



DESCRIPTION – a light brown solid setting water based adhesive with high initial grab suitable for bonding all natural backed cork tiles to sub-surfaces that have good porosity.

Type – 'Cork-A-Bond' is based on sulphite (ligna sulphate) which is an organic by-product of the leather tanning industry.

For use with – cork tiles for floors or walls that have a natural cork back

Sub-floors – must be sound, level and completely dry i.e. less than 75% R.H. Concrete must be checked for damp before laying, with a moisture meter specifically designed for testing concrete. Uneven floors must be levelled with latex or water mix self-levelling compound. Do **not** use **Acrylic** levelling compounds as these do **not** have sufficient porosity for Cork-A-Bond and need extended open times to work.

On suspended floors Cork-A-Bond is ideal with overlay of plywood, MDF, hardboard, chipboard etc. Always check a small area first for satisfactory bonding.

If applying levelling screed over a non-porous surface it must be with a minimum of 3mm thickness to absorb the adhesives moisture.

Priming – Do **not** prime sub-floors as Cork-A-Bond is low viscosity and must have sufficient porosity to absorb some of the water content.

Conformity – Conforms to and exceeds performance tests agreed by British Adhesives and Sealants Association and Cork Industries Federation in 1988. Tests include bond strength, shear strength and movement tests.

Health & Safety Advice – Full data sheet available on request. Waterbased, No Voc's detectable, basically organic. Weak odour. Non-flammable. No special storage requirements except frost-free. Contains fungicide. Do not swallow.

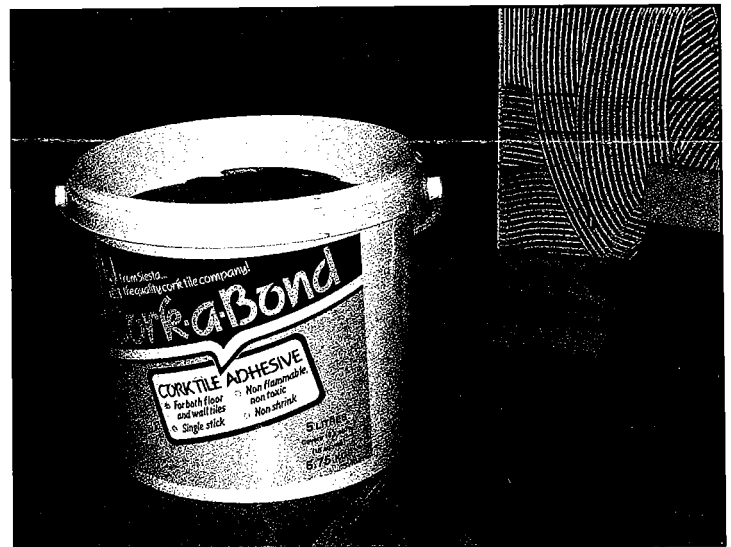
Generally – All floorings are to be laid in accordance with BS 8203 and best practice. 'Cork-A-Bond' **cannot** be used with any tiles that have a **non-porous** back eg. 'Corkmaster' Series 2000.

Notched Spreader – Size of V-notches – 2.5mm at 5mm c/s for average conditions, reduce size accordingly if sub-floor has reduced porosity.

Cleaning – use damp cloth immediately. Cork-A-Bond in wrong places can be completely removed with water.

TECHNICAL PROPERTIES

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| SPECIFIC GRAVITY | – | 1.35KG/LITRE |
| VISCOSITY | – | low paste, not liquid |
| COVERAGE | – | 2m² – 2.5m² per litre |
| OPEN TIME | – | 15 mins average |
| STORAGE | – | cool place, frost free |
| CLEANING/REMOVAL | – | soluble in water |
| SHELF LIFE | – | Up to 2 years in sealed container |
| COLOUR | – | light brown |
| TUB SIZES | – | 1lt, 3lts, 5lts & 15lts |



Working conditions – It is essential that Cork-A-Bond is stored and used at minimum temperature of 65 C so it needs to be stored beforehand accordingly. Cork tiles must also be at room temperature before laying. Both products may need 48 hours conditioning. If either product is cold, laying will be difficult with extended setting time and cork tiles may distort.

