



# Uncoupling Membrane Mortar

## 1. PRODUCT NAME

TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar  
(337/338)

## 2. MANUFACTURER

H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc.  
1105 South Frontenac Street  
Aurora, IL 60504-6451 U.S.A.  
800.552.6225 Office  
800.952.2368 Fax  
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## 3. DESCRIPTION

TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar is a dry set mortar made for use with uncoupling membrane and waterproofing membrane.

### Key Features and Benefits

- Mixed with water, meets ANSI A118.1 specifications
- Mixed with TEC® Acrylbond® AMA Acrylic Latex Mortar Additive, meets ANSI A118.4 and ANSI A118.11 specifications
- Ideal for use as a medium bed mortar for large format tile
- Contributes to LEED® certification
- Zero VOC
- Contains recycled materials\*

\* Gray formula contains 2-6.5% pre-consumer recycled material.  
White formula contains 0% pre-consumer recycled material.

### Packaging

50 lb. (22.68 kg) moisture-resistant bags  
Gray  
White

Product #7106863111  
Product #7107703111

### Coverage

Coverage will vary with condition of substrate. Required trowel size will vary with the tile size, type and substrate uniformity. Select the trowel size that will ensure 100% coverage. Figures below are presented only as guidelines.

Trowel Size	Approximate Coverage per 50 lbs. (22.68 KG)
<b>To bond Uncoupling Membrane or Waterproofing Membrane to substrate</b>	
1/4" x 3/16" (6 x 4.7 mm) V-notch trowel	150-200 sq. ft. (13.9-18.6 m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>To bond Tile to Uncoupling Membrane</b>	
1/4" x 3/8" (6 x 9 mm) square-notch trowel	40-50 sq. ft. (3.7-4.6 m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>To bond Tile larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm) to Uncoupling Membrane</b>	
1/2" x 1/2" (12 x 12 mm) square-notch trowel	30-40 sq. ft. (2.8-3.7 m <sup>2</sup> )
3/4" (19 mm) rounded-notch trowel	25-35 sq. ft. (2.3-3.3 m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>To bond Tile to Waterproofing Membrane</b>	
1/4" x 3/8" (6 x 9 mm) square-notch trowel	65-75 sq. ft. (6.0-7.0 m <sup>2</sup> )
<b>To bond Tile larger than 12" x 12" (30 x 30 cm) to Waterproofing Membrane</b>	
1/2" x 1/2" (12 x 12 mm) square-notch trowel	40-50 sq. ft. (3.7-4.6 m <sup>2</sup> )
3/4" (19 mm) rounded-notch trowel	35-40 sq. ft. (3.3-3.7 m <sup>2</sup> )

NOTE: Maximum allowable trowel size is 3/4" x 3/4" (19 x 19 mm).

### Suitable Substrates

When properly prepared, suitable substrates include:

- Concrete and cured mortar beds
- APA Grade Trademarked Exposure 1 Plywood. **Requires use with TEC® Acrylbond® AMA additive.**

- Drywall\*
- Cementitious backer units (CBU)

\* Follow membrane manufacturer's recommendations for installing over drywall.

*Uncoupling Membrane Manufacturers may list additional substrates, such as gypsum underlayment and oriented strand board (OSB), as suitable for its uncoupling membranes. However, H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc. ("HBF-CP") does not recommend them. As such the HBF-CP warranty for TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar does not apply to these substrates.*

### Surface Preparation

All substrates must be dry, structurally sound, in conformance with applicable building codes when subjected to live and dead loads and free from oil, grease, dust, paint, sealers or concrete curing compounds. All contaminants should be removed prior to installation of tile. Surface protrusions and tile glazes shall be removed by sanding, scraping or scarifying. After preparation, remove all dust by vacuuming.

**Note:** Follow ANSI A108.01 Section 3.7 Requirements for Expansion Joints.

### Storage

Store in cool, dry location. Do not store open containers.

