

## Large format tiles fixed with Alfix

**Large format tiles are used for both walls and floor and practically every day, our technical department answers questions regarding fixing of large format tiles.**

Today, tile manufacturers produce distinct tile plates cut in sizes according to specific needs and projects. Actually, only distribution sets boundaries. There are tiles as large as 100 x 300 cm, and tiles measuring eg 120 x 120 or 60 x 120 cm are now considered rather conventional sizes.

“To ensure properly and sufficient bonding of large format tiles, the substrate should be entirely even and plane; hence levelling of the surface will be required in most cases before actual tile fixing can take place. When used on a wetroom floor, sloping should always be made as a one-way slope”, explains technical adviser Johannes Mortensen.

To eliminate lippage, ie variance in height, in large tile installations, it is recommenable to use special tools, such as levelling spacers. When fixing, position small clips or supports underneath the tiles and along the 4 sides. Insert a wedge into each clip slot using a special traction-adjustable-pliers. Once the adhesive has set, the protruding part of the spacers can be removed by means of a rubber mallet. The clip base is now left invisible beneath the tile. Be aware that the fixing of large format tiles will require a large amount of adhesive in order to avoid voids beneath the tiles. Thin and insufficient adhesive coverage may result in tile failures such as a hollow sounding surface when exposed to foot traffic.



“The use of a suction disc can prove useful for fixing large format tiles. A disc facilitates both positioning and protects the back from difficult lifts as the tiles are heavy. Tailored hydraulic lifting gear is also available when to handle tiles that easily weigh more than 30 kg each. For the purpose, we recommend the use of an easy flowing adhesive. Adjustment of the tile will ensure full coverage as the tile edge will make the adhesive flow together. Alfix ProFix is definitely our most suitable adhesive for the purpose”, continues Johannes Mortensen.



For tile sizes exceeding 60 x 60 cm, Alfix recommends application of a thin layer of adhesive onto the back of each tile. Be aware that some tiles may curve. To eliminate variance in height, do not arrange tiles in half bond as any possible height will be placed opposite the lowest point. Instead, we recommend the use of the quarter bond bonding type. Joint width should be at least 4 – 5 mm which will hide small differences in tile size. If using rectified tiles, ie tiles cut after manufacture, joint widths below 4 mm are allowed as these tiles are cut to extreme precision.

Read more about Alfix ProFix here





*When using FSC certified paper, our company supports a strategy for sustainable forestry and regulated safe working conditions for the foresters who are employed in the forests supplying the wood needed to produce our paper.*

**- Anders Bertelsen Toft, Marketing Director, Alfix**

## Green Packaging

**Since Alfix received the Danish Building Industry Environment Award in March 2012 we have worked hard to enhance our green profile.**

As for the working environment, the weight of our large bags has been reduced from 25 to 20 kg – a change which is beneficial to both traders and tile fixers. As for environmental concerns, we have decided that the paper-based packaging used for many of our products should be delivered from responsible paper sources as from the beginning of 2014.

“For several years our printed marketing material has been labeled with the environmental mark FSC (Forest Stewardship Council). When using FSC certified paper, our company supports a strategy for sustainable forestry and regulated safe working conditions for the foresters who are employed in the forests supplying the wood needed to produce our paper. We have now taken the next step as all our 18 and 20 kg bags are soon to be delivered from a FSC certified paper source”, says Marketing Director Anders Bertelsen Toft.

The move towards FSC certified packaging has resulted in a change of supplier, but our customers will only experience a perfect match between the new and previous packaging quality – now added a small token of green concern. It is our intention that all 5 kg bags will also be delivered in FSC certified packaging by the end of 2014. Another safe Alfix step down the green path.

See a short FSC presentation [here](#)

## Meet us at the Building 14 exhibition

Alfix is once again present at Denmark’s largest construction trade exhibition when Building 14 (previously known as TUN BYG) takes place at Messe C exhibition center in Fredericia from 25th to 28th February 2014. Like previous years, Alfix occupies stand No. D-6320.

Welcome to “the green building site”! We look forward to seeing you.

## Thank you for your attention during 2013 - see you next year

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for a fine and eventful Alfix anniversary year in 2013.

Due to the Christmas holidays, Alfix will be closed as from Friday the 20th December 02pm and reopens on Thursday 2nd January 2014.

This spring, we are going to launch a number of new high quality products which will support and enlarge our present contribution to sustainable building – something to look forward to!

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

