



The Chemical Company

PRODUCT DATA

3 03 54 00 Cast Underlayment

# CHEMREX® LEVELPREP™

Rapid-setting surface finishing underlayment

### Description

CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is used to finish and smooth fully cured concrete, wood underlayments, linoleum (residential), ceramic tile, and adhesives including cutback. Combined with water, CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ mixes to a creamy smooth consistency for ease of application. Designed around a Portland cement-based matrix, CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is a rapid-setting, aggregate-free, polymer-modified cement-based finishing underlayment.

### Yield

10 lb (4.5 kg) unit yields:  
100 – 150 ft² (9.3 – 14 m²) over concrete  
200 – 250 ft² (18.6 – 23.3 m²) over plywood

### Packaging

10 lb (4.5 kg) bags; 4 bags per case

### Shelf Life

6 months in original, unopened packaging

### Storage

Protect from moisture and dampness. Store in a cool, dry area. Do not expose packaging to sun. Roll bag of unused portion tightly to remove air and retain freshness.

### Features

- Rapid setting
- Compatible with most flooring adhesives
- Can be feather-edged
- No priming
- One-component polymer-modified
- Can be mixed with CX-Acrylic Additive

### Benefits

- Downtime is minimized for lower installed cost
- One product for numerous applications
- High coverage rates yield lower overall material costs
- Extra steps and time are eliminated
- Only water is needed for mixing
- Increases adhesion and curing of embossed material

### Where to Use

#### APPLICATION

- Skim coating and smoothing rough concrete
- For filling minor voids, holes, and cracks in concrete and underlayments
- Leveling and smoothing wood underlayment seams and joints
- Leveling and filling embossed sheet goods
- Skim coating over ceramic tile
- Skim coating over adhesive residue (cutback included) that is thin, well bonded, structurally sound and non-water soluble

### How to Apply

#### Surface Preparation

1. Areas to be finished or repaired must be clean, structurally sound, and free of all loose, dirty, oily and scaly material, or any material that may affect proper bonding. Dust, dirt, oil, or other contaminants must be thoroughly vacuumed and extracted from concrete.
2. Remove all curing compounds, sealers, waxes, paints, and patching compounds. Mechanical abrasion may be required for thorough removal.

3. Do not use acid etching, solvents, or sweeping compounds for surface preparation.
4. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is for interior installations only. Do not use in areas of constant or intermittent water exposure. Do not apply over press board, gypsum-based substrates, or similar unstable substrates.
5. Subfloors to receive CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ must be a minimum 50° F (10° C). All subfloors must be free of surface moisture and excessive vapor drive within the flooring manufacturer's recommended moisture content. Consult the chosen flooring manufacturer for recommended installation temperatures and the maximum allowable moisture content and vapor drive of the substrate for installation of their flooring product.
6. Before the application of CHEMREX® LevelPrep™, all existing adhesive residues over concrete must be tested for water solubility to ensure they will not react with the new flooring adhesive. Also, the new flooring adhesive must not be sensitive to bleed through of the cutback adhesive. Wet scrape the existing adhesive to a well-bonded residue using the technique outlined by the Resilient Floor Covering Institute. Existing patches must be completely removed by mechanical means.



## Application

CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is used to smooth substrate transitions and ridges, and to fill cracks, knots, and joints in wood underlayment. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is also used for a true featheredge skimcoat over all types of interior concrete, masonry, wood, terrazzo, and quarry and ceramic tile.

CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is used as an embossing filler for embossed sheet vinyl. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ can be used over structurally sound, permanently bonded, properly prepared residues of thin cutback and non-water soluble adhesives that may exist on concrete installations. When using CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ over cutback residue, substitute full strength CHEMREX® Acrylic Additive in place of water. Adhesive residue on concrete must be inert to the new adhesive being installed, and the chosen floor covering must not be sensitive to adhesive migration. Consult BASF Technical Service for specific installation recommendations.

## Recommended Tools

- Plastic mixing pail
- Clean mix water
- Margin trowel
- Steel trowel

For best results, use a 1/2" (13 mm) portable drill with a Jiffy mixer at low RPM. Razor scrapers (for cutback residue removal), vacuum, and other equipment may be needed for subfloor preparation.

## Mixing

1. The mixing ratio is two parts CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ to one part water by volume to preferred consistency.

NOTE: When using CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ as an embossing filler, substitute full strength CHEMREX® Acrylic Additive in place of water.

2. In a clean mixing container pour approximately enough powder to place in 20 minutes. Add water while slowly mixing with margin trowel or Jiffy mixer.

3. Vigorously mix to a smooth, lump-free consistency.

NOTE: Mechanical mixing with a portable drill and Jiffy mixer at low RPM will produce a creamier (fluffy) and smoother consistency.

