

## **Specification: The Tilebacker on a Plywood sheet flooring**

**Product Ref:** Marmox The Tilebacker

**Product Use:** Intermediate substrate to ceramic and stone tiling on a plywood sub-floor.

**Manufacturer:** Marmox Ltd

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**Description:** Extruded polystyrene board covered with one side of fibreglass mesh encased in a c.0.75mm layer of polymer modified concrete which permanently bonds the mesh to the polystyrene.

**Dimensions:** Board Width = 600mm, Board Length = 1250mm, Thickness = 6mm & 10mm

**Specification:** USING TILE ADHESIVE (*best practice*)

Marmox The Tilebacker is fixed to the plywood on a continuous bed of flexible cement-based tile adhesive (*XPS side down*). Boards are configured in a brick-bond pattern where possible. A 5mm gap is left between the boards and the wall which is filled with Marmox Multibond. Prior to tiling, cover the board joints with scrim tape and ensure that any expansion gaps are filled with Marmox Multibond

If a completely waterproof layer is required

All board joints must be covered with Marmox self-adhesive waterproof tape instead of reinforcing (scrim) tape

USING SCREWS AND WASHERS (*where floor height is limited*)

Marmox The Tilebacker is fixed to the plywood using screws and Marmox washers at 300mm centres (*15 fixings per board*). Boards are configured in a brick-bond pattern when possible. A line of Marmox Multibond is applied to each board edge sealing and securing the boards together. A 5mm gap is left between the boards and the wall which is filled with Marmox Multibond and a dab of this is also applied over the screw holes for waterproofing.

If a completely waterproof layer is required

All board joints must be covered with Marmox self-adhesive waterproof tape.

**Notes:** Using Screws and washers is less effective than using tile adhesive to fix the boards with. Mechanical fixings are counter-productive because a) they pierce the waterproof barrier and b) they reduce the flexibility of the foam core which is there to absorb lateral movement in the subfloor to prevent tile/grout cracking.

**Properties:** Resistant to external environment and temperatures.  
Low thermal conductivity (0.034W/mK) unaffected by moisture.  
Does not expand or contract as temperature and humidity alters.  
Absorbs lateral movement in the sub-floor to reduce the risk of cracking in the paved/tiled surface.  
Completely impermeable to water.

**Limitations:**

- 1) Compounds containing organic solvents (*including solvent-based tile sealers*) must not be used.
- 2) Temperatures in excess of 75°C are not appropriate.
- 3) The board can compress if point load pressure is applied therefore tiles no smaller than 50mm x 50mm should not be used on the floor.
- 4) If the floor includes expansion joints, The Tilebacker must not be fitted over them.