

Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA

Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA Grout Instruction Manual

Model: Ultracolor Plus FA

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA is an advanced, fine aggregate, fast-setting, polymer-modified grout designed for superior performance. It is color-consistent, non-shrinking, and efflorescence-free, suitable for joint widths from 1/16" to 3/4" (1.5 to 19 mm). This product incorporates DropEffect technology to reduce surface absorption, helping to repel water, dirt, and grime from penetrating grout joints. Formulated with Mapei's High-Hydrated Cement Technology (HCT), it addresses common issues associated with traditional Portland-cement grouts, such as color variation and efflorescence. Ultracolor Plus FA offers higher polymer content, improved absorption resistance, and increased stain resistance. It contains 10% recycled content and meets the ANSI A138.1 specification for GreenSquared certification.



Image 1: This image displays the front of a 25-pound bag of Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA Grout. The bag features the Mapei logo, product name 'Ultracolor Plus FA', and highlights key features such as 'Rapid-Setting, All-in-One Grout Replacement for Sanded and Unsanded Grout' and 'DropEffect' technology. It also indicates compliance with ANSI standards and GreenSquared certification. Important safety warnings regarding eye and skin irritation and inhalation are visible on the right side of the bag.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING: IRRITANT. IRRITANT TO THE EYES AND SKIN. HARMFUL IF INHALED. BEFORE USE, CAREFULLY READ ALL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS CONTAINER.

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including safety glasses, gloves, and a dust mask when handling and mixing this product. Ensure adequate ventilation in the work area. Avoid contact

with skin and eyes. Do not ingest. In case of contact, flush immediately with plenty of water and seek medical attention. Keep out of reach of children and pets.

3. PRODUCT FEATURES

- Rapid-setting, "all-in-one" grout replacement for both sanded and unsanded grout applications.
- Fine aggregate (FA) suitable for narrow joint widths (1/16" to 3/4").
- Non-efflorescing (free of Portland cement issues).
- Polymer-modified for enhanced flexibility and bond strength.
- Color-consistent and non-shrinking.
- DropEffect technology for reduced surface absorption and improved stain resistance.
- High-Hydrated Cement Technology (HCT) for superior performance.
- Contains 10% recycled content.
- Meets ANSI A138.1 specification for GreenSquared certification.

Mapei	WHITE	Mapei	**TERRA COTTA
Mapei	ALABASTER	Mapei	AVALANCHE
Mapei	PEWTER	Mapei	IVORY
Mapei	BAHAMA BEIGE	Mapei	**IRISH CREAM
Mapei	CHAMOIS	Mapei	MOCHA
Mapei	HARVEST	Mapei	PALE UMBER
Mapei	CHOCOLATE	Mapei	**SLATE
Mapei	GRAY	Mapei	CHARCOAL
Mapei	BLACK	Mapei	LIGHT ALMOND
Mapei	SAHARA BEIGE	Mapei	**MAGNOLIA
Mapei	BISCUIT	Mapei	**CAMEL
Mapei	**MALT	Mapei	FROST
Mapei	PEARL GRAY	Mapei	COCOA
Mapei	**SUMMER TAN	Mapei	WARM GRAY
Mapei	SILVER	Mapei	STRAW
Mapei	**GREEN TEA	Mapei	**SAND
Mapei	NAVAJO BROWN	Mapei	**WATERFALL

Image 2: This image presents a color chart for Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA Grout, displaying a wide range of available colors. Each color swatch is labeled with its name, such as White, Alabaster, Pewter, Bahama Beige, Chamois, Harvest, Chocolate, Gray, Black, Sahara Beige, Biscuit, Malt, Pearl Gray, Summer Tan, Silver, Green Tea, Navajo Brown, Terra Cotta, Avalanche, Ivory, Irish Cream, Mocha, Pale Umber, Slate, Charcoal, Light Almond, Magnolia, Camel, Frost, Cocoa, Warm Gray, Straw, Sand, and Waterfall. This chart helps users select the appropriate grout color for their project.

4. PREPARATION

1. Ensure all tile adhesive has fully cured according to the manufacturer's instructions, typically 24-72 hours.

2. Remove all spacers, excess adhesive, and debris from grout joints. Joints should be clean, dry, and free of contaminants.
3. Ensure the tile surface is clean and free of dust, dirt, and any substances that may inhibit adhesion or cause discoloration.
4. For highly absorbent tiles or in hot, dry conditions, lightly dampen the grout joints with clean water using a sponge, ensuring no standing water remains.
5. Protect adjacent surfaces not intended for grouting from contact with the grout.

5. MIXING INSTRUCTIONS

Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA is designed for easy mixing. Always follow the water-to-powder ratio specified on the product packaging for optimal performance. Do not add additional water beyond the recommended amount, as this can compromise the grout's strength, color consistency, and efflorescence resistance.

