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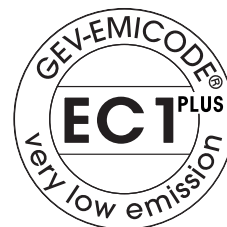
JUNE 2026
(SUPERSEDES MAY 2025)
PRODUCT DATA SHEET

ARDEX AF 165

Sheet Vinyl Adhesive

Features

- High initial tack
- Can receive floorcoverings up to 30 minutes after airing
- Excellent early and long term adhesive strength
- High temperature resistance, suitable for use over underfloor heating systems
- Solvent free
- Covers up to 67m²



Reg No. FM 01207

EMS 565427

OHS 628374

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ARDEX AF 165

Sheet Vinyl Adhesive

DESCRIPTION

ARDEX AF 165 is a water-based, low odour, solvent free, wet bond acrylic emulsion-based floorcovering adhesive. With a reduced airing time, ARDEX AF 165 offers excellent application properties and produces very good early and long term adhesive strength. It is protected from biodegradation and has good resistance to plasticiser migration.

ARDEX AF 165 meets the requirement guidelines for the EMICODE licence 'EC1 PLUS', achieving the lowest possible emission limits.

USE

ARDEX AF 165 is ideal for installing all types of vinyl sheet floorcoverings, and can be used with all ARDEX Latex and Water-Based Levelling and Smoothing Compounds in both commercial and domestic locations. ARDEX AF 165 is suitable for use with chairs fitted with castor wheels.

PRIMING

Priming is not required, however, on highly absorbent surfaces it can be advantageous to prime with ARDEX P 51 Priming and Bonding Agent diluted 1:3 with cold, clean water. This will maintain the working time and ensure maximum coverage of the adhesive.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

The subfloor must contain an effective damp proof membrane and be dry, with an equilibrium relative humidity of 75% or below. Where an effective damp proof membrane is absent, or the relative humidity of the subfloor is above 75% RH, consult the ARDEX Moisture Control brochure or contact ARDEX Technical Services for the correct product selection.

The subfloor must be hard, clean, free from barrier materials, sound and smooth in accordance with the relevant clauses of BS 8203 and BS 8204. Any dust should be removed using suitable vacuum equipment, prior to applying ARDEX AF 165, as it can affect both the coverage and performance of the adhesive.

Uneven subfloors should be levelled with the appropriate ARDEX Latex or Water-Based Levelling and Smoothing Compound e.g. ARDITEX NA or ARDEX K 40 FLOW.

ARDEX ARDURAPID A 45 Rapid Drying and Hardening Internal Repair Mortar can be used for repairs to the subfloor/stairs etc. up to 50mm thick, in accordance with the product data sheet.

Joints, nail holes and imperfections in plywood, or minor surface damage to existing levelling and smoothing compounds i.e. footprints or trowel marks, may be pre-smoothed and levelled prior to the application of ARDEX AF 165, using ARDEX FEATHER FINISH in accordance with the product data sheet.

Fabricated underlays such as flooring grade plywood, (SP101) should be installed where required over existing timber bases. Wood-based fabricated underlays should be suitable for the floorcovering and be at the equilibrium moisture content they will have in service at the time they are covered.

MIXING

ARDEX AF 165 is ready for use, but for optimum performance the adhesive should be thoroughly mixed to ensure the even dispersion of polymers before application.

APPLICATION

The installation area and subfloor should be kept at the appropriate temperature as specified by the floorcovering manufacturer and the relevant clauses of BS 8203. These temperatures need to be maintained 48 hours prior to installation, during installation, and 48 hours after installation.

ARDEX AF 165 should be applied evenly to the suitably prepared substrate using the appropriate serrated trowel, held at approximately a 60 degree angle to the subfloor to maximise coverage and avoid forming pools of adhesive.

Floorcoverings should be applied directly into the wet adhesive on absorbent backgrounds after the airing time, between 10-20 minutes depending on ambient conditions.

Allowing the adhesive to air will improve early stage grab.

Only apply sufficient adhesive that can be covered within the working time, usually 30 minutes. Periodically check that the adhesive has transferred to the rear of the floorcovering.

Remove any air pockets with a cork board or rubbing tool whilst the adhesive is still wet and roll the flooring with a 68kg roller and/or a smoothing tool.

Roll from side to side first and then end to end. Rolling will ensure good overall contact and minimise the potential for adhesive serration grin through.

Some vinyl floorcoverings may benefit from further rolling/smoothing. Heat welding should only commence once the adhesive has dried sufficiently. Do not allow the floor to be wet cleaned immediately after the floorcovering has been installed.

