

Method Statement

Waterproofing with KÖSTER Dachflex



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1 General information

1.1 Scope

This method statement is intended for use by developers, contractors and applicators as a general guideline for the application of the waterproofing system KÖSTER Dachflex. While this document describes the tools, equipment,

materials and step by step process for preparing and installing the waterproofing system, it must be used and referred to, in combination with all other relevant technical information available for the product and its components.

1.2 Manufacturer

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KÖSTER
Waterproofing Systems

1.3 Definitions

Absorption

The process by which one substance, such as a solid or liquid, takes up another substance, such as a liquid or gas, through minute pores or spaces between its molecules. An absorption process is generally reversible.

Crack-bridging

Crack-bridging waterproofing means that a waterproofing system remains intact even though the substrate has cracked. Often "crack-bridging" is confused with "elastic". An elastic material may be far from waterproof when stretched. An elastic material may also be waterproof under normal circumstances, but not once water pressure is applied.

Elasticity

refers to the ability of the material to stretch and flex without losing its structural integrity or compromising its waterproofing properties. Elastic waterproofing materials can accommodate movements in the building structure, such as expansion, contraction, or settlement, without cracking or breaking. This elasticity ensures that the waterproofing system maintains its effectiveness over time, even in dynamic or challenging environments. It helps prevent water intrusion by adapting to the natural movements of the building, thereby enhancing the durability and longevity of the waterproofing solution.

Vapor permeability

refers to the ability of the material to allow water vapor to pass through it while still preventing liquid water from penetrating. Essentially, it means that the material can breathe, allowing moisture to escape from within a structure, while at the same time forming a barrier against external water ingress.

UV reflectance

refers to its ability to reflect ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. Waterproofing materials with high UV reflectance can effectively bounce back UV rays, reducing the amount of heat absorbed by the material and preventing degradation caused by UV exposure. This characteristic helps to extend the lifespan of the waterproofing system by minimizing damage from UV radiation, ultimately enhancing its durability and performance in outdoor environments.

Positive Side Waterproofing

Positive side waterproofing means that the waterproofing layer is applied to the side of the construction member which is in direct contact to the water.

2 System description

2.1 System features

KÖSTER Dachflex is a solvent free, fast drying, breathable and crack-bridging elastomeric waterproofing liquid coating based on styrene acrylic dispersions. After full cure it forms a watertight, seamless elastic coat

with water vapor permeability and UV reflectance properties and is resistant to weathering, frost, and de-icing salts. The cured coating is resistant to occasional foot traffic.

2.2 Characteristics/Advantages

- Ready to use material (1 component)
- Easy to apply
- Seamless waterproofing material
- Good adhesion to multiple substrates
- Multiple surface application
- Durability and resistance to weathering
- Solvent free material
- Usable as final coat for UV reflectance
- Reduction of the energetic cooling needs
- Elongation at break more than 260 %
- Usable as a crack repair system
- Unlike conventional waterproofing coat, KÖSTER Dachflex is vapor permeable. Thus, blisters can be prevented
- Cracks and construction joints can be waterproofed with only KÖSTER Dachflex which is great cost saving
- If existing façade coating contains asbestos, U-cut method will scatter asbestos fiber, with KÖSTER Dachflex can be waterproofed without U-cut method.

2.3 Main products and components

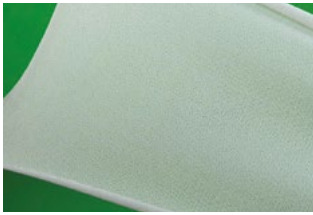


KÖSTER Dachflex

Liquid applied, 1 component, solvent-free, breathable and crack-bridging elastomeric waterproofing coating. KÖSTER Dachflex is a foil like coating, waterproof, and water vapor permeable. The material is highly elastic, quick drying, pasty and with UV reflectance properties.

