



Recommendation for the Installation of Ceramic Tile over Painted Surfaces

DATE

March 2022

RECOMMENDATION

This recommendation is for interior installation over latex based paint only. If in doubt to the type of paint used, remove the paint or install a suitable underlayment over the existing substrate. For installing tile over well bonded epoxy coatings see the product data sheet for TEC® Multipurpose Primer.

Preparation of the surface

The substrate must be an acceptable substrate for a ceramic tile installation. E.g.: Concrete for floors, Gypsum board, concrete, or masonry for walls. Do not install ceramic tile over painted plywood.

Sand or scarify the painted surface to remove any loose paint exposing the substrate and roughing up the paint that is not loose. The remaining paint should be well bonded. (If the substrate is gypsum board, be careful to not sand through the paper facing). Remove dust/debris by vacuuming and a damp cloth. Allow to dry thoroughly.

The following TEC brand products can be used to install the ceramic tile or stone*:

Floor/wall application	For wall applications (Allow for extended set times due to the paint slowing down the dry time.)
3N1® Performance Mortar	Double Duty™ Plus
Super Flex™	Double Duty™
Quik Flex®	

* For additional information on tiling over paint and other surfacing materials, refer to Tile Council of North America Installation method TR711.

Discussion

Installation of ceramic tile and stone over painted surfaces is a challenging installation because the installation relies on the bond strength of the paint to the substrate.

Painted surfaces are commonly encountered in remodeling projects. The products recommended will bond to latex paint, but the paint bond is the most important. If multiple layers of paint are present or the paint is oil based, complete removal of the paint is recommended. Chemical strippers should not be used to remove the paint. Mechanical removal is recommended.

Questions?

Call the Technical Support Hotline at 1-800-832-9023.

This Technical Bulletin 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.

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H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc. | 1105 South Frontenac Street Aurora, IL 60504-6451