



# SL C530 FLEX

## HIGHLY FLEXIBLE, FIBRE-REINFORCED SMOOTHING COMPOUND

TECHNICAL SHEET NO: TDS01731 17/11/2023

### SMART ADVANTAGES

- Fibre-reinforced for flexibility
- Rapid setting
- Can be used over sound, firmly bonded timber flooring

### DESCRIPTION

Bostik SL C530 FLEX is a flexible smoothing compound, which is reinforced with fibres. It has excellent workability and flow characteristics, is self-smoothing and can be trowelled to thicknesses of between 3mm and 30mm in a single application.

It is suitable for smoothing and levelling sound, strong substrates where minimal vibration or lateral movement occurs. It can be laid over most common substrates including concrete subfloors, sand/cement screeds, stone, calcium sulphate-based screeds, mastic asphalt, rigid metal and firmly bonded unglazed ceramic, terrazzo & quarry tiles. It may also be used over sound, firmly bonded timber flooring such as flooring grade plywood and P5 chipboard, provided the timber is mechanically fixed. It is not suitable for use over existing adhesive or water-soluble residues.

Bostik SL C530 FLEX is protein-free, making it suitable for use in biologically sensitive areas. The low-odour formulation makes Bostik SL C530 FLEX ideal for use in occupied buildings.

It is suitable for use with warm water and electrical radiant underfloor heating systems, provided a surface temperature of +27°C is not exceeded. It is suitable for normal wear in domestic and commercial locations. It is not to be used as a wearing surface and should always be covered with a floor covering. For interior use only.



### TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

<b>Colour</b>	Grey
<b>Form</b>	Dry, free flowing powder
<b>Composition</b>	Blend of cements and fibres
<b>Application temperature</b>	+5°C to +27°C
<b>Gauging liquid</b>	Water
<b>Application thickness</b>	3mm to 30mm
<b>Working times</b>	Up to 20 minutes after mixing (depending on ambient temperature and humidity)
<b>Drying times</b>	<p>Light foot traffic: approx. 4 hours</p> <p>Loose lay floor coverings: approx. 8 hours</p> <p>Bonded floor coverings: approx. 12 hours</p> <p>Resilient floor coverings: approx. 12 hours</p> <p>Ceramic tiles: approx. 12 hours</p> <p>Textile coverings: approx. 12 hours</p> <p>Over truly non-absorbent subfloors allow 24 hours before laying floor coverings</p>

	(3mm thickness at +20°C, depending on application thickness, ambient temperature and humidity)
<b>Compressive strength</b>	Typically, 30N/mm <sup>2</sup> after 28 days
<b>Flexural strength</b>	Typically, 7N/mm <sup>2</sup> after 28 days

#### COVERAGE

- Approx. 4m<sup>2</sup> per bag at 3mm thickness (depending on the smoothness and absorbency of the floor surface)

#### APPLICATION

**IMPORTANT:** Before using Bostik SL C530 FLEX, refer to the relevant Health & Safety Data Sheet, available at [www.bostik.com/uk](http://www.bostik.com/uk).

All phases of the application should comply with the current editions of:

- BS 8102 Code of practice for protection of below ground structures against water ingress.
- BS 5325 Code of practice for installation of textile floor coverings.
- BS 8203 Code of practice for installation of resilient floor coverings.
- BS 8201 Code of practice for installation of flooring of wood and wood-based panels.

Ensure the correct PPE is worn during use.

#### PREPARATION

- Ensure the subfloor is clean, sound and dry (<75%RH), of adequate tensile & compressive strength, free from laitance, cracks, structural defects and contaminants that may prevent adhesion (e.g., dust, oil, grease, paint, plaster, polish, some curing compounds, surface hardeners, additives and adhesive residues must be completely removed), and conforms to BS 8204 code of practice.
- Any deep depressions in the floor should be filled with Bostik Rapid Repair Mortar and allowed to dry.
- The temperature of the floor and application environment must be stable and maintained between +5°C and +27°C throughout the application and drying of the smoothing compound.

#### UNDERFLOOR HEATING

- Bostik SL C530 FLEX can be used on substrates containing warm water underfloor heating systems. The system must be switched off 48 hours prior to, during and for 48 hours post application. To prevent rapid dehydration, wait 48 hours after installation before gradually turning up underfloor heating.
- Bostik SL C530 FLEX can be used to encapsulate electrical radiant underfloor heating which is bedded into pre-routed boards. Sufficient thickness of Bostik SL C530 FLEX must be applied to support the expected loading on the floor (typically a minimum of 3mm over the matting). The system must be switched off 48 hours prior to, during and for 48 hours post application. To prevent rapid dehydration, wait 48

hours after installation before gradually turning up underfloor heating.

#### PLYWOOD AND CHIPBOARD SUBSTRATES

- The timber-based substrate must be acclimatised and fixed in accordance with the industry standards.
- The surface must be clean dry and dust free.
- Prime the surface using the appropriate primer from the selection chart below.
- An application thickness of 6mm should not be exceeded on timber-based substrates.

#### GYPSUM (ANHYDRITE SCREEDS)

- Non-cementitious screeds based on anhydrite or hemihydrate (generally referred to as calcium sulphate-based screeds) must be tested for moisture content in accordance with BS 8203 : 2017 Installation of Resilient Floor Coverings prior to applying Bostik products. Removal of surface laitance must be carried out before moisture testing and application of the smoothing compound.
- For screeds reading below 75%RH, a primer must be applied to prevent reaction between the screed and the cementitious smoothing compound. Bostik GRIP A256 UNIVERSAL (diluted 1 : 3 with water) is recommended.
- Non-cementitious screeds based on anhydrite or hemihydrate (generally referred to as calcium sulphate-based screeds) that contain underfloor heating systems, must be fully dry (reading 75%RH or lower) prior to the application of Bostik primers and smoothing compounds.
- An application thickness of 10mm should not be exceeded on calcium sulphate-based substrates.

