

# FractureFree® Crack Prevention Membrane



## 1. Product Name

FractureFree® Crack Prevention Membrane

## 2. Product Description

A ready-to-use, elastomeric, crack prevention membrane developed for protecting tile floors from non-structural cracks due to minor surface movement. Suitable for all interior or exterior commercial and residential tile and stone installations. Meets A118.12 for crack isolation membranes.

### Key Features

- Can easily be applied by roller or trowel
- Multi-environmental use for various project scopes
- Isolates cracks in tile and stone floors up to 1/8" (3 mm)

### Suitable Substrates

- Concrete, cement mortar, masonry
- Cement Backerboard
- Exterior Plywood and OSB (interior, dry areas only)
- Exterior Decks - Contact Technical Services
- Post-Tension Concrete - Contact Technical Services
- Lightweight Concrete (min. 2000 psi compressive strength)
- Gypsum-Based cement topping (min. 2000 psi compressive strength)
- Existing ceramic tile and resilient flooring

### Limitations to the Product

- Do not apply to surfaces that may go below 40°F (4°C) during the first 72 hours after application, over wet surfaces or surfaces subject to hydrostatic pressure.
- Do not use to bridge or cover over existing expansion, control, construction, cold or saw-cut joints.
- Not for use as an adhesive.
- Not for controlling vertical movement cracks.
- Do not use as a wear surface. Membrane must be covered with tile.
- Do not use solvents in conjunction with membrane.

### Packaging

3 1/2 gallon (13.25 L) Pails

## 3. Technical Data

### Applicable Standards

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) ANSI A108.01, A108.17 and A118.12 American National Standards for the Installation of Ceramic Tile ASTM International (ASTM)

- ASTM C627 Standard Test Method for Evaluating Ceramic Floor Tile Installation Systems Using the Robinson-Type Floor Tester
- ASTM D638 Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics

Tile Council of North America (TCNA) TCNA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation, TCNA Method EJ171, F125 & F125A

### Technical Chart

Property	Test Method	Requirement	Typical Results
Fungus Resistance	A 118.10 4.1	No Growth	Pass
Seam Strength	A 118.10 4.2	> 8 lbs/ inch width	16 lbs./2 inch (>7.3 kg/5cm) width
Breaking Strength	A 118.10 4.3	> 170 psi	484 psi (34.0 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Dimensional Stability	A 118.10 4.4	+/- 0.7%	0.05%
Waterproofness	A 118.10 4.5	No Water Penetration	N/A
Shear Bond Strength to Cement Mortar			
Four Week Shear Strength	A 118.10 5.5	> 50 psi	267 psi (18.8 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Shear Strength after Water Immersion	A 118.10 5.4	> 50 psi	N/A
System Crack Resistance			
Standard Performance	A 118.12 5.4	> 1/16" and < 1/8"	Pass
High Performance	A 118.12 5.4	> 1/8"	Pass
Point Load	A 118.12 5.2	> 1000 lbs	> 1000 psi
Robinson Test	A 118.12 5.3	As Specified	Heavy Duty
Sound Transmission Reduction (IIC)	A 118.13 5.3	> 10	N/A

### Environmental Consideration

Custom® Building Products is committed to environmental responsibility in both products produced and in manufacturing practices.

## 4. Instructions

### General Surface Prep

**USE CHEMICAL-RESISTANT GLOVES, such as nitrile, when handling product.**

Exterior and wet areas must have proper sloping to drains. All surfaces must be structurally sound, clean, dry and free from contaminants that would prevent a good bond. Newly prepared concrete must be troweled smooth and textured to a fine broom finish and cured for 28 days. Existing surfaces must be scarified and leveled, and all defects must be repaired. Cracks exceeding 1/8" (3 mm) should be treated in accordance with TCNA F125 or TCNA F125A.

### Bonding To Concrete Surfaces

Concrete must be fully cured and accept water penetration. Test by

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sprinkling water on various areas of the substrate. If water penetrates, then a good bond can be achieved. If water beads, surface contaminants are present and loss of adhesion may occur. The contaminants should be removed before installation. Concrete must be free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure.

## Bonding to Plywood and OSB Surfaces

Plywood floors must be structurally sound and meet all ANSI and deflection requirements. For questions about proper subfloor installation, call Custom Technical Services.

## Movement Joint Placement

Do not bridge joints designed to experience movement. Carry these types of joints through the tile work. Clean the joint and install an open or closed cell-backer rod to the proper depth, as outlined in the Tile Council Handbook, EJ171. Next compress sealant into the joint, coating the sides and leaving the sealant flush with the surface. When the sealant is dry, place bond-breaker tape over the joint. Apply a minimum 3/64" (1.2 mm) of FractureFree Crack Prevention Membrane over the joint and the substrate, following the instructions provided previously. Install the tile work onto the membrane, but do not bridge the joint. After the tile work is properly set, follow the architect's and manufacturer's instructions to fill the joint with a specified color sealant.

## Application of Product

Force FractureFree® into cracks with the flat side of a trowel, or a roller or brush. Then, using a 3/16" x 1/4" (5 x 6 mm) V-notch trowel or 3/8" (9.5 mm) rough textured roller, apply additional material onto the substrate. If using a trowel, use the flat side of the trowel and flatten the ridges to form a continuous, even coat of material. Membrane should extend beyond both sides of the crack a minimum of the diagonal measurement of the tile. For continuous crack isolation, cover the entire substrate with FractureFree applied at a rate of 100 sq. ft. per gallon. To meet the requirements of ANSI A118.12, apply two coats of FractureFree at a rate of 50 sq. ft. per gallon each coat.

## Curing of Product

The product is beige when wet and it turns a solid mustard color when dry, normally 1.5 to 2 hours. Depending on ambient conditions, drying time can take up to 12 hours.

## Cleaning of Equipment

Clean tools and hands with water before material dries. Clean all spray equipment immediately after use.

## Health Precautions

Wear impervious gloves and eye protection while using this product. Avoid contact with eyes or prolonged contact with skin. Wash thoroughly after handling. If eye contact occurs, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes, remove contact lenses if easy to do: continue rinsing. Immediately seek medical advice if symptoms are significant or persist. Do not take internally. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

## Conformance to Building Codes

Installation must comply with the requirements of all applicable local, state and federal code jurisdictions.

## 5. Size & Availability

Item Code	Size	Color	Package
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FFM3	3 1/2 gallon (13.25 L)	Beige	Pail
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## 6. Product Warranty

Custom® Building Products warrants to the original consumer purchaser that its product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal and proper usage for a period of one year following the date of original purchase. Custom's® sole liability under this warranty shall be limited to the replacement of the product. Some states, countries or territories do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty will not extend to any product which has been modified in any way or which has not been used in accordance with Custom's® printed instructions. Custom® makes no other warranties either expressed or implied. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary from state to state or from one country/territory to another. For details and complete warranty information, visit [custombuildingproducts.com](http://custombuildingproducts.com)

## 7. Product Maintenance

Properly installed product requires no special maintenance.

## 8. Technical Services Information

For technical assistance, contact Custom® Building Products.

## 9. Filing System

Additional product information is available from the manufacturer upon request.

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## Coverage Chart

Size	Min Coverage
3.5 Gallon (13.25 L)	350 sq. ft. (32.5 m <sup>2</sup> )