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# ARDEX ST

## Neutral Cure and Non Staining Natural Stone Silicone

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Ideal for use with sensitive natural stone such as marble, sandstone and granite

Contains fungicides to combat mould growth

Flexible sealant for use in tile movement and connecting joints Easy to apply and smooth off, with low odour

UV and weather resistant

Water resistant - suitable for wet areas such as showers and underwater joints such as swimming pools

Use as a bond breaker with ARDEX waterproofing membranes Internal and external, wall and floor

Low VOC content - meets Green Building Council of Australia Green Star IEQ-13 requirements

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# ARDEX ST

## Neutral Cure and Non Staining Natural Stone Silicone

### DESCRIPTION

ARDEX ST is a unique, neutral curing silicone sealant with good adhesion properties yet is easy to apply and smooth. It is also characterised by its antifungal agents to combat mould growth and its non corrosive properties. Once cured it forms a permanently elastic, water resistant seal that is able to accommodate movement up to 20% of the original joint width. ARDEX ST is a superior performing neutral cure silicone for all sensitive natural stone applications. The unique formula is free of standard ingredients that are present in acetic and most neutral cure silicones, which can cause staining of natural stone.

The cured silicone is strong enough to be used on floor joints and stair treads from 12-15mm, and is resistant to all climatic influences such as UV, commonly used cleaners and disinfectants. Being neutral cure, ARDEX ST is also suitable for use with all ARDEX waterproofing membranes and can also be used in underwater joints such as in swimming pools.

### USE

ARDEX ST is ideal for applications such as movement joints (between tiles); corners (tiled wall and floor); connecting joints between tiled surface and bench tops, bath edges, cupboards and splashbacks. It is especially good where these applications involve sensitive natural stone due to the absence of ingredients that can cause discolouration. Ideal areas of application include bathrooms, showers and kitchens; doors, windows and fixtures; natural stone wall and floor tiling in living areas, balconies, patios and facades. Also suitable for use in joints that will be immersed, such as swimming pools.

### SUBSTRATES

ARDEX ST is ideal for moisture sensitive natural stone prone to staining, such as marble, gneiss, granite, sandstone and limestone. It can also be used on glazed and unglazed tiles, enamel, laminated kitchen benches, aluminium, concrete, glass, porcelain, waterproofing membranes, wood and sanitary acrylics.

### PREPARATION

Joints and surfaces must be firm, sound, dry, clean and free from grease, oil, dirt, soap and old paints. To achieve a neater finish and to avoid getting silicone on the tile or stone, mask joint edges with tape.

If the silicone is to be applied to copper or brass surfaces, ensure that air is able to circulate.

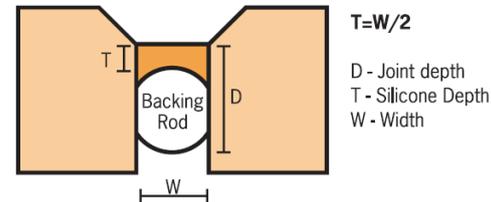
### JOINT DESIGN

Where possible, the silicone should be at a 2:1 ratio (width:depth). For internal joints the width and the depth of the joint should be minimum 5mm, and for external joints 10mm. Maximum joint width is 30mm and depth 15mm. For joints greater than 10mm deep a backing rod should be used. The silicone should only be fixed to two surfaces to allow movement. Hence on flat joints use a polyethylene tape or release agent to prevent a 3 side adhesion of the silicone.

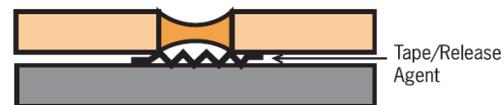
Please observe the following depth of silicone in regard to the width of the joint:

Width	Depth
5-10mm	as width min. 5mm
10mm	8-10mm
15mm	8-12mm
20mm	10-14mm
25mm	12-18mm

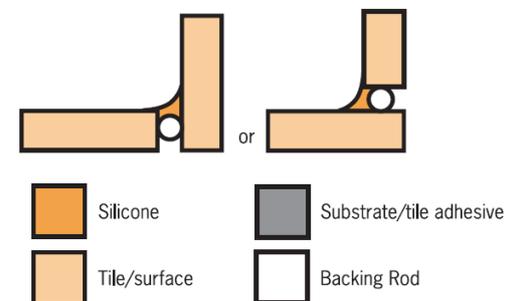
### Optimum Joint Design



### Flat Joint



### Floor to Wall Joint



### APPLICATION

Apply at temperatures between 5°C to 40°C. Trim end of nozzle to obtain the correct bead width and place cartridge in applicator gun. Apply sealant in a steady continuous bead ensuring good contact with both sides of the joint to achieve the required adhesion. Tool off with a silicone applicator to finish the joint smoothly before a skin forms, approximately 10 minutes. While the silicone is still wet, clean off any excess. If joint edges have been masked, remove tape whilst the sealant is still wet. It is possible to work in sections as ARDEX ST adheres excellently to already cured ARDEX ST silicone if it is dry and free from dust.

