

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

## Tiling No.1 - Tiling of Swimming Pools

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Tiling of swimming pools is, in general, no different than tiling any other wall/floor. The following are guidelines for the recommended products and methods to be used. No attempt is made to cover topics of waterproofing, tanking or design of structural elements of swimming pools.

### PREPARATION & WATCH POINTS

The pool shell shall be designed and installed to be capable of meeting the watertightness criteria in BS8007:1987.

New concrete should be approximately 6 weeks old before tiling. If the pool shell is not suitable for direct tiling, the surface must be mechanically prepared to receive new screed/render and applied when the shell is at least 6 weeks old. This new screed/render should be at least 3 weeks old before tiling. It is important that these times are adhered to as much of the shrinkage of the structure will occur during this early period. Priming will not generally be required unless the surface is very porous or dusting.

The swimming pool should only be filled 3-4 weeks after grouting has been completed and filled at a rate of not more than 750mm rise in 24hrs.

For full information consult the Tile Association's paper 'Design and Construction Process for Swimming Pools'.

The information given in this technical sheet is based on both current development work and many years' field experience. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information is reliable we cannot accept responsibility for any work carried out with our materials where we have no direct control over methods of application, site conditions etc. Always read and familiarise yourself with the relevant product safety and technical datasheets before using any of our products.



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### FIXING METHOD & MATERIALS

Ensure the surface to be tiled is free of all contaminants including concrete release agents, curing compounds, laitance, etc., and there is a good mechanical key. Pressure washing or enclosed shot blasting may be required to remove contaminants.

If priming is required use **Larsen Acrylic Primer** as directed.

We recommend the use of **Professional Flexible Fast Set** or **Professional Flexible CTA** for the fixing of tiles in swimming pools in general. If there is a concern that the pool water will be such that it will be consistently aggressive to cement based materials, then contact our technical department regarding the use of a reaction resin adhesive.

The tiles should be positioned with a firm twisting action within 20 minutes of spreading the adhesive. There should be 100% adhesive coverage of the tile without the presence of voids, this should be regularly checked throughout fixing, minimum bed thickness 3mm.

It is normally advisable to use **Professional Epoxy Tile Grout** to provide the necessary resistance to aggressive pool water, cleaning chemicals and for ease of cleaning. However, if the pool water is hard or calcium levels are >200mg/l as calcium carbonate and sulphate is <300mg/l as SO<sub>3</sub>, then **Professional Stain Resistant Narrow Joint Grout** or **Stain Resistant Wide Joint Grout** may be used depending on joint width.

Consult product Technical Datasheets before use.

### MOVEMENT JOINTS

Proprietary movement joints should be used. Movement joints should be provided in accordance with BS 5385 Part 1:20 or BS 5385 Part 2:20 and their location should be decided at design stage. Either epoxy based sealants or unplasticised polysulphide sealants are suitable for use in swimming pools and surrounds.

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