Eff-Shield+

Water-Repellent Admixture to Help Prevent Efflorescence

+ Water-Repellent Admixture – Just Add to the Mixing Water
+ Helps Reduce Efflorescence, Picture Framing & Moisture Staining
+ For Grout, Tile Adhesive, Screed, Mortar, Render & Concrete
+ Breathable, No VOC, Works Through the Full Thickness
+ Step 1 of THE EFF-CONTROL+ SYSTEM

Product page, SDS & videos

DESCRIPTION

Eff-Shield+ is a water-based, **Professional Grade**, highly concentrated hydrophobic (water-repellent) admixture made with advanced silicone technology. Added to the mixing water of screeds, grouts, cement-based tile adhesives, mortars, renders and concrete, it helps reduce water absorption and with it the efflorescence, picture framing and moisture staining that water carries to the surface. Breathable, No VOC and easy to use.

WHAT DOES IT DO

As the mix cures, **Eff-Shield+** lines the tiny capillary pores of the cement with a water-repellent layer, right through the full thickness of the screed, grout or mortar. The pores are lined, not blocked, so the material still breathes and can dry out.

- Helps reduce water absorption and capillary moisture movement;
- Helps reduce the risk of primary (during curing) and secondary (later) efflorescence, by limiting the water that carries salts to the surface;
- Helps reduce picture framing and edge darkening around tiles, stone and pavers;
- Locked into the cement: can't be washed out or worn off.

SUITABLE FOR

Cement-based products made with Type GP cement: grouts, tile adhesives (including polymer-modified powder adhesives), screeds, mortars, renders, concrete and precast. **Not for** epoxy, premixed or ready-to-use grouts, resin systems, or mixes with any other booster, added latex or additive.

Add to

+ Cement-based grouts
+ Cement-based tile adhesives
+ Tile & stone screeds
+ Bedding mortars
+ Brick & block mortar
+ Renders & toppings
+ Concrete slabs & paths
+ Precast pavers, blocks & bricks

Ideal for

+ Bathrooms & wet areas
+ Balconies & terraces
+ Patios & courtyards
+ Stairs & landings
+ Pool surrounds & copings
+ External paving
+ Brick & block walls
+ Domestic & commercial

WHERE TO USE

Walls and floors in domestic, commercial and industrial settings, indoors and outdoors.

TEST FIRST

Always trial the actual materials and dose first, cure 24 hours and do the water test. On natural stone and porous tiles, wet the cured test area to check for an even colour (see **Reverse picture framing**, page 2). End user must determine suitability of product for their own use.

HOW MUCH TO USE

Two ways to dose: **Method 1** by weight of dry mix (50 mL per 100 kg of powder, or sand and cement), or **Method 2** by mixing water (1:100 = 10 mL per litre). **Choose ONE method per job**, use it for every batch and measure it; don't guess.

Use	Method 1 by dry mix	Method 2 by water
Grout, tile adhesive, bagged screed, bagged mortar or render	**10 mL** per 20 kg bag	**1:100** 10 mL per L of water
Site-mixed mortar, render or slurry	**50 mL** per 20 kg bag of cement	**1:100** 10 mL per L of water
Tile screed (damp sand), machine mixed	**50 mL** per 20 kg bag of cement	**100 mL neat** per 100 L mixer load
Tile screed (damp sand), hand mixed	**50 mL** per 20 kg bag of cement, in the water	**1:50** 20 mL per L of water
Concrete	**1.2 L** per m³	**1.2 – 1.8 L** per m³
Precast pavers, blocks, bricks	0.1 – 1 L per tonne of dry mix, set by trial	

Method 2 lookup: 5 L water = 50 mL · 10 L = 100 mL · 20 L = 200 mL. Any extra water added must also contain **Eff-Shield+**.

Eff-Shield+ Calculator – how much do I need?

Our free online calculator works out the dose for your job. Choose what you're mixing (grout, tile adhesive, screed, mortar, render, concrete or precast), pick your grout or adhesive brand and product, or **work it out from your tiles or area**. It shows how much **Eff-Shield+** and mixing water to use, which pack sizes to buy and the approximate cost. **Scan the QR** or open the calculator › · also in our Product Selector under **Efflorescence** · video: youtu.be/oON3uApLbgM

WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE YOU START

- Gloves and eye protection; a measuring jug or cylinder marked in mL;
- Clean bucket, clean tap water and a drill mixer or paddle;
- Fresh Type GP cement and clean washed sand (for site mixes).

