

# SURFIX™ SKM

POLYMER-MODIFIED, RAPID-SETTING, TROWEL-APPLIED PATCHING COMPOUND

## DESCRIPTION

SURFIX™ SKM is a polymer-modified, rapid-setting, interior patching compound used to fill voids and smooth the surfaces of porous concrete and approved wood underlayments prior to the installation of finished floor coverings.

When mixed with ACRYLIC BONDCRETE, the 2-coat Acryl-SKM System is suitable for installation to other properly prepared substrates, such as: hardened concrete, cutback & adhesive residue, cementitious terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, single layer fully bonded VCT and embossed, non-cushioned residential sheet vinyl.

## APPLICATIONS

Low spots, transitions and thresholds  
Fills voids and smooths surfaces  
Floors needing a thin skim coat

## ADVANTAGES

Accepts flooring in as little as 1 hour  
Workable for 10-15 minutes  
Compatible with most flooring adhesives  
No dangerous emissions or irritating fumes  
Will not contribute to the growth of mold or mildew  
Environmentally friendly. May be LEED eligible; visit [www.penetronsp.com](http://www.penetronsp.com) for LEED contributions document

## SHELF LIFE / STORAGE

6 months from the date of manufacture, when unopened bags are properly stored in a cool, dry place, unexposed to moisture and sunlight.

## PACKAGING

25-lb (11.3-kg) bags

## TECHNICAL DATA

### Approximate coverage (Yield) per 25-lb (11.3-kg) bag:

Up to 140 ft<sup>2</sup> (13 m<sup>2</sup>) at 1/32" (0.8 mm)

### Installation thickness:

Feather edge up to 1/2" (1.3 cm)  
Any thickness in small defined areas

### Application temperature range:

50-95°F (10-35°C)

**NOTE:** Above 85°F (29°C), use ACI Hot Weather Application Guidelines.

### Set (ASTM C191; 70°F (21°C), 50% RH):

Working time	10-15 minutes
Final set	30 minutes

### Color:

Gray

### Accepts coverings (70°F (21°C), 50% RH):

Standard floor covering, such as VCT, ceramic tile and action back carpet, can be placed in as little as 60 minutes after application or when completely dry.

**NOTE:** Cooler temperatures, inadequate ventilation and higher humidity can extend drying times. The addition of ACRYLIC BONDCRETE, substrate porosity and application thickness can affect working and drying times. Additionally, some coverings and adhesives are more moisture sensitive; ensure the applied underlayment is completely dry before installing the selected floor covering. All data derived from tests under laboratory conditions; field conditions may yield slightly different results.

## DIRECTIONS FOR USE

### Surface preparation:

**NOTE:** SURFIX™ SKM is not a vapor barrier. Penetron Specialty Products recommends testing per ASTM F1869 for Moisture Vapor Emission Rate (MVER) and ASTM F2170 for RH. If the readings exceed those of a coating, adhesive or flooring manufacturer's product that will be applied (whichever is stricter), use VB 225™ prior to installation.

**All surfaces:** Surfaces must be clean, sound, dry, minimum 50°F (10°C) and free of oil, gypsum compounds, wax, grease, sealers, coatings, curing compounds, urethane, paint, asphalt, dirt, loose surface material or any contaminant that will act as a bond breaker. Never use acid or mastic removers on any surface to which a Penetron Specialty Products flooring preparation product will be applied. Honor all existing expansion joints, control joints and moving cracks. Failure to do so could result in delamination or cracking of the SURFIX™ SKM.

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When MVER exceeds 5 lb (2.3 kg), but is below 8 lb (3.6 kg), per ASTM F1869, and the rate is still within the finished flooring manufacturer's guidelines, use the Acryl-SKM System.

**Concrete:** Weak surfaces must be cleaned to solid sound concrete by mechanical means, such as chipping, shot-blasting, grinding or scarifying; remove all dust by sweeping and vacuuming.

**Non-porous:** Substrates must be abraded to a dull finish. Remove all dust by sweeping and vacuuming, followed by damp mopping.

**Wood:** Prepare substrates by sanding to clean bare wood and secure loose boards with deck screws. Subfloors must be minimum 3/4" (2 cm) solid hardwood, untreated, APA rated, tongue & groove, Type 1, exterior grade plywood, OSB or equal. The subfloor must be free of deflection (minimum L/360), considering both live and dead loads. Remove all dust by sweeping and vacuuming.

**Adhesive residue:** SURFIX™ SKM can be installed over thin (translucent), sound, non-water soluble adhesives that are free of tack and well-bonded to the substrate. The adhesive cutback needs to be prepared using the wet scrape method as outlined in the Resilient Floor Covering Institute booklet "Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings." Remove all patching materials below the adhesive. If adhesive inter reaction, migration or staining are a concern, install an approved Penetron Specialty Products self-leveling underlayment.

**NOTE:** Contact Penetron Specialty Products Technical Support for application recommendations on any surface not specifically listed on this Product Data Sheet.