### Shelf Life

Maximum of 1 year from date of manufacture in unopened package.

### Limitations

- Not for installing green marble, other moisture-sensitive stone tile or resin-backed marble; use TEC® AccuColor EFX® Epoxy Grout and Mortar.
- For non-green marble tile applications, use white TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar.
- Not for use with glass tile unless used with additive.
- Not for use over rubber, strip wood floors, oriented strand board, masonite, particle board, lauan or CDX plywood or similar unstable substrates.
- Do not apply directly over approved plywood subfloors, waterproofing or crack isolation membranes unless the mortar has been mixed with additive.
- Do not use where hydrostatic pressure can occur.
- Follow TCNA specifications surface preparation and tile installation.
- Mortar should not be applied when the temperature of the area and substrate to be tiled is below 50°F (10°C), as this delays the curing process.
- Certain natural stone tiles may be affected by mortar shadowing or staining. Test a small area prior to use to determine suitability.

### Cautions

Read complete cautionary information printed on product container prior to use. For medical emergency information, call 1-888-853-1758.

This Product Data Sheet has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the time of publication. It is intended to provide users with information about and guidelines for the proper use and application of the covered TEC® brand product(s) under normal environmental and working conditions. Because each project is different, H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc. cannot be responsible for the consequences of variations in such conditions, or for unforeseen conditions.

## 4. TECHNICAL DATA

### Physical Properties

TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar (337/338)	
Description	
Physical State	Dry powder
Color	Available in white and gray
Pot Life	2 to 3 hours
Initial Cure [at 72°F (22°C)]	16 to 24 hours
Final Cure	21 days
Storage	Store in cool, dry location. Do not store in open containers.
Shelf Life	Maximum 1 year from date of manufacture in properly stored, unopened package.

**Applicable Standard**

Exceeds ANSI A118.4 specifications  
ISO 13007: Classification C2

TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar (337/338)					
ANSI Standard	Test	Section	Test Duration/Conditions	ANSI Specification	Typical Results
A118.1	Open Time	5.3.6	20 minute	75 psi (0.5 MPa) at 20 minutes	200
	Glazed Wall Tile Shear Strength	7.1.2	7 day	>200 psi (1.38 MPa)	340
	Porcelain Mosaic Tile Shear Strength	7.2.5	28 day	>150 psi (1.03 MPa)	265

Greater than: >    Greater than or equal to: ≥    Less than: <    Less than or equal to: ≤

**5. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS****Mixing**

For best results, maintain all tiling materials, substrates, room and adhesives at 50°-70°F (10-21°C) for 24 hours before and 48 hours after installation. Thoroughly mix 50 lbs. (22.68 kg) TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar with 5 to 6 quarts (4.7 to 5.7 L) clean, cool water. Where needed, mix TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar with TEC® Acrylbond® AMA additive in place of water. Add powder to liquid for ease of mixing. Mix material to a thick creamy consistency, then allow the mortar to stand for 10 minutes. Remix and apply. Avoid breathing dust and contact with eyes and skin. Avoid using high speed mixing, not to exceed 300 rpm, to prevent entraining air.

**Uncoupling Membrane Installation Instructions**

**IMPORTANT:** Installation shall be in accordance with the most recently published manufacturers literature and applicable industry standards. Read information completely prior to installation. Contact the manufacturer with any questions regarding construction of the tile assembly. Follow applicable TCNA and ANSI industry standard guidelines.

**Uncoupling Membrane Installation:** Apply a skim coat of mortar using flat side of trowel to promote better substrate contact. Apply additional mortar with a ¼" x ⅜" (6 x 4.7 mm) or ⅝" x ⅝" (8 x 8 mm) V-notched trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Spread only an area that the Uncoupling Membrane can be installed while surface is still tacky (typically 20-30 minutes). If any evidence of skinning or setting occurs, remove and replace with fresh mortar. Apply Uncoupling Membrane to the mortar fleece side down. Work Uncoupling Membrane into the mortar using the flat side of the trowel, float or roller to embed the mortar into the fleece throughout the entire surface. Periodically lift up a corner of the membrane to assure proper coverage of the fleece.