Watch: Eff-Shield+ Complete Guide
The full how-to on our YouTube channel
youtu.be/l_ZFJs0LKwQ

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HOW TO USE WITH TILE & STONE SCREED

1. **Prepare** – Use clean washed sand, fresh **Type GP cement** and clean tap water. Do not use salty, bore or recycled water;
2. **Combine** – Blend sand and cement at 3:1 or 4:1;
3. **Add Eff-Shield+** – **Method 1:** stir 50 mL per 20 kg bag of cement into the mixing water first. **Method 2:** machine, 100 mL neat per 100 L mixer load; by hand, make up the water at 1:50 (20 mL per litre). Never pour neat product onto dry sand or cement by hand. **Bagged screed** (dry mix, add water): 1:100 in the manufacturer's water, as for grout;
4. **Mix well** – Mix for about 5 minutes until uniform and free from dry pockets. Do not over-water;
5. **Install as normal** – Place, compact fully without voids and finish to normal trade practice. Treat any slurry bond coat at the same rate;
6. **Cure** – Shade and damp-cure. Keep rain off for 24 hours;
7. **Water test after 24 hours** – **Beads up:** tile once cured and dry as the adhesive, membrane and tile makers require. **Soaks in:** don't tile; contact Sealers Plus.

Watch: Eff-Shield+ Screed Guide
Scan to watch the screed how-to video
youtu.be/OrjRIxm558Y

HOW TO USE WITH GROUT & TILE ADHESIVE

1. **Measure the water** – Put the grout or adhesive manufacturer's amount of clean mixing water in a clean bucket;
2. **Add Eff-Shield+** – Method 1: 10 mL per 20 kg bag. Method 2: 10 mL per litre of water (1:100). Stir well. Never pour it onto dry powder;
3. **Add the powder** – Slowly add the powder and mix on low speed until smooth and lump-free. You may need slightly less water for the same workability;
4. **Slake & remix** – Stand for the manufacturer's slake time, then remix briefly;
5. **Apply normally** – Full adhesive coverage with no voids. Pack grout joints fully and clean the tile face while workable. Add **Haze Away** to the final wash water as per its label.

Watch: How to Dose Eff-Shield+ Into Grout
Scan to watch the grout how-to video
youtu.be/ct_Ih4F4Gz8

APPLICATION CONDITIONS & CURING

- Air and surface temperature between 4°C & 35°C; ideal curing temperature about 23°C;
- Protect from premature drying with **shade and damp curing**. Avoid hot sun, strong wind and frost;
- Keep rain off for 24 hours.

Water repellency	**Develops from about 24 hours**
Rain exposure	**After 24 hours**
Polymer-modified powder adhesives	**Repellency can take about 6 days: keep rain off until grouted**
Water test	**After 24 h: beads up = working**
Tiling over screed	**Once cured & dry (adhesive / membrane makers)**

HOW TO USE WITH MORTAR, RENDER & CONCRETE

- **Mortar & render:** Method 1 or 2 (see table), in the mixing water. Use lime and clay plasticisers sparingly. Fill cores and frogs and cap walls built to height;
- **Acid cleaning brickwork:** **Eff-Shield+** repels water, not acid. The usual cleaning dilution may need strengthening; trial on a panel first;
- **Concrete:** 1.2 L (Method 1) to 1.8 L (Method 2) per m³, pre-mixed into the gauging water. Mix thoroughly;
- **Precast:** set the dose by trial on the production line.

Watch: Eff-Shield+ Mix Guide: Brickwork & Render
Scan to watch the mortar & render video
youtu.be/0l4EfsTaehY

NATURAL STONE & POROUS SURFACES: REVERSE PICTURE FRAMING

When **Eff-Shield+** is used in the screed, adhesive or grout under natural stone and other porous tiles, pavers or bricks, some of the treated mix water can be drawn up into the edges and sides of each piece as it cures. Because **Eff-Shield+** is also a water repellent, this can leave a **water-repellent band around the edges** that doesn't absorb water, while the centre of the piece is still porous and wets out. When the surface gets wet, the edges stay light and the centre goes darker: a **'reverse picture frame'**. It shows up most on darker, highly porous stone such as basalt and sandstone.

To help reduce this, we recommend six-sided sealing each piece with **Condense Plus** before installation, so the whole stone takes up water evenly. Where the stone is grouted, treat the entire surface consistently, not just the joints. Always do a test area first.

SIX-SIDED SEALING WITH CONDENSE PLUS

Condense Plus is a premium NanoPlus **consolidator, densifier and strengthener**: water based, breathable, low VOC (<1 g/L) and fast curing (24 h). It penetrates deep and helps consolidate and strengthen soft, friable surfaces from within, leaving them water repellent and breathable. For natural stone, terrazzo, encaustic and quarry tiles, bricks, terracotta, concrete and pavers.

Condense Plus product page

1. **Dip** – Submerge each clean, dry piece for 10 – 15 minutes, or pump-spray all six sides;
2. **Wipe dry** – Squeegee off the excess and wipe completely dry. Don't let excess dry on;
3. **Cure** – Lean pieces upright with spacers; don't stack. Cure 24 hours before installing.

Treat the sealed underside as low porosity (suitable adhesive, back-butter fully). View Condense Plus ›

Watch: Six-Sided / Dip Sealing with Condense Plus
Scan to watch the six-sided sealing video
youtu.be/7Mw6-ZiAvRk

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PRECAUTIONS & SAFETY DIRECTIONS

1. Read entire label, SDS and technical bulletin before using;
2. Always do a small test first with the actual materials, dose and site conditions;
3. Wear gloves and eye protection. Avoid breathing spray mist;
4. For cement-based products only. Not for epoxy, premixed or ready-to-use grouts or resin systems;
5. Do NOT use with any other booster, added latex or additive. Mix with clean water only;
6. Never pour neat product onto dry powder, sand or cement;
7. Use clean containers and clean mixing water only;
8. Do NOT allow product to freeze.