[See online](#)

2.4 Associated products



KÖSTER Flex Fabric

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Superfleece

[See online](#)



KÖSTER FS Primer 2C

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Sealant FS-H black

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Sealant FS-V black

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Sealant FS-H grey

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Sealant FS-V grey

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Tape 20

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Joint Tape 30

[See online](#)



KÖSTER KB-Pox Adhesive

[See online](#)



KÖSTER PU-Flex 25

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus

[See online](#)



KÖSTER Renovation Paint White

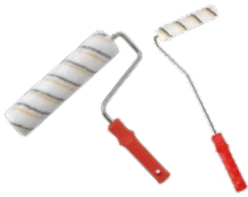
[See online](#)

2.5 Associated literature

- [Technical Data Sheet](#)
- [References](#)

3 Tools and Equipment

3.1 Tools



KÖSTER Resin Roller
150 mm / 250 mm



KÖSTER Brush for
liquids



Trowel



Finishing trowel



Rounded trowel



Mixing vessels (30 l)

3.2 Equipment



Single paddle mixer

3.3 Cleaning

Clean all tools and equipment immediately after use with water. Cured and hardened material can only be removed mechanically.

4 Environmental, health and safety

4.1 Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

The following is a short overview of Personal Protective Equipment and serves only as a guideline. Contractors and Employers are responsible for meeting the occu-

pational safety guidelines in their countries, states, and localities.



Eye protection

Employers must be sure that their employees wear appropriate eye and face protection and that the selected form of protection is appropriate to the work being performed and properly fits each worker exposed to the hazard.

Head protection

Employers must ensure that their employees wear head protection if any of the following apply: Objects might fall from above and strike them on the head; they might bump their heads against fixed objects, such as exposed pipes or beams; or there is a possibility of accidental head contact with electrical hazards.

Foot and Leg Protection

Employees who face possible foot or leg injuries from falling or rolling objects or from crushing or penetrating materials should wear protective footwear.

Hand Protection

When selecting gloves to protect against exposure hazards, always check with the manufacturer or review the manufacturer's product literature to determine the gloves' effectiveness against specific workplace chemicals and conditions. Gloves commonly used are: Coated fabric gloves and Chemical - and Liquid - Resistant Gloves

Hearing protection

Suitable hearing protection must be provided for the job environment.

4.2 Material safety & First Aid

Every KÖSTER product is labeled with specific information and symbols as to the related dangers. Please consult the respective Material Safety Data Sheet for specifics.

If inhaled:

Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. In all cases of doubt, or when symptoms persist, seek medical advice.

In case of contact with eyes:

Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

After contact with skin:

After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of water. Change contaminated clothing. In case of skin irritation, seek medical treatment.

After ingestion:

Do NOT induce vomiting. Rinse mouth immediately and drink plenty of water. Call a physician in any case!

4.3 Waste disposal

Disposal recommendations

Do not allow to enter surface water or drains. Dispose of waste according to applicable legislation.

List of Wastes Code – used products (200128)

MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL WASTES) INCLUDING SEPARATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS; separately collected fractions (except 15 01); paint, inks, adhesives and resins other than those mentioned in 20 01 27.

Contaminated packaging

Water (with cleaning agent). Completely emptied packages can be recycled.

5 Substrate preparation

5.1 Project site conditions

5.1.1 Application temperature

The waterproofing system should be applied at temperatures above +5 °C. It is important to avoid applying the KÖSTER Dachflex in temperatures below +5 °C, as the curing process may be compromised, leading to suboptimal results.

5.1.2 Substrate temperature

The substrate temperature should be above +5 °C.

5.1.3 Relative humidity

Relative humidity should not exceed 85 % as it may affect the final results and curing process.

5.1.4 Moisture content in substrate

The substrate must be prepared in such a way that it does not absorb water from the fresh coating. This can be achieved by diluting KÖSTER Dachflex with clean, potable water (1:1) and applied as primer in one layer.

5.1.5 Rain and frost

KÖSTER Dachflex is water soluble and must be protected from rain before it reaches the full cure. The minimum temperature for application and until final cure must be above +5 °C.

5.2 Substrate requirements

As a rule of thumb, the substrate's moisture content should typically be below 4 % to 5 % before applying waterproofing materials based on styrene acrylic dispersions. Excessive moisture in the substrate can interfere with the curing process of the waterproofing material, leading to poor adhesion, reduced durability, and potential delamination. Concrete substrates must cure for a minimum of 28 days before application. On concrete or mortars with existing paints or coatings a pull-off test

to verify the existing bond must be carried out. Values under 0.8 N/mm² are unacceptable. In such cases the existing paint or coating must be completely removed until a solid, clean substrate is reached. Substrates with a pull-off strength more than 0.8 N/mm² are power washed before application.

