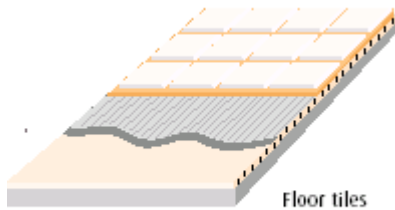
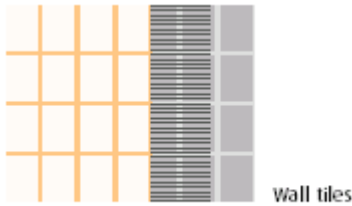


Tiling onto existing tiles



Tiles can present a good base for retiling. Both wall and floor tiles can be over tiled but, particularly with floor systems it should be remembered that the original tiles may have been laid to fit doors and furniture. Over tiling may raise the levels such that other problems may be encountered.

Existing wall tiles

Preparation

The main consideration with tiles is to ensure the surface is perfectly dry and clean. Particular attention should be paid to cleaning, ensuring grease, grime and any parting agents are removed. Remove any loose or hollow sounding tiles and make good the area with a non-shrink filler or a suitable sand /cement mortar.

Note: Tile on tile applications can present problems with regard to weight if on plaster or plasterboard backgrounds. 20 kg per m² and 32 kg per m² are the maximum weights recommended to be applied to plaster and plasterboard respectively. An additional tile layer may cause these weight limits to be exceeded. As the existing tiles will almost certainly have a glazed ceramic surface there should be no requirement to prime. If the existing tiles are of any other format further information should be sought from the Biscem helpdesk.

Adhesives

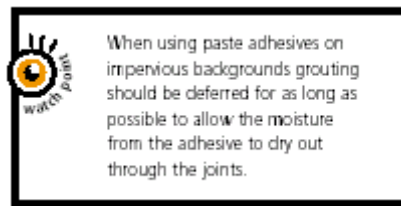
Any wall paste adhesive may be used. If a cementitious adhesive other than **Bis-Xtra** or **Vitri-Flex** is to be used it should be mixed with **Flexibond** (1 part **Flexibond**: 1 part clean water used as the mixing water) as this combination would offer better drying out and give enhanced adhesion.

Grouting

Grouting may commence once the adhesive bed has firmed up. Any grout may be used to suit the situation, but it must be remembered that for joints of width 3-mm wide joint grouts should be used. Drying will vary according to the site and ambient conditions.

Movement Joints

Any movement joints visible should be followed through the tiling to the surface. Failure to do this may result in excessive movements within the structure being transferred to the tiles with the likelihood of resultant failure of the system. Owing to the complexity of this subject please refer to Technical Bulletin TB4.



Existing ceramic and quarry tiles/natural stone and terrazzo bases

Preparation

This surface, if sound and clean, will normally present a good base for retiling. The main consideration here is to ensure the surface to be tiled is perfectly clean and dry. The previous usage of the floor should be checked and particular attention paid to cleaning, making sure all grease and grime, traces of polishes or any loose materials are removed. It may be found with existing quarry tiles that the previous usage has ingrained sufficient grease or polish that the only way to obtain a sound clean surface on which to apply the new tiles is by physically removing the surface.

Remove any loose or hollow sounding tiles and make good the area with a suitable sand/cement mortar. We would advise a "slurry coat" is used to prime the floor. This is, to apply **Flexibond** at a dilution rate of 1 to 3 parts clean water and mixed with four parts **Fast-Set/Vitri-Flex** and applied with a brush directly onto the substrate tile. Once it has dried this slurry coat will give an excellent key on which to tile.

Alternatively a reinforced decoupling matting system such as **Watec@2E** or **Watec@ 3E** externally can also be used. Call 020 8778 9000 for more information. In this situation a polymer modified adhesive should always be used.

Adhesives

Vitri-Flex, **Vitri-Rapid** or **Fast-Set**, **Thin and Thick Bed Adhesive** incorporating **Flexibond** are suitable. If there is no DPM within the installation and the floor is likely to remain saturated **Vitri-Rapid**, **Vitri-Flow** or **Thin and Thick Bed Adhesive** should be used.

Grouting

Grouting may commence once the adhesive bed has firmed up. Any grout may be used to suit the situation. Drying will vary according to the site and ambient conditions.

When using porcelain or vitrified tiles **Biscem Vitri-Grouts** should be used as this will enhance the bond strength at the tile/grout interface. Drying will vary according to the site and ambient conditions.

Movement Joints

Any movement joints visible should be followed through the tiling to the surface. Failure to do this may result in excessive movements within the structure being transferred to the tiles with the likelihood of resultant failure of the system. Owing to the complexity of this subject please refer to Technical Bulletin TB4.