If the silicone has dried on the surface, clean with white spirit solvent to soften the silicone then scrape off with a blade.

### COVERAGE

Coverage will vary according to joint width and depth, as well as the type and method of application. The figures below can be used as a guide for flat joints.

Joint Size (mm) Width x depth	Linear Metres/ cartridge
5x5	12
10x10	3
20x10	1.5
30x15	0.7

### PACKAGING

ARDEX ST is packed in plastic cartridges – net volume 310mL.

### SHELF LIFE

ARDEX ST has a shelf life of 15 months when stored in the original, unopened packaging, in a dry place at 23°C and 50% relative humidity.

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### Pay attention to the following:

To maintain the antifungal agent, it is recommended to regularly clean the joint and surrounding surfaces with detergents and disinfectants. Dirt and soap that often remains on the joint is ideal grounds for mould growth.

ARDEX ST is the ideal silicone for use with natural stone; however natural stone is by name a natural product that can differ greatly by quarry and position within a quarry.

Bituminous, tar, oil or acrylic impregnated fillers should not be used.

ARDEX ST is water resistant; however rules of undertile waterproofing must still be maintained. Not suitable for painting over or load bearing construction.

Fresh spills can be removed with a thinner, after curing it is only possible by mechanical means if the substrate is suitable.

On painted surfaces and plastic substrates a trial application is recommended. In contact with bituminous substrates discolouration may occur.

ARDEX ST is not suitable for use with bitumen and tar due to discolouration or polyethylene, butyl, EPDM, rubber, neoprene and Teflon due to lack of adhesion.

### SAFETY DATA

Avoid contact with skin and eyes; in case of contact with the eyes, wash out immediately with fresh running water. If irritation continues, seek medical attention. Wear protective gloves, clothing, face and eye protection. Avoid inhaling dust/fumes/gas/mist/vapours/spray. Ensure adequate ventilation during mixing and application. Check with your local Council regarding the disposal of contents. Keep out of the reach of children. Call the Poisons Information Centre on 131 126 (AUS) and 0800 764 766 (NZ) or call a doctor if you feel unwell. Additional information is in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) at [www.ardexaustralia.com](http://www.ardexaustralia.com)

### TECHNICAL DATA

**Colours:** Travertine, Clear, Slate Grey, Alabaster, Sand Beige, Charred Ash, Misty Grey, Ultrawhite

**Form:** Coloured paste Silicone

**Raw Material:** neutral curing system

#### Application Properties at 23°C and 50% RH

**Joint Width:** Up to 30mm Wall  
Up to 15mm Floor

#### Skin Forming

**Time:** 10 – 12 minutes

**Curing Time:** Appro x 1mm/day,  
6mm/week

**Underfloor Heating:** Yes

**Application Temperature:** 5°C to 40°C

### GUARANTEE

ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd (“we” or “us”) guarantees this product (“our goods”) is free from manufacturing defects and will perform to any applicable specification published by us for 10 years from the date of purchase. Our liability under this guarantee is limited at our option to replacement of the product, repair of any damage to the immediate surface or area of application of the product, or compensation, in each case if we are satisfied loss or damage was due to a breach of this guarantee. This guarantee does not apply if damage or loss is due to failure to follow published instructions or any act or circumstance beyond our control, including shade variations and efflorescence. If you wish to make a claim under this guarantee you must notify us (ARDEX Australia Pty Ltd, 20 Powers Road Seven Hills NSW 2147; Toll Free: 1800 224 070; Email: [technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com](mailto:technicalservices@ardexaustralia.com)) and provide evidence of your purchase of the product within 30 days of any alleged loss or damage occurring. We reserve the right to ask you for satisfactory evidence of any alleged loss or damage. Any claim under this guarantee is at your cost. This guarantee is in addition to any rights or remedies you may have as a “consumer” under the Australian Consumer Law and to that extent you need to be aware that: “Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and for compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss of damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure”.

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