

# PRODUCT DATA SHEET

## SikaCeram<sup>®</sup>-98

C1 thin bed cement-based tile adhesive

### DESCRIPTION

SikaCeram<sup>®</sup>-98 is an economical thin bed cementitious tile adhesive ideal for fixing ceramic tiles, natural stones and most monocottura tiles on interior walls and floors.

### USES

- Installation of tiles and natural stones onto concrete render, blockwork and rendered brickwork surface
- Suitable for use on both walls and floors in interior applications

### CHARACTERISTICS / ADVANTAGES

- Easy to use
- Quick grip
- Suitable for installing large-format tiles, tile-on-tile applications, and use in both internal and external areas, including wet environments such as shower floors and swimming pools, when mixed with Davco<sup>®</sup> Davelastic 98 latex additive.

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

Packaging	25 kg bag
Appearance / Colour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grey powder</li> <li>▪ White powder</li> </ul>
Shelf Life	6 months from date of production
Storage Conditions	Store properly in dry conditions, in undamaged and unopened, original sealed packaging.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Tensile Adhesion Strength	Standard condition	$\geq 0.5 \text{ N/mm}^2$	(EN 12004-2:2017, 8.3)
	Water immersion	$\geq 0.5 \text{ N/mm}^2$	
	Heat ageing	$\geq 0.5 \text{ N/mm}^2$	

### APPLICATION INFORMATION

Mixing Ratio	5.75–6.25 L of water per 25 kg bag
Consumption	<p>This depends on the level, profile and surface roughness of the substrate, the size of the tiles and the technique of placing (simple placing or "back"-buttering).</p> <p>As a guide, in kilogram of powder per m<sup>2</sup> on flat surfaces:</p>

<b>Tiles size</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Trowel size</b>
Mosaics and small tiles	~2.0–3.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	3 mm × 3 mm notched trowel
Normal size tiles (30 cm × 30 cm)	~5.0–5.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	6 mm × 6 mm notched trowel
Large size tiles up to 3600 cm <sup>2</sup> (internal floors)	~10.0–11.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	12 mm × 12 mm notched trowel

The consumption above may only serve as a guide. It is highly recommended to carry-out trials on site to determine the actual coverage.

<b>Open Time</b>	~20 minutes at 25 °C
<b>Curing Time</b>	~24 hours at 25 °C
<b>Adjustability Time</b>	~15 minutes at 25 °C

## BASIS OF PRODUCT DATA

All technical data stated in this Product Data Sheet are based on laboratory tests. Actual measured data may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

## IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- For wet areas such as shower floor and swimming pool – mixed with Davco® Davelastic 98 latex additive in replacement of water to enhance adhesion and flexural strength, water resistance and reducing efflorescence.
- Where extra strength is required for fixing dense tiles eg. vitrified porcelain, marble and granite, SikaCeram®-98 must be mixed with Davco® Davelastic 98 latex additive.
- Results shown here are based on laboratory test. Actual field performance will depend on the type of tile/stone used, installation methods and site conditions.
- Due to ambient condition, the skin-over of the adhesive will occur after 5–10 minutes, therefore special attention are required when laying tiles. It is important for the adhesive to be applied in small areas that can be covered with tiles within this time frame.
- Skin-over can be checked by placing the tip of your index finger lightly to the adhesive bed surface. If the adhesive does not stick to your finger, skin-over has occurred. To break the skin, re-trowel in the opposite direction. Fix stone, ceramic glazed tiles, ceramic vitrified tiles, mosaic within 15 minutes of applying the adhesive and check coverage by occasionally lifting the stone / ceramic glazed tiles / ceramic vitrified tiles / mosaic.