4. To mix an entire bag, use approximately 2.5 quarts (2.4 L) water with a 10 lb (4.5 kg) unit.

## Installation

1. Steel trowel to desired thickness and finish, making sure product is properly keyed into subfloor substrate. Apply enough pressure to fill all voids and defects. Feather out where a seamless interface is desired. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ may be applied from feather edge to 1/2" (13 mm) in thickness. When using LevelPrep over un-diluted Acrylic Additive, maximum thickness is 1/4" (6.35 mm).

2. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ does not require a minimum thickness. Use the least amount of material to achieve the desired surface smoothness.

3. Over large areas CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ can be installed from a true feather edge up to 1/2" (13 mm) thick in one application. Thicker applications can be placed in small, well-defined areas such as transitions, thresholds, and birdbaths.

4. Pot life is 15 to 20 minutes at 70° F (21° C). Pot life will vary with ambient and substrate temperature. When setting in the pail, CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ may be retempered only through remixing. DO NOT RETEMPER WITH ADDITIONAL WATER.

## Flooring Installation

1. Floor coverings may be installed as soon as the surface is sufficiently hard and is not damaged by application of the flooring adhesive. This can be in as little as 15 to 20 minutes for skimcoat applications depending on temperature, relative humidity, and subfloor conditions. Thicker sections will require more time.

2. Flooring and flooring adhesives that are sensitive to moisture can be installed after 16 hours. These include wood flooring, athletic flooring, and those that require epoxy or urethane adhesives.

3. CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is compatible with all adhesives that are compatible with concrete.

## Embossing Filler

All existing felt-backed embossed sheet vinyl must be clean and free of any dressings and waxes. The sheet vinyl must be installed over a suitable structurally sound substrate and be free of moisture and friable particles. Do not use over perimeter bonded sheet vinyl or cushion back flooring that is thicker than .080" (2 mm) thick.

## Application

Using the flat side of a trowel, apply a very thin layer of filler to fill in the existing pattern on the prepared residential sheet vinyl.

Allow the embossing filler to dry before installing the residential sheet vinyl (approximately 90 minutes). When a twist of a shoe does not affect the bond of the embossing filler, the surface is ready for installation.

NOTE: The filled vinyl is considered a nonporous substrate when dried. Select an adhesive that is appropriate for nonporous substrates.

## Clean Up

Clean tools and equipment immediately with water. Cured material can be removed by mechanical means only.

## For Best Performance

- CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ is a cementitious material. Follow all general rules and practices of concrete placement.
- Subfloors to receive CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ must be a minimum 50° F (10° C).
- All subfloors must be free of surface moisture and within the flooring manufacturer's recommended moisture content and vapor drive. Consult the chosen flooring manufacturer for recommended installation temperatures and the maximum allowable moisture content and vapor drive of the substrate for installation of their flooring product.
- Applications over cutback adhesive residue must be exclusively on concrete.
- Do not use in area subjected to constant moisture or intermittent water exposure.
- Product is not designed as the final wearing surface.
- Using more water than recommended will weaken the CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ and extend cure time.
- Make certain the most current versions of product data sheet and MSDS are being used; call Customer Service (1-800-433-9517) to verify the most current version.
- Proper application is the responsibility of the user. Field visits by BASF personnel are for the purpose of making technical recommendations only and not for supervising or providing quality control on the jobsite.

## Health and Safety

CHEMREX® LEVELPREP™

### Caution

CHEMREX® LevelPrep™ contains Limestone; Anhydrite; Portland cement; Silica, amorphous; Silica, crystalline quartz; Calcium silicate; and Alumina cement.

### Risks

Product is alkaline on contact with water and may cause injury to skin or eyes. Ingestion or inhalation of dust may cause irritation. Contains small amount of free respirable quartz, which has been listed as a human carcinogen by NTP and IARC. Repeated or prolonged overexposure to free respirable quartz may cause silicosis or other serious and delayed lung injury.

### Precautions

Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing. Prevent inhalation of dust. Wash thoroughly after handling. Keep container closed when not in use. DO NOT take internally. Use only with adequate ventilation. Use impervious gloves, eye protection and if the TLV is exceeded or used in a poorly ventilated area, use NIOSH/MSHA approved respiratory protection in accordance with applicable Federal, state and local regulations.

### First Aid

In case of eye contact, flush thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. In case of skin contact, wash affected areas with soap and water. If irritation persists, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION. Remove and wash contaminated clothing. If inhalation causes physical discomfort, remove to fresh air. If discomfort persists or any breathing difficulty occurs or if swallowed, SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.

Refer to Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for further information.

### Proposition 65

This product contains material listed by the state of California as known to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

### VOC Content

0 lbs/gal or 0 g/L, less water and exempt solvents.

**For medical emergencies only,  
call ChemTrec (1-800-424-9300).**

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**BASF Construction Chemicals, LLC –  
Building Systems**

889 Valley Park Drive

Shakopee, MN, 55379

[www.BuildingSystems.BASF.com](http://www.BuildingSystems.BASF.com)

**Customer Service** 800-433-9517

**Technical Service** 800-243-6739

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