



# Ceramic Tile & Stone Over Painted Surfaces TDS 131

A layer of paint between the tile adhesive and substrate can eventually break down or deteriorate when the surface is sealed. Moisture in the wall, or free alkali in plaster or cement, can cause deterioration of the paint layer. This produces a gummy mass causing tile to lose bond.

The preferred methods for installing tile over painted surfaces:

- Completely remove paint by sanding, scarifying, or other mechanical means then install tile or stone by thin set method. Or,
- Install tile backer board per manufactures instructions then install tile or stone by thin set method. Or,
- Mechanically fasten 3.2# diamond metal lath on 15# builder's felt over the painted surfaces. Then apply a scratch and leveling coat of 3701 Fortified Mortar, 3701 Lite Mortar, or 3701 Lite Mortar R to the lath, allow it to harden, and install tile by the thin set method.
- These methods may qualify for a 1-, 5-, 10-, or 25-Year System Warranty. See warranties listed at [www.laticrete.com](http://www.laticrete.com).

## Oil Base Paint

It is imperative that all oil-based paint be removed from wall or floor surfaces before tile is installed. Paint may be scarified or sanded if hard or brittle. As an alternative, a commercial paint remover can be used to strip the paint film from the surface. When commercial paint removers or any chemicals are used, it is necessary to wash the surfaces with a detergent (e.g., Tri-sodium Phosphate (TSP), Spic and Span®, etc.) to take off any residue of wax or oil that may be left from the paint remover before installing tile.

## Latex Paint

While it is best to sand, scarify, or remove the paint entirely before tile installation, some latex house paints may be compatible with some tile adhesives in interior dry areas. Care must be taken to determine that the paint is sound, well bonded to the surface, and not in a wet area. Always conduct bond testing to determine if a suitable bond can be achieved.

## Epoxy Paint

When bonding of tile over existing interior epoxy paint is necessary, it is best to scuff up the painted surface, clean the area of any residue and install tile with LATAPOXY® 300 Adhesive or LATAPOXY BIOGREEN™ 300.

All LATICRETE® products are covered by a 1 Year Product Warranty. However, please note that LATICRETE® does **not** warranty the bond of any LATICRETE® products directly applied to where paint, primer, or residue from paint or primer remain.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice.  
TDS 131.doc

For latest revision, check our website at [www.laticrete.com](http://www.laticrete.com)  
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