## Mixing:

Mix the amount of SURFIX™ SKM that can be placed within 10-15 minutes at minimum 70°F (21°C) by combining 3 parts powder to 1 part cool liquid. High temperatures and over mixing will shorten working time, and cooler temperatures will prolong it.

For best results, add powder to liquid while mixing to a lump free, creamy consistency. Use a low-speed 1/2" drill and a mixing paddle. Do not re-temper or overwater. When mixing smaller quantities, agitate SURFIX™ SKM first in pails, due to possible settlement.

## Installation:

SURFIX™ SKM should not be used to fill or cover expansion joints. Follow all procedures in the "Surface Preparation" section.

**Single-coat applications:** On properly prepared, approved wood and porous concrete substrates, use SURFIX™ SKM mixed with water from a feather edge up to 1/2" (13 mm) thick maximum.

**Enhanced SURFIX™ SKM:** Mix 3 parts water to 1 part ACRYLIC BONDCRETE up to 1/4" (6 mm) maximum. Enhanced application will provide increased working time and better performance over

very porous or dry substrates. Always apply with sufficient force to fill all voids and ensure a good bond.

**Acryl-SKM System:** The Acryl-SKM System is a 2 coat application for use over the following properly prepared substrates: hardened concrete, cutback & adhesive residue, cementitious terrazzo, ceramic and quarry tile, single layer fully bonded VCT and embossed, non-cushioned residential sheet vinyl.

**First coat:** Mix SURFIX™ SKM with undiluted ACRYLIC BONDCRETE and apply from 1/16"-1/8" (2-3 mm) maximum thickness. Allow the first coat to fully dry before applying the second coat, ensuring the second coat covers the first coat completely.

**Second coat:** Mix SURFIX™ SKM with 3 parts water and 1 part ACRYLIC BONDCRETE and apply to 1/4" (6 mm) maximum thickness. Allow the second coat to dry completely before installing the finished flooring.

For embossing filler applications, ensure the first coat completely covers the surface. Apply both coats as thin as possible.

Contact Penetron Specialty Products Technical Support for additional information and recommendations not specifically listed on this Product Data Sheet. Installation videos can be found on the Penetron Specialty Products website: [www.penetronsp.com](http://www.penetronsp.com).

## Curing:

SURFIX™ SKM is self-curing. Do not use damp curing methods or curing and sealing compounds. Protect from excessive heat, cold, direct sunlight and forced air movement conditions during its initial curing stage and for the first 24 hours. These variables can cause uneven curing patterns, a false set, and cracking.

## APPLICATION TOOLS

Mixing pail, mixing paddle, 1/2" light duty drill and hand trowels.

## CLEAN UP

Clean all tools and equipment with water immediately after use, prior to material hardening.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Penetron Specialty Products recommends installing a test area, ensuring suitability of SURFIX™ SKM for intended use
- Do not install if the substrate moisture vapor content (RH) or surface moisture vapor transmission rate (Calcium Chloride) exceeds flooring manufacturer's recommendations
- Do not use for exterior applications
- Substrate must have a minimum direct tensile bond test reading of 72 psi per ASTM C1583

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## JOB MOCKUPS

Penetron Specialty Products recommends that, when our products are used in any application or as part of any system that includes other manufacturers' products, the installer and/or design professional shall test all the system components collectively for compatibility, performance and long-term intended use in accordance with pertinent and accepted industry standards prior to any installation. Written documentation of the tests performed shall be satisfactory to the design professional and installer. Test results must include the means and methods of application, products used, project specific conditions being addressed, and standardized tests performed for each proposed system or variation.

## SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Before using this product, review the SURFIX™ SKM Safety Data Sheet (SDS) that can be found on the Penetron Specialty Products website: [www.penetronsp.com](http://www.penetronsp.com). Avoid contact with eyes and wear suitable protective eyewear. Avoid prolonged or repeated contact with skin. Wear gloves and suitable protective clothing. Do not breathe dust. In case of insufficient ventilation, wear respiratory equipment. For additional information regarding first aid and emergency procedures, refer to the product Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

### Waste disposal:

This product, when discarded or disposed of, is not listed as a hazardous waste in federal regulations. Dispose in a landfill in accordance with local regulations.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN

**WARRANTY:** PENETRON SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. warrants that the products manufactured by it shall be free from material defects and will conform to formulation standards and contain all components in their proper proportion. Should any of the products be proven defective, the liability to PENETRON SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. shall be limited to replacement of the material proven to be defective and PENETRON SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. shall in no case be liable otherwise or for incidental or consequential damages. **PENETRON SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. MAKES NO WARRANTY AS TO MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND THIS WARRANTY IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED.** User shall determine the suitability of the product for its intended use and assume all risks and liability in connection therewith.

This Product Data Sheet has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the time of publication. It is intended to provide users with information about and guidelines for the proper use and application of Penetron Specialty Products under normal environmental and working conditions. Because each project is different, PENETRON SPECIALTY PRODUCTS INC. cannot be responsible for the consequences of variations in such conditions, or for unforeseen conditions.

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