



## FIXING REQUIREMENTS FOR UTRATUFF MEMBRANE TO BATHROOM & INTERNAL WET AREAS

Last Updated 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2008

Page 1 of 2

- 1) "ULTRATUFF Coatings Ltd" requires compressed fibre cement sheet as an underlay over particle board & T&G substraights or CD H3-treated plywood as an alternative option (minimum 17.5mm thick). Other suitable water resistant board designed for use in wet areas may also be used as an underlay.
- 2) Shower floors: for a level access shower on a concrete floor, drop shower floor by 30mm. On a timber floor drop shower floor 50mm. alternatively install a concrete hob (usually available from waterproofer) approximately 65x65mm. The fall for the shower tray should be formed before waterproofing. The waterproofer or tiler is the best person to form shower floors. Normally done with sand cement and admix. You should leave to cure 5- 7 days depending on admix used. The alternative is to use a 24 hour full cure screed such as rapid 45 from Flooring Wholesale. Timber hobs are no longer acceptable as they sweat, swell & rot.
- 3) Wastes need to be set in the middle of the shower & packed up to allow for the thickness of the screed approx. 10mm (confirm with your waterproofer or tiler). The screed can then finish level with the flange of the waste. Englefield type wastes cause ponding/seepage problems as they won't let the water flow away from under tiles. Also they cannot be waterproofed properly in some applications. Recommend Allproof, Metal craft & McAlpine wastes only.
- 4) Baths (that are not checked in to walls because they have a ledge) should be out until box is waterproofed. It is not possible to waterproof the ledge at the back wall once bath is fitted. If bath is to be checked into wall you need to check out studs as well to insure that the tile won't hit curves in bath before it gets to the point it sits on bath. (Bath will need to be fitted & sealed as per manufacturer's specifications before waterproofing in this situation.) If your pencil will go through a gap around your bath so will any sealant. (Refer to our detailed drawings or gypsum book.)
- 5) Plastic shower trays should be fitted after waterproofing as waterproofing will not hold on shower tray. Solid nog around perimeter 150mm. If tray is in leave a 5mm gap between bottom of compressed sheet on wall & flat of shower tray for sealant work. Note wall sheet must overlap upturn on shower tray. Also leave 5mm gap where fibre cement sheet meets shower tray. Butt joint all other joints & lay sheets to minimise joints.
- 6) Door Frames, Skirting, Architraves, Vanities & Toilets to be left out until waterproofing is completed.
- 7) All waterproofing to finish with an upturn or downturn of no less than 100mm, 150mm is recommended
- 8) Note that T&G plywood still requires support under tongue. Ensure sheets are close butted with no gaps. Sand sheet joints to remove any differences in levels. Fill any gaps with construction grade epoxy filler.
- 9) Schedule us before the stopper; if stopper is in first base coat only to wall joints to be waterproofed but not corner joint of shower. This is a two day application over a 3 day period. There is a minimum of 48 hours after final coat is applied before areas can be tiled.
- 10) Recommended joist spacing for 18mm plywood is 400mm, with nogs up to 600mm. Maximum joist spacing recommended for 18mm plywood is 600mm joist, and nogs up to 400mm. Note if using T.N.G plywood joint still needs to be fixed & supported by joist. Glue and Screw fixing is recommended at 150mm centres to the perimeter of sheets and 200mm centres down the middle or closer as per suppliers instructions. Rib shank galvanized nails are acceptable when glue is also used. Ensure all screws/nails are countersunk just below the surface.
- 11) Underfloor heating when used must be installed on top of waterproofing, not underneath once waterproofing is fully cured.

For more detailed explanations or confirmation of requirements refer to your local plywood supplier's installation procedures, the building code & your local Territorial Authority. Extracts of the "Fixing Requirements for Ultratuff Membrane" have been taken from the BRANZ publication "Good membrane roofing practice", B.I.A web site proposed changes to building code & the building code. Additional information contained in these two pages is based on our experience & testing & represents the latest information available at the date of production. Contact Ultratuff coatings if further information or clarification is required.

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**Common Questions**

Page 2

*Can you waterproof up to skirting & Vanity?* No. Skirting & Vanity must be left off/out until waterproofing is completed.

*Will the membrane hide imperfections?* No. As it is gel coating it does not self-level and has a dry-film thickness of between 1-1.5mm.

*Can it be built up thicker to fix levelling problems?* No. For reasons above and also the system would need drying between the multiple layers required.

*When my shower is running there is water getting under the screen onto the floor.* This is a common problem if the wrong wairst is used or screen is fitted after tiling & no flashings or sealant work was done prior to tiling to contain any water running under tiles. Very hard to fix.

*My plumber says he has a better wairst.* Check with applicator first what might be good for him to fit may not be good to waterproof or drain water trapped under tiles properly.

*My Tiler has a membrane which can be applied in one coat & tiled the next day.* Most membranes are applied in two coats & although may be dry the next day are still curing. Check the product data sheet & make sure it is an approved system & the applicator is also approved with correct compliance papers.

*Can I tile it tomorrow?* Only if tomorrow is 48 hours after the final coat without rain. Cooler and/or more humid conditions may prolong dry times.

*Can you waterproof when bathroom fittings are already fitted.* No, not properly, unless we can waterproof up onto them at least 70mm (not a good look)

*Do you need to waterproof the whole floor?* Yes. It is very important to apply the waterproofing to entire floor area to ensure complete protection of the wet area. There are some exceptions e.g. ground floor concrete floors. However, water can track into/under walls & along saw cuts. So recommend these areas also be waterproofed particularly if a tiled walk in shower is required.

*Do you need to flood test bathroom or shower tray?* Yes. If practical this should be done by builder/ owner before tiling. Check for damage by other trades, e.g. cuts, pinholes etc in membrane. Tiler should also inspect and accept waterproofing as satisfactory before tiling.

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