

“Mud-Set” or “Mud-Bed” are terms used for a 3/4" Portland cement and washed mason sand sub-surface for ceramic, porcelain & natural stone floor tile. “Mud-Setting” the floor to accept tile is the ideal substrate: to provide a sound, flat and level floor, to provide a water-resistant base, and to add structural stability to new and old floors. Professional tile contractors who warrant their work over periods of time, endorse “mud-setting” because of its long-term performance.

SURFACE PREPARATION:

The prerequisite for surface preparation is that the floor must be 3/4" in total thickness and the floor joists/trusses are 16" on center. (Note: hardwood, wood parquet and cushioned vinyl floor covering must be removed prior to “mud-setting”.) The surface must be swept and clean.

“MUD-BED”APPLICATION:

All floor areas to be “mud-set” must be covered with TAR PAPER. It is best to staple the TAR PAPER to the floor to prevent it from moving while working. After the TAR PAPER is secured, lay 2.5 Gauge WIRE MESH over the TAR PAPER. Overlap each sheet about 1" at the seams and nail the mesh to the floor using 1" GALVANIZED ROOFING NAILS, or staples with a hammer stapler. Make sure to install both the TAR PAPER and WIRE MESH on the entire area which will receive the “mud-bed”. The TAR PAPER is used in this installation as a moisture barrier when floating concrete.

When cutting the WIRE LATH to go around cabinets, heat ducts, wall partitions, use a “tin snip” or metal cutter. (It is advisable to wear gloves when cutting the mesh to prevent lacerating hands.) Masking Tape may be used to protect woodwork, wallpaper and other items which may be stained by Portland cement.

After the WIRE MESH is secured, begin to add small amounts of water to CERAMIC FLOOR MIX Mortar (this is the “mud”). It is best to mix in a “mud box” or mortar box keeping in mind that very little water is actually added to the Floor Mix. Unlike pouring a concrete slab or sidewalk, the “mud” only needs to be moist NOT wet. As you are mixing the Floor Mix, grab a handful and squeeze - if the mortar stays together in a “fistball”, you have the proper consistency for use. Pour the mixed “mud” onto the WIRE LATH and begin to pack using a wooden object (2" x 6" x 9" works well) in a downward motion. Continue this procedure working yourself to the doorway(s). Periodically lay a three foot level on the top of the packed “mud” surface to insure that the CERAMIC FLOOR MIX Mortar is laying level, also measure the thickness to verify that you are maintaining a minimum of 3/4" thickness. In some areas, due to unevenness, the “mud” may be greater than 3/4" in thickness.

Allow the “mud-bed” to dry 24 hours prior to installing tile to this surface.

***HELPFUL HINT:** Add a quart of Flexible Grout Admixture with every bag of Superior Floor Mix to add durability and flexibility to mud-set.



a. Wire Lath b. Floor Mix c. Tar Paper d. Green Lath e. 6 Gal Bucket f. Nails g. Gloves h. Level i. Sponge j. Knee Pads

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