## ECOLOGY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

User must read the most recent corresponding Safety Data Sheets (SDS) before using any products. The SDS provides information and advice on the safe handling, storage and disposal of chemical products and contains physical, ecological, toxicological and other safety-related data.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

### SUBSTRATE QUALITY / PRE-TREATMENT

- All surfaces must be structurally sound, dry, clean and free from movement, oil, grease, wax, curing compound and any other loose or contaminating materials.
- Dusty concrete or masonry should be swept clean and dampened with water prior to the application of adhesive.
- Weak concrete and/or cement laitance must be removed. Repairs to the substrate, filling of blowholes / voids, etc. must be carried out using appropriate products from the SikaTop® or Sika® MonoTop® range of material.
- Painted surface must be scabbled / abraded to the original substrate. Newly rendered / screeded surface must be thoroughly cleaned prior to tiling and have a wood float finish.
- Old rendered / screeded surface must be thoroughly cleaned prior to tiling and have a wood float finish.
- New concrete must be allowed to cure for at least 1 month and have a wood float finish. Steel trowel finished concrete must be mechanically abraded prior to tiling.
- Old concrete surface must be thoroughly cleaned prior to tiling. Make sure all release agents are removed from concrete surfaces, especially on tilt-up slabs.
- Screeds should be allowed to dry out as slowly as practicable after curing to reduce the risk of curling. Cement-sand, and fine concrete levelling screeds should be cured for at least 7 days and be subjected to continuous air drying after curing for at least 2 weeks before the tiles are laid. Please refer to BS 5385 or MS 1294.
- To ensure screed/render level is plumb to achieve optimum adhesive bed thickness.
- Certain non-absorbent surfaces can be easily prepared for tiling using Davco Bonding Agent. Refer to Davco Bonding Agent data sheet for further details and suitability.
- Wash and remove the release powders at the back of porcelain tiles.

## MIXING

Pour clean water into a mixing container. Then, slowly add SikaCeram®-98 while mixing. Mix continuously in a circular motion using a low-speed mechanical mixer until a lump-free, creamy consistency and uniform paste is achieved.

Allow the mix to stand for 5 minutes and re-mix prior to use.

## APPLICATION

SikaCeram®-98 is spread onto the substrate using a proper and suitable notched trowel. The choice of trowel should be governed by the size of the tiles, depth of knobs, grooves or ridges on the back of the tiles and the evenness of the substrate.

Use the flat side of the notched trowel to spread the mix onto the receiving surface at approximately 1 m<sup>2</sup> at a time. Then, use the notched side of the trowel to apply the required amount of the mix in one direction. Press the tile in a perpendicular motion and tapped into position to ensure positive contact with the adhesive and adjust within 30 minutes.

For tile with grooves or ridges, it is necessary to skim a layer of adhesive / butter coat the back of the tiles.

This is to ensure good adhesion and adequate coverage between the adhesive and tile.

Ensure that the adhesive is wet when the tiles are laid. Do not allow the adhesive to skin-over prior to tiling. Should skinning occur, break the skin by re-trowelling the adhesive in the opposite direction.

Do not spread more than 1 m<sup>2</sup> at any one time. Fix the tiles within 15 minutes of applying the adhesive and check the contact by occasionally lifting tiles. Ensure there are no voids under the tiles and the edges between the tiles are even (lippage) with consistent tile joint width.

### Grouting

Tile joint grouting should preferably be carried out at least 24 hours after completion of tiling or until the adhesive has set and dry sufficiently.

Setting may be delayed on dense or impervious surface.

## CLEANING OF TOOLS

Clean all tools and application equipments with clean water immediately after use. Hardened or cured material can only be removed mechanically.

## LEGAL NOTES

The information, and, in particular, the recommendations relating to the application and end-use of Sika products, are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions in accordance with Sika's recommendations. In practice, the differences in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. The user of the product must test the product's suitability for the intended application and purpose. Sika reserves the right to change the properties of its products. The proprietary rights of third parties must be observed. All orders are accepted subject to our current terms of sale and delivery. Users must always refer to the most recent issue of the local Product Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request.

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