

How To Perform A Bond Test



A Bond Test may be the only way to know if an NAC Membrane System will bond securely to a substrate. Questionable surfaces might be those covered with paint, stain, paint over-spray, concrete with curing/release compounds, carpet or vinyl adhesive/ cut back, a questionable substrate due to temperature, surface roughness or a substrate composed of unknown materials or metal. Usually, the installer can be enlisted to set up a Bond Test so that the customer, builder, architect, or end-user can see the results and make a determination. A bond test is merely a small installation of membrane over a surface in order to determine if sufficient bonding can be achieved. NAC Membrane systems require a clean, dry surface for correct bonding; if there is any doubt, a Bond Test is in order.

A Bond Test is quite simple to perform using the following items; a small broom or whisk brush, damp paper towels, several 12 inch or so squares of membrane, a small amount of the correct primer (see Primer Reference Chart), a 2 or 3 inch wide sponge brush and a trowel.

STEP 1: Choose the worst or most questionable substrate area(s). Sweep the test area **(1a)**, then use a damp paper towel to remove any fine dust

(1b). Make sure the floor is flat, without lumps or bumps. Allow the floor to dry completely.

STEP 2: Use a sponge brush to apply a small amount of primer to the test area. Only a very thin application is needed. The primer begins the process of curing **(2)**, and is ready to accept the membrane when it is tacky to the touch but does not feel wet to your finger.

STEP 3: Remove the white release paper from the back of the membrane and position the membrane on the tacky primer **(3)**.

STEP 4: Use the flat side of the trowel **(4)** or step on the membrane to embed it.

STEP 5: Resist the temptation of pulling up an edge of the membrane as NAC Primers require 24 to 48 hours for curing. After waiting the appropriate amount of time, use a sharp knife **(5)** to make an "X" cut through the membrane and across the diagonal.

STEP 6: Try to pull up the membrane, starting at the center of the "X" **(6)**. (Do not pull up from the edges, the edges often get dirt pushed under them as people walk by and kick at the patches during the curing time.)

ANSI A118.10 specifications call for a bond strength of at least 50 psi. Most installers will know from tugging on the membrane if it is a secure bond.

When considering your application of NAC Products' Membrane Systems, remember that these membranes can only be bonded as securely as the material they are going over is bonded to the substrate. Membranes may pull loose from the substrate during a test for a variety of reasons. For free technical support, please call us at **800.633.4622** or visit NACproducts.com for product information.

	INTERIOR APPLICATION			EXTERIOR APPLICATION		
	Below Grade	On Grade	Above Grade	Below Grade	On Grade	Above Grade
NAC TAC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NAC TAC II		✓	✓			
NS97				✓	✓	✓
Reference the PRIMER PDS SHEET for complete information of NAC Products, Inc. primers.						

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