#### PRIMING

- When applying Bostik SL C530 FLEX, the subfloor must be primed prior to the application of the smoothing compound. See table below, refer to separate technical data sheets for primer application and drying times.
- Priming will minimise preferential absorption and will reduce the risk of pin holing and extend the working time to result in the ideal surface finish.
- For very porous substrates or substrates likely to produce air bubbles in a smoothing compound, a second application of the primer is recommended.
- Note: Application on any substrate at a thickness greater than 10mm will require the inclusion of Bostik GRIP A936 XPRESS.

Porous substrates	Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL (diluted 1 : 2 with water)
Dense/non-porous substrates, including epoxy membranes	Undiluted Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL or Bostik GRIP A936 XPRESS (for applications above 10mm)
Calcium sulphate-based screeds	Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL (diluted 1 : 3 with water) Once dry, apply a second coat of primer (diluted 1 : 1 with water) (for applications up to 10mm max)
Applications in excess of 10mm of smoothing	Bostik GRIP A936 XPRESS

compound	
Flooring grade plywood (must be mechanically fixed)	Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL (diluted 1 : 2 with water) (for applications up to 6mm max)
Mastic asphalt	Undiluted Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL (for applications up to 5mm max)
Electrical radiant underfloor heating systems	Contact Technical Services

### MIXING & APPLICATION THICKNESS

- Pour 4 litres of clean, cold water into a clean mixing bucket.
- Gradually add the 20kg bag of Bostik SL C530 FLEX powder to the water, whilst continually mixing with an electric drill and mixing paddle until a smooth, lump-free mixture is obtained. This will normally be achieved after 2 minutes. Do not under mix. Optimal results can be achieved by allowing the mixed material to stand/mature for 1 minute and then mixing again for 1 minute.
- Note: adding additional water may result in separation of the smoothing compound.
- Bostik SL C530 FLEX can be applied from 3mm to 30mm in a single application - 10mm maximum total thickness on sound & primed calcium sulphate-based screeds and 5mm maximum total thickness on sound & primed mastic asphalt. Contact Technical Services for further details.
- Any subsequent layers (up to a maximum combined thickness of 30mm) are best applied as soon as the first layer is set for walking, but still damp. If it is dry, an intermediate primer coat of Bostik GRIP A526 UNIVERSAL (diluted 1 : 2 with water) is required.
- The mixture will remain workable for approximately 20 minutes under normal conditions. If the mix begins to stiffen before it has been spread, it must be discarded. Do not re-temper or add further water.

### APPLICATION

- Pour the mixed material onto the prepared subfloor in a continuous operation.
- Using a steel trowel or pin rake, apply Bostik SL C530 FLEX evenly to the required thickness.
- Use a spiked roller to deaerate the smoothing compound and smooth out any trowel lines whilst the smoothing compound is still fluid.
- Protect surface from traffic prior to laying a floor covering. Ensure the smoothing compound is fully dry before applying a floor covering.

### DRYING TIMES

- Drying times may vary depending upon site conditions, substrate type and installation environment.
- The drying time depends on how absorbent the subfloor is, the air humidity and both the ambient & floor temperatures.
- Thicker applications will prolong overall drying times.
- Based on good ambient conditions of +20°C and 3mm thickness, the smoothing compound can be laid directly over after the following times:

Light foot traffic	4 hours approx.
Loose lay floor coverings	8 hours approx.
Bonded floor coverings	12 hours approx.
Resilient floor coverings	12 hours approx.
Ceramic tiles	12 hours approx.
Textile coverings	12 hours approx.
Over truly non-absorbent subfloors, before laying floor coverings	24 hours approx.
Other floor coverings	Contact Technical Services

- The working and drying times of the smoothing compound will be reduced in higher temperatures and increased in lower temperatures.

### CLEANING

- Clean tools and equipment with warm, soapy water immediately after use. Remove surplus smoothing compound from surfaces whilst it is still wet. Dried and hardened smoothing compound can only be removed mechanically.

### STORAGE

- Store and transport securely. Store for up to 6 months from date of manufacture in original, unopened packaging, clear of the ground, in cool, dry conditions within the temperature range +5°C to +25°C and out of direct sunlight. Protect from excessive drafts, frost, damp, condensation and dew.

### PRECAUTIONS IN USE

Do not use as a substitute for a DPM. An effective membrane is required to prevent water entering the system. Protect surface from foot traffic prior to installing a floor covering. Ensure the smoothing compound is fully dry before installing a floor covering. During drying, protect the freshly applied product from strong sunlight and through draughts. Protect from rain and frost. Do not force dry the smoothing compound. Application in high temperatures may result in rapid setting and poor flow. The rapid loss of water may increase the risk of cracking.

The mix ratios and temperatures need to be followed accurately. Changing the mix ratios will disrupt the system and risk product failure.

For any application not covered, please contact Technical Services on +44 (0)1785 272625 or visit [www.bostik.com/uk](http://www.bostik.com/uk) for advice.

Recommendations and suggestions are for guidance only, since conditions of use are completely beyond our control.

For health and safety instruction, first aid measures and spillage and disposal instructions, see separate Health and Safety Data sheet for Bostik SL C530 FLEX, available at [www.bostik.com/uk](http://www.bostik.com/uk).

**PACKAGING****Product codes**

30620339

20kg bag

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