**Waterproofing Membrane Installation\*:** Apply a skim coat of mortar using flat side of trowel to promote better substrate contact. Apply additional mortar with a ¼" x ⅜" (6 x 4.7 mm) V-notched trowel or ⅛" x ⅛" (3 x 3 mm) square-notched trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Spread only an area that the Waterproofing Membrane can be installed while surface is still tacky (typically 20-30 minutes). If any evidence of skinning or setting occurs, remove and replace with fresh mortar. Apply Waterproofing Membrane to the mortar. Work Waterproofing Membrane into the mortar using the flat side of the trowel to ensure proper adhesion and remove air pockets. Periodically lift up a corner of the membrane to assure proper coverage of the fleece.

\*For membranes that require ANSI A118.4 mortar, mix with TEC® Acrylbond® AMA.

**Tile Installation**

Over Uncoupling Membrane, apply a coat of TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar with the flat edge of the trowel to completely fill the cavities on the surface of the membrane and achieve a mechanical bond to the membrane. Over Waterproofing Membrane, apply a coat of TEC® Uncoupling Membrane Mortar with flat edge of trowel to fully engage the fleece and achieve a mechanical bond to the membrane. Comb additional mortar over the surface using a trowel that is appropriate for the size of the tile. Apply additional mortar with an appropriate square-notched or U-notched trowel held at a 45° angle to the surface, combing in one direction. Press tiles into setting bed, then push in a direction perpendicular to the notched trowel ridges to achieve optimum coverage. Apply mortar to an area no greater than to which tile can be installed in 15-20 minutes.

If any evidence of skinning or setting occurs, remove and replace with fresh mortar. It may be necessary to "back-butter" large tiles to achieve complete coverage and firm support. Periodically remove and check a tile to assure proper coverage. Keep a minimum of ⅓ of the joint depth between tiles for grouting. No traffic is permitted over the tiles prior to grouting. Material in bucket will remain workable approximately 2 to 3 hours.

**Clean-up**

Clean tools, hands, and excess materials from face of tile, while mortar is still fresh, with warm soapy water. Do not allow material to dry on surface of tile.

**Curing/Protection**

Grouting may be accomplished when tiles are held firmly in place, typically 12 to 16 hours after installation is completed. No traffic is permitted over the tiles prior to grouting. Cold temperatures or high humidity may extend curing time. Unglazed tiles may require sealing prior to grouting so discolorations will not occur. The use of TEC® brand grouts is highly recommended.

**6. AVAILABILITY**

TEC® Premium Tile and Stone Installation Products are available nationwide. To locate TEC® products in your area, please contact:

Phone: 800-832-9002

Website: [tecspecialty.com](http://tecspecialty.com)

**7. LIMITED WARRANTY**

The product(s) covered by this Product Data Sheet are sold subject to a Limited Warranty and related terms. H.B. Fuller Construction Products disclaims the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose and all incidental and consequential damages arising out of the sale, purchase or use of this product. For Limited Warranty details visit [tecspecialty.com](http://tecspecialty.com). To obtain a hard copy of the Limited Warranty call H.B. Fuller Construction Products at 800-832-9023 or mail a written request to the address in Section 2 of this Product Data Sheet.

**8. MAINTENANCE**

Not applicable

**9. TECHNICAL SERVICES****Technical assistance**

Information is available by calling the Technical Support Hotline.

Toll Free: 800-832-9023

Fax: 630-952-1235

**Technical and safety literature**

To acquire technical and safety literature, please visit our website at [tecspecialty.com](http://tecspecialty.com).

**10. FILING SYSTEM**

Division 9



[tecspecialty.com](http://tecspecialty.com)

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