Allow significant time for the adhesive bond to develop before wet cleaning commences, typically 48 hours at 20°C.

When applying adhesive onto the substrate, ensure that any adhesive which is surplus to requirements, and has been moved across the subfloor, is not placed back into the container. It should be placed into an alternative container for safe, easy disposal. This will avoid possible contamination issues.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Underfloor heating systems should be commissioned in accordance with the heating manufacturer's instructions; if comment cannot be found then the guidance given in BS 8203 and BS 8204 should be followed.

Thermal cycling of the subfloor will require raising the temperature of the substrate slowly, usually 5°C a day, to full operating temperature, held for a defined period, and slowly brought back down, usually 5°C a day, so that any shrinkage that is likely to take place occurs before the floorcovering is installed.

If moisture tests are required to verify the relative humidity of the substrate, the underfloor heating system should be switched off for 48 hours prior to testing.

If moisture testing is not required, or after the tests are completed, the heating system should be stabilised to room temperature, but not below 15°C, before installing the floorcovering.

The surface of the substrate can then be repaired/smoothed with the appropriate ARDEX product and allowed to dry.

The floorcovering should be allowed to acclimatise to the substrate temperature before installation with ARDEX AF 165.

After installation, allow at least 48 hours of constant temperature for the adhesive to properly cure, before slowly increasing the temperature up to the normal operating temperature of the area. Do not subject the floor to static or dynamic loads, loaded trolleys, etc., or move fixtures, furniture, etc., onto the flooring until the adhesive has fully set, typically 48 hours at 20°C.

HIGH TEMPERATURE

ARDEX AF 165 is suitable for use over underfloor heating systems and is classified as high temperature resistant. The surface floor temperature must not exceed 30°C. Consult the floorcovering manufacturer for detailed guidance. For areas subjected to prolonged or extreme solar gain, such as southerly facing aspects, consider the use of ARDEX AF 2575 or ARDEX AF 2525 Heavy Duty Adhesives.

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CLEANING

Remove spills or seepage through joints with a cloth moistened with water before the adhesive dries.

Aggressive cleaning agents should only be used with the permission of the floorcovering manufacturer.

PACKAGING

ARDEX AF 165 is packed in plastic tubs 6kg & 14kg net weight.

COVERAGE

See table below.

The actual coverage achieved in practice is affected by application technique, as well as the texture and absorbency of the subfloor.

STORAGE

ARDEX AF 165 must be stored in unopened packaging, clear of the ground in cool dry conditions and be protected from excessive draught. If stored correctly, as detailed above, the shelf life of this product is 12 months from the date shown on the packaging.

PRECAUTIONS

ARDEX AF 165 is non-hazardous in normal usage, however, good hygiene practices should be followed.

Avoid contact with skin; wash off with soap and water before drying takes place. In case of contact with eyes, rinse carefully and thoroughly with water and seek medical advice. In case of ingestion seek medical assistance.

Consult the relevant Health & Safety Data Sheets for further information.

For the latest technical or health and safety information on this product, consult the current product or health and safety data sheet online at: www.ardex.co.uk

WORDING AND TERMINOLOGY

Airing Time

The time the adhesive must be left open before applying the floorcovering, 10-20 minutes*

Working Time

The time in which the adhesive can receive the floorcovering, after the initial airing time. Up to 30 minutes*.

Open Time

The combination of airing and working time. Up to 40 minutes*

*depending on the absorbency of the subfloor and ambient conditions, (20°C & 65% RH).

The guidance from the floorcovering manufacturer should always be followed if different from the information contained in this Technical Data Sheet.

NOTE: The information supplied in our literature or given by our employees is based upon extensive experience and, together with that supplied by our agents or distributors, is given in good faith in order to help you. Our Company policy is one of continuous Research and Development; we therefore reserve the right to update this information at any time without prior notice. We also guarantee the consistent high quality of our products; however, as we have no control over site conditions or the execution of the work, we accept no liability for any loss or damage which may arise as a result thereof.

Country specific recommendations, depending on local standards, codes of practice, building regulations or industry guidelines, may affect specific installation recommendations.

TECHNICAL ADVICE HELPLINE
01440 714939
ARDEX online: www.ardex.co.uk

Flooring Type	Trowel Size	Coverage 14kg	Coverage 6kg
CV Flooring	A1 	Up to 67m ²	Up to 29m ²
Homogenous and Heterogeneous PVC Sheet Floorcoverings CV Floorcoverings	A2 	Up to 56m ²	Up to 24m ²