- Pour the recommended amount of clean, cool water into a clean mixing bucket.
- Gradually add the Ultracolor Plus FA powder to the water while mixing with a low-speed drill (300 rpm or less) and a grout mixing paddle.
- Mix until a smooth, lump-free consistency is achieved. Avoid over-mixing, which can entrain air and reduce workability.
- Allow the mixture to slake (rest) for 5 to 10 minutes. This allows the polymers to fully hydrate.
- Remix briefly for 1-2 minutes before application. Do not add more water after the initial mix.
- The working time for Ultracolor Plus FA is approximately 20-30 minutes, depending on environmental conditions. Mix only as much material as can be applied within this timeframe.

6. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Using a hard-rubber grout float, spread the grout diagonally across the tile surface, ensuring joints are completely filled.
2. Hold the float at a 45-degree angle to the tile and apply firm pressure to force the grout into the joints.
3. Remove excess grout from the tile surface by holding the float at a 90-degree angle and moving it diagonally across the tiles.
4. Work in small, manageable sections to prevent the grout from drying on the tile surface before cleaning.

7. CURING AND CLEANING

Ultracolor Plus FA is a rapid-setting grout, requiring prompt cleaning to avoid difficulties.

1. **Initial Cleaning (15-30 minutes after application):** Once the grout has firmed up in the joints (typically 15-30 minutes, depending on temperature and humidity), begin initial cleaning. Use a damp (not wet) sponge, wrung out thoroughly, to gently wipe the tile surface in a circular motion. This removes grout haze and smooths the joints. Rinse the sponge frequently in clean water.
2. **Final Cleaning (1-2 hours after application):** After the initial cleaning, allow the grout to cure for another 1-2 hours. Then, perform a final cleaning with a clean, damp sponge to remove any remaining haze. For stubborn haze, a specialized grout haze remover may be used after the grout has fully cured (typically 24 hours), following the remover manufacturer's instructions.
3. **Foot Traffic:** Light foot traffic is generally permissible after 3-4 hours.
4. **Heavy Traffic/Water Exposure:** Allow 24 hours before exposing to heavy traffic or prolonged water.

exposure.

5. **Full Cure:** Full cure and maximum stain resistance are achieved in 28 days.

8. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance will ensure the longevity and appearance of your Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA grout.

- Regularly clean grouted surfaces with a pH-neutral cleaner. Avoid harsh acids or strong alkaline cleaners, which can damage grout.
- For routine cleaning, a damp mop or sponge with warm water is often sufficient.
- While Ultracolor Plus FA offers enhanced stain resistance, promptly clean up spills to prevent potential staining.
- Avoid abrasive cleaning tools or scrub brushes that can scratch or erode the grout surface.

9. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Grout Drying Too Quickly / Difficult to Clean:**

This is a common issue with rapid-setting grouts. Ensure you are working in small sections. In hot or dry conditions, lightly dampen the tile joints before application. Do not add extra water to the mix, as this can weaken the grout. Begin initial cleaning promptly (15-30 minutes after application) with a damp, well-wrung sponge. If grout has hardened on the tile, a specialized grout haze remover may be necessary after full cure, or mechanical removal might be required for severe cases.

- **Inconsistent Grout Color:**

Ensure consistent water-to-powder ratio for all batches. Avoid adding extra water during mixing or re-tempering. Ensure uniform cleaning and curing conditions. Excessive water during cleaning can also affect color. Ultracolor Plus FA is designed for color consistency, but environmental factors and improper mixing/cleaning can still influence the final shade.

- **Efflorescence (White Haze):**

While Ultracolor Plus FA is formulated to be efflorescence-free, external factors can sometimes contribute. Ensure the substrate is dry and free of excessive moisture. Avoid over-watering during mixing and cleaning. If efflorescence occurs, it can often be removed with a mild, acidic grout cleaner specifically designed for efflorescence, after the grout has fully cured.

- **Poor Adhesion / Cracking:**

Ensure tile adhesive is fully cured before grouting. Joints must be clean and free of debris. Use the correct water ratio during mixing. Avoid applying grout to excessively wet or dry joints without proper pre-dampening. Ensure proper curing conditions and protect from extreme temperatures during the initial cure.

10. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Product Name	Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA Grout
Model	Ultracolor Plus FA
Material	Polymer-modified cementitious grout

Feature	Detail
Item Weight	25 Pounds (11.3 kg)
Joint Widths	1/16" to 3/4" (1.5 to 19 mm)
Water Resistance Level	Water Resistant (with DropEffect technology)
Standards Compliance	Meets ANSI A138.1 for GreenSquared certification
Technology	DropEffect, High-Hydrated Cement Technology (HCT)
Recycled Content	10%
Package Dimensions	14 x 10 x 3 inches (approximate)

11. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA Grout, please refer to the official Mapei website or the product packaging. Mapei stands behind its products and provides technical support for proper application and performance.

If you require further assistance, have questions about product application, or need to report an issue, please contact Mapei Technical Services directly. Contact information can typically be found on the product packaging or on the official Mapei website: www.mapei.com.