Metal substrates must be clean and without any bond inhibiting substances such as oil and grease often applied as a corrosion inhibitor.

5.3 Substrate quality testing



5.3.1 Scratch test

Scratch the substrate with a nail or something similar. If particles come off the surface or if the fingernail can penetrate the substrate, remove the entire weak or sinter layer.



5.3.2 Wipe test

Wipe with your hand over the substrate. If no particles become detached and if the hand remains clean, then the substrate is acceptable.



6.3.3 Water test

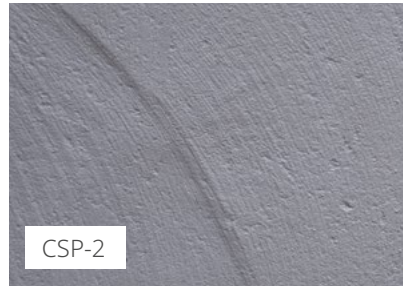
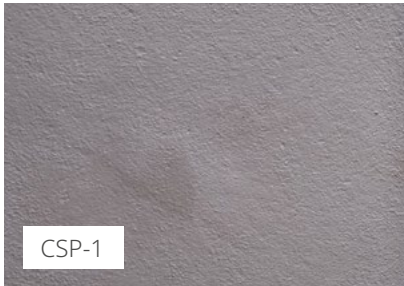
After lightly spraying the surface with water, it can be determined whether there are still separating substances (e.g., formwork oils) on the surface or how strong the absorbency of the substrate is. To evaluate the absorbency of the substrate, wet the substrate. Water which is applied to the substrate must not roll off the surface but it must distribute within a short period of time.

5.4 surface preparations

5.4.1 Concrete surfaces

Concrete surfaces must be prepared to have an open pore surface free of laitance. The surface roughness must present a structure corresponding to a Concrete Surface Profile CSP-1, CSP-2, or CSP-3; according to the

guidelines by the International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI). The surface must then be intensively cleaned prior to the installation.



Suitable surface preparation methods are grinding, high-pressure water blasting (at least 350 bar) and sandblasting/shotblasting.



Grinding

Suitable for creating a CSP-1 to CSP-3.



Sandblasting or shotblasting

Suitable for creating a CSP-2 to CSP-8.

5.4.2 Metal substrate

Surface preparation for metal surfaces may include sandblasting or cleaning with solvents. Allow all solvents to evaporate before application.

5.4.3 Aggregate covered bituminous membrane substrates

Prepare the surface by high-pressure water jetting. Allow to dry. All bubbles to be cut open in an X and lift the edges. Clean and fill the area underneath with KÖSTER Dachflex and adhere by pressing it onto the substrate

and allow the material to cure. This area will be reworked with two layers of KÖSTER Dachflex and KÖSTER Flex Fabric during the following reworking.

5.5 Levelling & repairing the surface

- Damaged concrete or plaster areas, honeycombed areas, cavities, recesses and chipped out areas as well as cracks and holes with a depth of more than 5 mm are to be repaired with KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus.
- Defects, blowholes, holes smaller than 5 mm, and old bituminous substrates are prepared with an unfilled scratch coat which will also reduce the likelihood of bubbling.

5.6 Corners & fillets

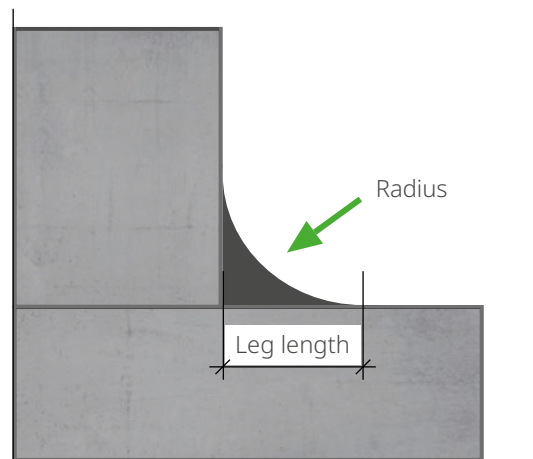
All sharp corners and edges are to be rounded to a radius of approximately 20 cm.

Fillets can be made from KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus with a leg length of 5 cm.



