



Date: June 5, 2026

Project: Classic Pool Tile Testing in Sportswood, NJ

JSR#: 135914

CCs: Category Manager(s) (various departments); Technical Field Representative(s); ARDEX Sales Professional Tom Quackenbush (908-307-1351); Local ARDEX Sales Team U21

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Total of 4 pages

REPORTED JOBSITE CONDITIONS

Substrate(s): Exterior concrete

Conditions:

We have been asked to comment on the suitable materials for installing the following Classic Tile porcelain, ceramic, glass, and non-resinous stone in both chlorinated and saltwater pools:

- Porcelain / Ceramic- CT 1534 Black, CT 1593 Blue, CT MY 310N Blue, CT 148 Terra Blue, CT ILD 1283 Bead Aqua, CT BUE 44 Light Blue
- Glass- CT GLC 376 Silver, CT GL 5092 Blue Blend, CT GLC 175 Aqua, CT GL 109 Powder Blue, CT GL 1292 Cobalt, CT GL Blue Blend
- Non-Resinous- CT IS 630-6 Grecian Beige, CT IS Malaga Black

RECOMMENDATION

Technical Data Sheets and Updates

Product technical data sheets can be found at www.ardexamericas.com/products.

Prior to proceeding with the installation of any ARDEX product, please read the respective technical data sheets and any relevant technical updates found [here](#). The information herein is intended to accompany, not stand separately from, published technical documentation for each recommended product.



Classic Pool Tile Testing

Products

ARDEX X 77™ MICROTEC® Fiber Reinforced Tile and Stone Mortar

ARDEX X 90 OUTDOOR™ MicroteC3 Rapid-Set, Flexible Tile and Stone Mortar

ARDEX X 32™ MICROTEC® Universal Rapid Setting and Drying Thin-to-Thick Bed Mortar

ARDEX WA™ High-Performance, 100% Solids Epoxy Grout and Adhesive

ARDEX SX™ 100% Silicone Sealant for Tile and Stone Applications

ARDEX FL™ Rapid Set, Flexible, Sanded Grout

ARDEX 100% Solids Epoxy Adhesive

Tile Installation Standards

[ANSI A 108](#)

[TCNA EJ 171](#)

Regarding Waterproofing

Adhesives for tile and stone are not replacements for waterproofing membranes. For cases requiring waterproofing, please contact ARDEX for a site-specific warranty for your project.

Consideration: Sanded Materials

When mixing sanded materials, ARDEX recommends using the ARDEX DUSTFREE™ or a standard “gutter hook” vacuum attachment in combination with a wet/dry (Shop-Vac® style) vacuum and HEPA dust extraction vacuum system. Additionally, each bag should be handled with care and emptied slowly to avoid creating a plume of dust. Contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for more details on ARDEX products and air quality management.

Application

Substrate Preparation (Proper Prep™)

1. Ensure that the substrate is clean, to include the mechanical removal of any loose or weak material, dirt, debris, adhesives and any contaminants that could act as a bond breaker. Do not use solvents or other chemicals to prepare the substrate.
2. The concrete must be prepared to the point of absorbency (test for absorbency in accordance with ASTM F3191). Any additional preparation needed to achieve this must likewise be mechanical.



Classic Pool Tile Testing

Installation in Chlorinated Pools

Submerged Porcelain / Ceramic Tile and Installations of Non-Resinous Stone That are Not Aesthetically Critical: ARDEX X 77 / ARDEX X 90 / ARDEX X 32

1. Install submerged porcelain / ceramic / glass tile non-resinous stone with ARDEX X 77, ARDEX X 90, or ARDEX X 32 in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108 (see links for installation standards above). Please note that the mortar thickness must not exceed 3/8" over membranes. Note that all installations must include soft joints in accordance with ANSI A 108.01-3.7 and TCNA EJ 171.
2. Allow the tiles to set as follows (70°F) prior to proceeding with the next installation step:
 - a. ARDEX X 77:
 - i. Floors – 24 hours
 - ii. Walls – 8 hours
 - b. ARDEX X 90: 2 hours
 - c. ARDEX X 32: 3 hours
3. Honor joints as needed using ARDEX SX in accordance with the technical data sheet.
4. Grout with ARDEX FL in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.10 (see links for installation standards above).

Aesthetically Critical Non-Resinous Stone Installations: ARDEX X 32

1. Install non-resinous stone with ARDEX X 32 in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108 (see links for installation standards above). Please note that the mortar thickness must not exceed 3/8" over membranes. Note that all installations must include soft joints in accordance with ANSI A 108.01-3.7 and TCNA EJ 171.
2. Allow the tiles to set 3 hours (70°F) prior to proceeding with the next installation step.
3. Honor joints as needed using ARDEX SX in accordance with the technical data sheet.
4. Grout with ARDEX WA / FL in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.10 (see links for installation standards above).

Submerged Glass Tile Installation: ARDEX 100% Solids Epoxy Adhesive

1. Install submerged glass tile with ARDEX 100% Solids Epoxy Adhesive in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108 (see links for installation standards above). Please note that the mortar thickness must not exceed 3/8" over membranes. Note that all installations must include soft joints in accordance with ANSI A 108.01-3.7 and TCNA EJ 171.
2. Allow the tiles to set 12 hours (70°F) prior to proceeding with the next installation step.



Classic Pool Tile Testing

3. Honor joints as needed using ARDEX SX in accordance with the technical data sheet.
4. Grout with ARDEX WA or ARDEX FL in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.10 (see links for installation standards above).

Installation in Saltwater Pools: ARDEX 100% Solids Epoxy Adhesive

1. Install submerged porcelain / ceramic / glass tile and non-resinous stone with ARDEX 100% Solids Epoxy Adhesive in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.5 (see links for installation standards above). Please note that the mortar thickness must not exceed 3/8" over waterproofing membranes. Note that all installations must include soft joints in accordance with ANSI A 108.01-3.7 and TCNA EJ 171.
2. Allow the tiles to set 12 hours (70°F) prior to proceeding with the next installation step.
3. Honor joints as needed using ARDEX SX in accordance with the technical data sheet.
4. Grout with ARDEX WA in accordance with the technical data sheet and ANSI A 108.6 (see links for installation standards above).

Test Areas

As always, please be advised that prior to installing any ARDEX product, we recommend installing an adequate number of properly located test areas, to include the selected floor finishes, to determine the suitability and aesthetic value of the products for their intended use.

WARRANTY

ARDEX SYSTEMONE™ TILE AND STONE WARRANTY: When installed in accordance with our written recommendations, the above applications could qualify for an [ARDEX SystemOne™ Limited Tile and Stone Warranty](#). Click the link for more information online.

REPORT PREPARED BY

ARDEX ENGINEERED CEMENTS

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James Schultz".

James Schultz

Technical Communications Representative

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END OF REPORT