

# VitrA Fix RUSTIK 3-20



Special purpose, high performance, flexible, joint filler

## DESCRIPTION

It is a cement-based, natural-looking and coarse-grained rustic joint filling material that does not collapse and crack. It is used in 3-20 mm joint widths of smooth or random sized coating materials such as natural stone, marble, travertine, large-sized bricks, terracotta tiles, anthracite ceramics and tiles. Provides easy and fast application.

## AREAS OF USE

It is used indoors and outdoors, on terraces and balconies, on floors under heavy traffic, on chemically cleaned floors and in horizontal and vertical joint applications of randomly sized natural stone coating materials.

## FEATURES

Material structure : High quality cement, coarse filler and water repellent agents.

Type : Powder  
 Color : Grey  
 Density : 1.55 ± 0.05 gr/cm<sup>3</sup>

## TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE\*

Water absorption (after 30 minutes) : ≤ 2 gr  
 Water absorption (after 240 minutes) : ≤ 5 gr  
 Moisture resistance : good  
 Alkali resistance : good  
 Temperature resistance : -30 °C - +70 °C  
 Bending strength : ≥ 2.5 MPa (N/mm<sup>2</sup>)  
 Flexural strength (freeze-thaw) : ≥ 2.5 MPa (N/mm<sup>2</sup>)  
 Compression strength : ≥ 15 MPa (N/mm<sup>2</sup>)  
 Compression strength (freeze-thaw) : ≥ 15 MPa (N/mm<sup>2</sup>)  
 Abrasion resistance : ≤ 1000 mm<sup>3</sup>  
 Shrinkage value : ≤ 3 mm/m

\*These values are obtained as a result of laboratory tests and are the performance values of the finished applications after 28 days. Values may vary due to differences in the construction site environment.

## REFERENCE STANDARD

- TS EN 13888 / CG2, WA class
- G

## CONSUMPTION

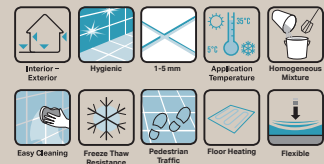
Approximate consumption (kg/m<sup>2</sup>) may vary depending on the application surface, tile size and comb size used.

According to Joint Width  
 Approximate Consumption (gr/m<sup>2</sup>)

Tile Dimensions (cm)	Tile Thickness(mm)	5 mm	10 mm	15 mm	20 mm
10x10 cm	6	1000	2050	3070	4090
20x20 cm	8	700	1400	2050	2750
30x30 cm	8	460	910	1370	1820
30x60 cm	8	340	680	1020	1370
45x45 cm	8	300	600	910	1210
60x60 cm	9	260	510	770	1020
60x120 cm	9	190	380	580	770

\*Sample consumption.

- Ideal for natural stone paving applications such as garden interiors and walkways,
- Non-cracking and non-collapsing formula,
- Wear resistance and high performance,
- High performance against contamination,
- It is grey in color and easy to apply.



# VitrA Fix RUSTIK 3-20

## PACKAGING

In 20 kg kraft bags (60 pieces per pallet / 1200 kg)

## STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

- For storage, care should be taken to place a maximum of 10 kraft bags on top of each other.
- Product storage conditions must be complied with and products must not be stored in damp and waterlogged warehouses.
- Shelf life is 1 year provided that the packages are kept in closed and moisture-free environments. Production date and charge number are indicated on the packaging.
- Packages should be tightly closed when not in use.

## APPLICATION FEATURES

Mixing ratio	: 3.6-4 liters of water per 20 kg bag
Mixture handling (working) time	: 1 hour
Application temperature	: +5 °C - +35 °C
Recommended joint width	: Rustic 3-20 mm
Grouting time	: also specified in the type of adhesive used

Opening time for pedestrian traffic : 24 hours (light pedestrian traffic)

## SURFACE PREPARATION

- The depth between the joints should be at least 2/3 of the ceramic thickness.
- Application surfaces should be free from dust, dirt, oil, etc., should be smooth and solid, and should not be too dry or sweating.
- Joint filler should not be applied before the adhesive completes the recommended curing time.
- On unglazed or highly absorbent surfaces, the joint gaps should be wetted with a damp sponge before grouting.
- Before application on surfaces exposed to direct sunlight and overheated surfaces, the surface temperature should be reduced by moistening the surface with water sprinkling method.

