - 55 minutes
Adjustment Time	40 - 45 minutes	40 - 45 minutes
Shear Bond @ 28 Days:		
Bisque Tile	250 psi (17.6 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	340 psi (24 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Porcelain Tile	195 psi (13.7 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	265 psi (18.6 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Quarry Tile to Plywood		150 psi (10.6 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )

## LIMITED WARRANTY

Custom Building Products ("Custom") warrants to the original consumer purchaser that its product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal and proper usage for a period of one year following the date of original purchase. Custom's sole liability under this warranty shall be limited to the replacement of the product. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty will not extend to any product which has been modified in any way or which has not been used in accordance with Custom's printed instructions. Custom makes no other warranties either express or implied. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary from state to state.



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