- On areas which are likely to crack, embed KÖSTER Flex Fabric into the fresh first layer. At intersections and details (e.g., wall/floor junctions) KÖSTER Superfleece can be used. Roofs are always completely reinforced with KÖSTER Flex Fabric.

On interior corners a fillet must be installed to reduce stress concentrations in the walls, and therefore in the coating. Install fillets (leg length of approx. 20 cm) made from KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus at least 24 hours before applying the KÖSTER Dachflex.



5.7 Priming the surface

Mineral substrate:

In case of absorbent substrates, KÖSTER Dachflex is diluted with clean water (1:1) and applied as a primer in one layer.

For crack repairs in facades:

Dilute KÖSTER Dachflex 1:4 with clean water. Apply as a primer on the area to be coated.

6 Fields of application

- Crack repair system for facades
- Repair of old waterproofing coatings
- Repair system around window frames in facades
- Waterproofing coating on flat, sloped roofs and facades
- Waterproofing ALC joints

6.1 An example for Waterproofing flat roofs



1. Substrate	Concrete
2. Concrete repair	KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus
3. Installing fillets	KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus
4. Primer	KÖSTER Dachflex
5. Waterproofing Layers (first coat)	KÖSTER Dachflex
6. Reinforcement	KÖSTER Flex Fabric
7. Waterproofing Layers (second coat)	KÖSTER Dachflex
8. Waterproofing wall / floor junctions	KÖSTER Superfleece

Installation process:

Roofs and structures that have suffered damage might necessitate the use of several products to ensure adequate protection. Proper preparation of the substrate plays a crucial role in ensuring a resilient renovation. It is essential to establish a solid foundation for waterproofing the area effectively. The chosen waterproofing system should offer various benefits, including being seamlessly applied in liquid form and possessing crack-bridging capabilities. KÖSTER Dachflex, a single-component polymeric waterproofing material, fulfills all these requirements and offers a convenient, durable, and trustworthy solution for waterproofing needs.

Before installing the waterproofing system, concrete repair work is done. For defects larger than 5 mm are levelled with KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus, the mortar must cure for 24 hours before the application of KÖSTER Dachflex. Voids and cavities smaller than 5 mm are filled with KÖSTER Dachflex. In case of cracks larger than 0.5 mm, bridge the crack with KÖSTER Flex Fabric (10 cm strip) adhered with KÖSTER Dachflex and subsequently brush KÖSTER Dachflex on top of the strip until it

is completely covered. Fillets are installed using KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus and should cure for 24 hours before the application of KÖSTER Dachflex.

In case of absorbent substrates, apply a layer of KÖSTER Dachflex diluted 1:1 with clean, potable water as a primer (consumption approx. 100 – 200 g/m² of diluted material).

The first coat of KÖSTER Dachflex can be applied using a roller with a consumption of approx. 0.75 – 1.0 kg/m². As a reinforcement on the floor area, KÖSTER Flex Fabric is embedded into the fresh coat. On wall / floor junctions, KÖSTER Superfleece is installed in the fresh coat and subsequently brush KÖSTER Dachflex on top of the fleece until it is completely covered.

Drying time of approx. 3 hours should be respected for the application of the second layer of KÖSTR Dachflex. Total consumption of the 2 layers should be approx. 1.5 – 2.0 kg/m².

6.2 An example for waterproofing a roof with existing bituminous membrane substrate



1. Substrate	Bituminous membrane
2. Waterproofing layer (1st coat)	KÖSTER Dachflex
3. Reinforcement (floor area)	KÖSTER Flex Fabric
4. Reinforcement (wall / floor junction)	KÖSTER Superfleece
5. Waterproofing layer (2nd coat)	KÖSTER Dachflex

Installation process:

