

Guidelines for the Placement of Apex Multi Underlayment During Cold Weather



Introduction

Apex Multi is a wet-laid cement-based underlayment. As with all cementitious materials, special care must be taken during placement in colder weather when temperatures can fall below **50°F**.

Industry best practice recommends that both the **substrate and ambient air temperatures remain within safe working ranges** during installation and early curing. For Apex Multi Underlayment, this means maintaining temperatures between **50°F and 85°F** during placement and for at least **72 hours after installation**.

It is important to note that in cold conditions, a concrete slab may take significant time to warm up, even if the surrounding air temperature has increased.

Building standards also advise that concrete and underlayment materials should not be installed during weather conditions that could negatively affect the finished construction. Any material damaged by freezing temperatures must be removed and replaced.

Temperatures to Monitor

Four temperatures must be considered when working with Apex Minerals in cold weather: ground temperature, concrete temperature, and ambient air temperature.

- **Substrate/Slab Temperature:** The substrate/slab temperature must be above 50°F.
- **Underlayment Temperature:** The temperature of Apex Multi shall not be less than 50°F. This temperature should be maintained during mixing and installation, and for at least the first 48 hours after placement, to allow the underlayment to achieve sufficient strength to resist damage. Temperatures below 50°F will significantly reduce strength development.
- **Air Temperature:** Apex Multi should not be installed at ambient air temperatures below 50°F.
- **Storage Temperature:** Apex Multi should be stored at a minimum of 30° F.