APPROXIMATE COVERAGE

Application	Rate	1 L treats	4 L Bottle treats
Grout, adhesive & bagged mixes (M1)	10 mL / 20 kg bag	100 bags (2 t)	**400 bags (8 t)**
Mixing water (M2)	1:100	100 L water	**400 L water**
Tiling job: 40 mm screed + adhesive + grout	1:100	approx. 16 m²	**approx. 64 m²**
Site-mixed mortar, render, screed (M1)	50 mL / bag cement	20 bags cement	**80 bags cement**
Concrete	1.2 – 1.8 L / m³	0.55 – 0.8 m³	**2.2 – 3.3 m³**

Coverage is **approximate only** and will depend on the product being mixed, the dose method, screed depth, tile size and joint width. M1 = Method 1 (dry mix), M2 = Method 2 (water). Use the Eff-Shield+ Calculator for your exact job.

TECHNICAL DATA

Product type	Water-based silicone hydrophobic (water-repellent) admixture
Appearance	White or tinted light blue liquid (emulsion)
pH	approx. 7 – 9
Shelf life	Approx. 12 months unopened, stored 5°C – 25°C
Pack sizes	250 mL · 1 Litre · 4 Litre · 15 Litre · 20 Litre
Transport	Not a Dangerous Good
SDS	sealersplus.com.au/sds/Eff-Shield-Plus-SDS.pdf

RELATED PRODUCTS – TAP TO VIEW

Condense Plus	Six-sided sealing & consolidating	View ›
Ultra-Block	Pre-sealing & dip sealing	View ›
Haze Away	Grout haze cleaner for the final wash	View ›
OxiTreat+	Removes efflorescence & grout haze	View ›
Oxi Gel+	Efflorescence cling gel for walls	View ›

WARNING

Hazardous according to Safe Work Australia (GHS 7). Not a Dangerous Good. **H315** Causes skin irritation. **H319** Causes serious eye irritation. Wear protective gloves and eye protection. Avoid breathing mist. Keep out of reach of children.

ALWAYS USE TYPE GP CEMENT

For best results use General Purpose (Type GP) cement, grey or off-white. Avoid "Builders" General Blend (Type GB) cement with hydrophobic additives.

LIMITATIONS

- Not a membrane or damp-proof course (DPC) and will not hold back water under pressure. Not a substitute for correct substrate preparation, falls, drainage, a compliant DPC or membrane, expansion joints or site testing;
- Does not remove existing efflorescence: use **OxiTreat+** or **Oxi Gel+**;
- Does not give oil or grease stain resistance: seal the finished surface with the right Sealers Plus sealer.

HANDLING, STORAGE & CLEAN UP

- Close container tightly after use. Store in the original container between 5°C and 25°C, out of direct sunlight. Do not freeze;
- Stir well before use. Shelf life approx. 12 months unopened. Use before USE BY DATE;
- Wash tools with water. Do not pour leftovers into drains. Do not re-use container.

FIRST AID

If poisoning occurs contact Poisons Centre (Australia Ph: 131 126, NZ Ph: 0800 764 766) or a doctor. **Ingestion:** Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting. **Eyes:** Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. **Skin:** Wash with plenty of water. **Inhalation:** Move to fresh air. **General:** If any irritation persists get medical advice.

WATCH HOW TO USE

Eff-Shield+ Screed Guide	youtu.be/OrjRIxm558Y
How to Dose Eff-Shield+ Into Grout	youtu.be/ct_Ih4F4Gz8
Eff-Shield+ Mix Guide: Brickwork & Render	youtu.be/0I4EfsTaehY
Six-Sided / Dip Sealing with Condense Plus	youtu.be/7Mw6-ZiAvRk
Eff-Shield+ Complete Guide	youtu.be/L_ZFJs0LKwQ
How Much Eff-Shield+? Calculator Guide	youtu.be/oON3uApLbgM

MADE IN AUSTRALIA

PRODUCT WARRANTY – SEALERS PLUS (A Division of Aqua-Seal STS™) "The Manufacturer" warrants to the original purchaser of its products that such products are free from manufacturing defect and does not warrant or guarantee the workmanship performed by any person or firm installing its products. The manufacturer's obligation under this warranty is limited solely to the original purchaser and solely shall be limited to the replacement of the product sold or refund. This warranty will not extend to any product which has been modified in any way or which has not been used in accordance with the printed instructions. The manufacturer makes no other warranties either expressed or implied. The end user must determine the suitability of the product for their intended use. **ALWAYS READ ENTIRE LABEL, SDS & TECHNICAL BULLETIN BEFORE USE & TEST FIRST.**

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