

## **Flex-Guard FAQs**

### **When do I need to use Flex-Guard?**

- Flex-Guard should be used if there are any existing cracks, expansion joints, saw cuts joints or construction joints in the substrate or as an anti-fracture system to prevent any future cracks that may occur under the tile or stone.
- When you want quieter floors on upper level flooring, Flex-Guard has STC 71 and a rating IIC 71 with drop ceiling with 6" concrete substrate. 53 STC with wood substrate with porcelain tile.

### **Is Flex-Guard suitable for commercial installations?**

**Yes.** Flex-Guard has an ASTM C 627 Extra Heavy Service commercial rating from the Tile Council of North America. Flex-Guard meets ANSI A118.12 standards.

### **How thick is Flex-Guard?**

25 mil (+/- 5 mil).

### **Can I use Flex-Guard outside?**

Yes. Flex-Guard was developed as an exterior material that can also be used for interior applications.

### **How much horizontal substrate movement can Flex-Guard isolate?**

Flex-Guard not only isolates up to 3/8" substrate with full coverage and 1/4" when Flex-Guard is installed 2 times the width of the tile.

### **What is the minimum width I must use?**

Flex-Guard requires a minimum width of 2 times the width of the largest single tile being installed.

### **Does Flex-Guard require a primer?**

No, just a clean, dry, sound surface.

### **If I am using more than one roll, do I butt the edges or overlap them?**

Just butt the edges together.

### **Is Flex-Guard a waterproof membrane?**

No, it is not a waterproof membrane. It will "breathe."

**For on-grade and below-grade installations, how much hydrostatic pressure can Flex-Guard handle?**

The adhesive in the membrane is waterproof, so it is not affected by hydrostatic pressure. It is not a waterproof membrane so it will dissipate the moisture.

**What are the limitations for moisture content in the slabs?**

The same as thin set. The slab should be dry when it is applied.

**What type of thin set mortar should I use to install the tile?**

Latex modified thin set, meeting ANSI A118.4 or ANSI A118.11 specifications.

**How soon can I set tile after installing Flex-Guard?**

Immediately. Just peel and stick and set the tile. Since no priming is required, there's no drying time.

**Can Flex-Guard sound qualities be used under hardwood floors?**

Yes. With 1/2" Hardwood floor with a gypsum lightweight substrate combined with wood floor and ceiling assembly: IIC 56, with tile STC 54.

**I am setting hardwood on Flex-Guard. Should I use solvent or water based adhesive?**

Water based is best for engineered wood floors or 100% solids. The vapors and solvents in a solvent based adhesive may soften Flex-Guard's rubber based adhesive.

**Is Flex-Guard a "green" product?**

Flex-Guard is free from toxic and hazardous chemicals, OSHA listed carcinogens, PVC, asphalt, petroleum and other harmful, toxic outgassing materials.

**What are the caulk joint recommendations when bridging saw cut joints?**

Use of a urethane sealant is recommended.

**What procedures do I follow for going over gypsum floors?**

Over gypsum, prime the floor with the primer recommended by the gypsum company. Flex-Guard can be applied over the primer.