Underfloor Heating – This adhesive is very good with heating systems. Leave heating off for 48 hours **before** and **after** laying tiles. However, you will need to discuss cork tiles with manufacturer of underfloor heating system as some of them are in fact only suitable with ceramic tiles, and floating floor systems.



APPLICATION & USE

1. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for using cork tiles, particularly that part relating to conditioning before laying. If fixing to walls, remember that some types of plaster can take over 3 months to dry out, depending on thickness applied. Cork tiles and Cork-A-Bond must be stored and fixed in warm dry conditions.
2. Surfaces to be bonded must be free from dust, oil, grease and be clean, dry and smooth. For normal surfaces use spreader with V notch size 2.5mm deep at 5mm centres to apply adhesive to surface. Apply adhesive to an area of about 1/2m² at a time and bed tiles in immediately. Cork-A-Bond is **only** applied to sub-floor.
3. For best results the tiles should be pressed firmly into wet adhesive and tiles pushed tightly together. After about 30mins. area should be rolled with 60g roller and rolled again about 1½ hrs later. 'Cork-A-Bond' having a high initial tack will hold tiles in position. Tiles must be bonded whilst adhesive is still wet. Open time varies depending on humidity etc. but average is about 10 to 15 minutes. If adhesive starts to dry it must be scraped off wall or floor while still soft, and new adhesive applied.
4. If adhesive is not setting quick enough or cork tiles are distorting, it could be 1) atmosphere too cold 2) cork and /or adhesive too cold 3) sub-surface is not sufficiently porous 4) subfloor not completely dry due to residual moisture eg after a flood, or a thick new screed; or faulty Damp Proof Membrane. Remove tiles, scrape off adhesive and reconsider the situation. It may be possible to continue laying tiles if more open time is allowed before laying tiles into adhesive. This will enable some of the Cork-A-Bond's water content to evaporate, but try a small test area first.
5. Whilst we do not recommend using 'Cork-A-Bond' on non-porous surfaces it may be possible to fix cork tiles if area is first covered with a **neat** coat of Unibond (PVA) which is allowed to dry completely, then apply 'Cork-A-Bond' but allow it to lose some of its water content before bedding tiles in. This will need careful appraisal with a test area first. This applies to walls and floor areas.
6. As this is a paste adhesive and is laid into wet, when kneeling or walking on just laid part of floor, it is important to use a sheet of plywood to avoid point-loads of knees or feet compressing the adhesive under the tiles. Once laid into, adhesive sets slowly and is hard enough for light traffic after about 12 hours.
7. Before sealing the cork tiles, the adhesive must be allowed to dry out and we advise leaving at least 24 hours before applying any sealer. In some cases, e.g. non-porous surfaces, longer may be needed.
8. **BATHROOMS AND KITCHENS.** Since this adhesive does not permit cork tile shrinkage it is ideal. We suggest as follows:-
 - a) Unsealed cork – the sealer used completely seals the tile joins.
 - b) On acrylic sealed tiles, give floor area a finishing coat of cork floor sealant which seals tile joins against water penetration.
 - c) On waxed finish cork tiles apply coat of paste wax floor polish.
 - d) If cork wall tiles are used on the wall immediately around the bath, basin etc. and are therefore likely to get wet, seal tiles thoroughly with Polyurethane sealant after fixing. If cork wall tiles are used in areas likely to get splashed a) use a solvent based contact adhesive b) seal with a suitable matt varnish to protect tiles.
9. Excess adhesive should be removed immediately whilst still wet, using a damp cloth.
10. When dry, 'CORK-A-BOND' has a very similar colour to cork, but if on front of tiles remove with hot water on damp rag.