



ARDEX Products and Dew Point

Dew point is the temperature at which moisture in the air condenses and forms liquid water on surfaces. This temperature varies based on site conditions. Every space, whether exterior or interior, acclimated or not, has a dew point.

In exterior as well as non-acclimated, interior spaces, the chances of being close to dew point are much greater. On the other hand, when an area is enclosed and acclimated (HVAC operating properly), it is not likely that dew point will be reached. For example, in a space with a temperature of 70°F and an ambient humidity of 50%, the dew point for the space is 50°F.

We are writing to clarify our recommendations for installations in spaces in which dew point may be a concern. Integrity, performance and/or aesthetic issues can occur when certain ARDEX products are exposed to condensation.

Prior to installing ARDEX products, check the temperature of the substrate to verify that this temperature is at least 5°F higher than the dew point, and rising, for the given temperature in the space. For example, if the dew point in the space is 60°F, the slab temperature must be 65°F or higher and rising.

Please see below for guidelines regarding dew point for specific ARDEX product families. For reference, a dew point chart can be found [here](#).

ARDEX MC Moisture Control Products - It is critical that ARDEX MC products not be exposed to condensation during installation or cure.

Interior-grade products (underlayments, toppings, adhesives, etc.) - As a general rule, any product that is recommended exclusively for interior use should be installed in a permanently acclimated space. For approved installations in non-acclimated spaces, please note that condensation can compromise bond and/or performance of materials during placement and cure. Condensation also can affect the aesthetic value of cured toppings.

Exterior-grade, aesthetic resurfacing products (ARDEX K 301, ARDEX CD, ARDEX CG) - Just as these products should not be exposed to rainfall during or up to 8 hours after installation, they also should not be exposed to condensation during this time.

ECRS Mortars (ARDEX ERM, ARDEX TRM, ARDEX FDM, etc.) - Avoid extreme condensation that causes water to puddle during installation and cure.

Primers (ARDEX EP 2000 / ARDEX BACA, P 51, etc.) - Primers should not be exposed to condensation and/or rainfall as this could compromise the performance of the primer and/or the bond of subsequently installed materials.

If you have any questions, please call us or send us an email at help.technical@ardexamericas.com.

Seth Pevarnik
Director of Technical Services