## APPLICATION

- Slowly add 20 kg of **VitrA Fix RUSTIK 3-20** to 3.6-4.4 liters (18-22%) of clean water and mix until the mixture is lump-free and homogeneous.
- It is recommended to use a low speed mixer for a lump-free and homogeneous mixture.
- The mixture should have a consistency that will not flow when troweled.
- Allow the mixture to rest for 5 minutes before application and apply after mixing again.
- Do not add too much water to the mixture to make the product flowable.
- The prepared joint filling material should be filled into the joint gaps thoroughly with a rubber spatula or hard rubber-based joint trowel.
- The mortar spread on the surface is filled into the joint gaps diagonally (at an angle of 45 degrees) so that it is diagonal to the joint gaps. Remove excess grout from the surface. If the filling process is performed parallel to the joint gaps, separation of the joint filling material from the surface or deterioration and roughening of the surface may be observed.
- Whichever direction the joint filling process is started, the application should be continued in that direction until the filling process is finished. During the joint filling process with a trowel, work in one direction.
- To achieve a smooth, aesthetic appearance: Fill the joint filler abundantly so that it overflows into the joint gaps and wait a few minutes for the surfaces to absorb the material. The material overflowing between the joints should be shaved. To obtain a smooth appearance, the surface should be smoothed by going over the joints with a joint pen. After the joint material has dried (24 hours), the joint surfaces should be cleaned with a stiff brush.
- To achieve a grainy appearance: Fill the joint filler material diagonally between the joints with a rubber scraper (gelber) and wait for a few minutes for the surfaces to absorb the material. The overflowing material between the joints should be shaved and the surface of the coating should be wiped with a damp sponge.
- The time to clean the joint filling material from the surface is the moment when the joint filling material starts to dry and its surface starts to become dull. This time may vary depending on the ambient conditions, it is normally 10-15 minutes under normal conditions, and it may shorten in hot environments and

lengthen at low temperatures. To find the appropriate time, touch the joint material residue on the tile with a finger, if the material is very lightly dusted on the finger, it means that it has dried sufficiently for cleaning.

- The residues on the surface are cleaned with diagonal (45 degree angle) movements using a damp sponge. Clean water should be used to moisten the sponge, while the cleaning water for the soiled sponge should be kept separate.
- If a watery sponge is used for cleaning, excess water in the environment will remain on the surface of the applied joint sealant material and cause undesirable strength losses, chalking (blending, color fluctuations), point holes or collapses in the final product.
- Final cleaning is carried out one day later at the latest, when the material has dried. The tiles are cleaned with a dry and clean cloth. The cleaning cloth is applied in a circular motion to remove any excess grouting material remaining on the tile. During the cleaning process, the joint filler material applied should not be deformed.
- If there are still joint stains on the surface after the last cleaning, mortar residues on the coating surface can be cleaned with **VitrA Fix NET** at least 10 days after the application. **VitrA Fix NET** can only be used on acid-resistant tiles (for details, please see the technical product page about **VitrA Fix NET**).
- If the joint is cleaned from the surface early or late, color fluctuations, deformations and scratches may occur on the surface.
- In very hot, dry or windy weather, it is recommended to wet the surface a few hours after joint application. This will increase the ultimate strength of the joint material.

## PRECAUTIONS

- If hardening or petrification is detected after opening the bags, the product should not be used.
- Do not add more or less water to the mixture than the amount of water indicated on the bag. Excess water to be added to the mixture will show itself in the final product as low strength, chalking and point holes.
- After the mortar is prepared with the appropriate amount of water, excess water or powder should not be added to the mixture.
- In pool applications, a minimum of 7 days should be waited for the joint material to gain sufficient strength and the pool should be taken into use after this period.
- The waiting time of **VitrA Fix RUSTIK 3-20** in the container is 1 hour and the waiting time for the first cleaning stage after application is 10-15 minutes. However, under unfavorable ambient conditions (high temperature, dry air and strong wind) or on surfaces with high absorbency, these times are shortened, depending on the severity of the conditions, this time may be reduced to a few minutes. For this reason, a wetness test should be performed by touching the joint surface with a finger in case of premature drying and film formation. When the mortar does not get on the fingers, proceed to the cleaning stage. Under low temperature and high humidity conditions, the drying time may be longer.
- Joint filler should be applied at least 3 mm thick. In thinner applications, the joint filler material will be easily scraped as its strength will be weak.
- Considering the thermal stress and mechanical loads that may occur on the floors; in areas where inter-seasonal temperature changes occur, depending on the heat-bearing systems and insulation applications, in applications to be made in large areas, depending on the load and pedestrian traffic on the ground, necessary expansion joints should be left on the ground, suitable expansion profiles or joint sealants (PU, MS Polymer, silicone etc. based) should be used for these joints. Cement based products should never be used as expansion joints.
- - The use of general cleaning materials such as bleach, lime remover, etc. may cause damage to colored joint sealants. Joint fillers should be cleaned with **VitrA Fix GROUT CLEANER** product.

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Avoid contact with skin and eyes as it contains cement. Contact areas should be washed with plenty of water.
- It is recommended to use rubber gloves during product application.
- The product should not be inhaled directly. Dust mask should be used when necessary.
- Please read the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for more detailed safety information.

**Note:** Technical values and application instructions are the results of our experience and tests carried out in accordance with international standards, valid at ambient conditions of 23 °C and 50% relative humidity.