



## Crack Matting

**ROCATEX Crack Matting, used in conjunction with ROCATEX rapid set flexible adhesives, forms an easy to use, highly flexible, crack prevention system which combines the functions of uncoupling, waterproofing and vapour equalisation.**

- Anhydrite / Concrete Screeds
- Chipboard / Plywood
- Underfloor Heating
- Highly Flexible
- Rot Proof
- Easy to Use

### DESCRIPTION

This versatile crack isolation matting is especially suitable for laying tiles on to problematic and difficult substrates. Used in conjunction with ROCATEX rapid set flexible adhesives, the matting forms an easy to use, highly flexible, crack prevention system which combines the functions of uncoupling, waterproofing and vapour equalisation.

ROCATEX Crack Matting has an installation height of approximately 3mm. The matting is made of yellow polyethylene and is available in 15m or 30m rolls x 1m wide. The indented structure and laminated grid achieve a strong bond to tile adhesives. The material is elastic, rot proof and resistant to aggressive substances and liquids such as alkalis, solvents and oils.

### TYPICAL USES

#### Crack bridging

The crack bridging properties of the matting make it extremely suitable for installation as part of restoration measures. For example, this matting permits installation of tiles on top of old and damaged coverings ("tiling on tiling"). However, major variations in the heights of the substrate cannot be remedied using ROCATEX Crack Matting, this should be done using ROCATEX levelling compound. ROCATEX Crack Matting is particularly suitable for laying tiles on difficult foundations.

#### Heated screed

ROCATEX Crack Matting can safely be laid on any kind of heated screed foundation without any impairment of the heating performance. The mats should be adhered with the heating switched off, using a suitable flexible adhesive conforming to DIN EN 12004 C2. It is also possible for electrical or hot water heating systems to be laid directly on top of ROCATEX Crack Matting. Heating pipes must be installed in accordance with the applicable specifications of the manufacturer. Such specifications vary but will commonly involve the pipes being embedded fully in a layer of levelling compound. For heated floors the thermal resistance over the entire area of the ceramic flooring must not exceed 0.15 m<sup>2</sup> K/W in accordance with DIN 1264 (Underfloor heating systems and components).

#### Installation of tiles on wooden substrates

ROCATEX Crack Matting decouples coverings from their foundation, thus permitting installation of tiles on substrates which experience linear expansion and contraction in response to changes in temperature and humidity. ROCATEX Crack Matting can also be used to install tiles on chipboard or wooden floorboards following appropriate preparation.

### ROCATEX

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## **Installation on fresh foundations**

ROCATEX Crack Matting allows for reverse compensation of vapour pressure, which allows for installation of tiles onto foundations which are still wet (green). ROCATEX Crack Matting makes it possible to install tiles on screeds that have achieved a residual moisture content of 2%. Usually, this eliminates the need for elaborate pre-treatment and special adhesives.

## **Sealing in outdoor situations**

ROCATEX Crack Matting in conjunction with tiled flooring can, for example, prevent penetration of balconies or patios by seepage of water used in the construction process.

## **Sealing in extremely wet areas**

Even in areas heavily exposed to moisture, such as changing rooms and swimming pool halls, ROCATEX Crack Matting is suitable as a bonded sealing membrane for tiling.

## **APPLICATION**

The foundation must be stable, level, free of loose material and primed using ROCATEX Acrylic Primer. Before installation, ROCATEX Crack Matting should be cut to the required dimensions. Tile adhesive is applied to the foundation by means of a 4x4mm notched trowel. The tile adhesive must be matched with the substrate. Best results are achieved with a C2FT S1/S2 tile adhesive. Recommendations for ideally matched products can be obtained directly from ROCATEX.

After that, the matting is pressed into place with the carrier fleece facing downwards using a suitable tool, eg. a wooden baton or grout pad. The tile adhesive must achieve a strong mechanical bond with the carrier fleece. The matting should be laid into the tile adhesive before it skins over. Some protection may need to be provided to prevent damage to the matting.

Joints, wall junctions and transitions should be joined with suitable jointing tape. ROCATEX Crack Matting should be split over existing expansion joints (coverings with a large area should be divided into segments in compliance with applicable specifications and bordered by expansion joints).

Once the adhesive for the matting has thoroughly hardened, all recesses should be filled in so that they are flush over the entire area using tile adhesive. The laying of tiles can then begin.