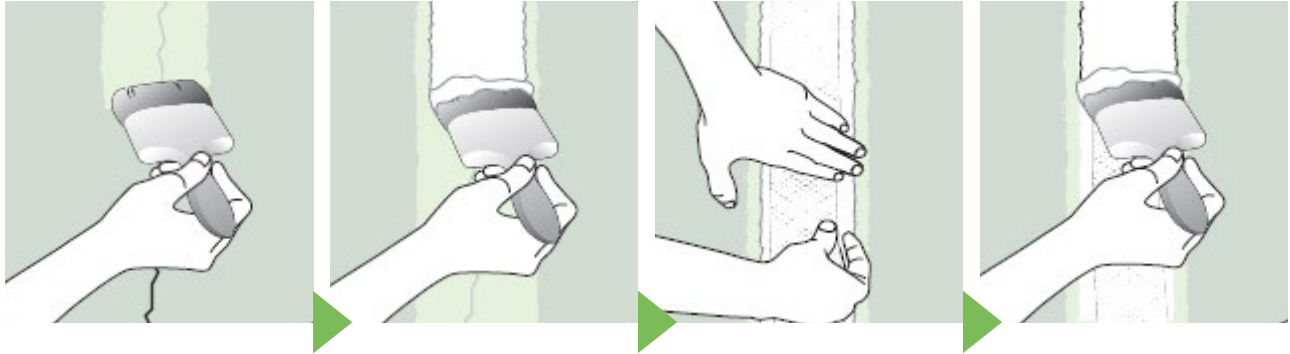
Renovating a bituminous membrane roof with the KÖSTER Dachflex waterproofing material presents a modern solution to aging roofing systems. Bituminous membrane roofs, while durable, can deteriorate over time due to exposure to weather elements and wear. KÖSTER Dachflex offers a seamless and flexible alternative that not only reinforces the existing structure but also provides enhanced protection against leaks and water damage. This innovative approach allows for efficient application, conforming to irregular surfaces and ensuring thorough coverage, thereby extending the lifespan of the roof. In this process, the liquid material forms a resilient barrier, effectively sealing cracks and preventing water infiltration. As a result, the renovated roof gains improved resilience, longevity, and overall performance, providing peace of mind to property owners and occupants alike. The surface to be prepared by high pressure water jetting. Allow to dry completely. All bubbles should be cut

open in a X shape and lift the edges. Clean and fill the area underneath with KÖSTER Dachflex and adhere the edges by pressing it onto the substrate. Allow the material to cure. The area is then covered with the first layer of KÖSTER Dachflex with KÖSTER Flex Fabric embedded in the fresh first layer. As a reinforcement for the wall / floor junctions, KÖSTER Superfleece is embedded in the fresh first layer and covered completely. In case of cracks, they must be securely bridged with KÖSTER Flex Fabric cut into a 10 cm wide strips and fully embedded into the KÖSTER Dachflex. Allow for approx. 3 hours before commencing with the 2nd layer of the KÖSTER Dachflex. Minimum 2 layer of KÖSTER Dachflex (0.75 – 1.0 kg/m² per coat; 1.5 – 2.0 kg/m² total consumption for 2 coats). Depending on the type and age of the bitumen discoloration may occur. This has no effect on the functionality of KÖSTER Dachflex. If desired carry out tests before hand.

6.3 An example of repairing cracks in facades

From cracks to no cracks with the KÖSTER Dachflex. Exterior wall crack waterproofing that does not require a U-cutting method for cracks up to 1 mm. KÖSTER Dachflex has a crack bridging property due to a large elasticity exceeding 250 %. Since KÖSTER Dachflex is

plasticizer-free, there is no deterioration in elasticity over time and no plasticizer bleed contamination. It is also possible to be over-painted with water-based painting since it has great breathability and does not bulge.



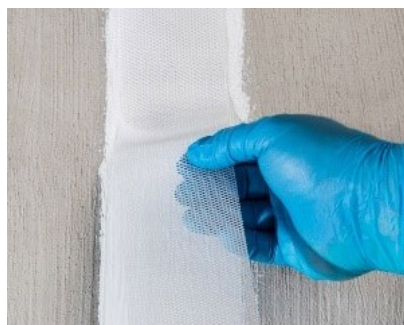
Installation process:

The substrate should be dry to slightly damp, solid, clean, free of loose particles, laitance, efflorescence, formwork release agents, moss, algae, or any other bond-inhibiting substances. Clean off dust completely.

As a primer, KÖSTER Dachflex is diluted with clean water (1:4) and mixed to homogeneity and applied with a brush over the area to be coated. The consumption as primer is approx. 50 - 100 g/m.



A layer of KÖSTER Dachflex (undiluted) is applied 15 cm wide over the crack. KÖSTER Flex Fabric is cut into 10 cm strips. The KÖSTER Flex fabric is embedded into the fresh material, overlapping the strips 5 cm. Immediately or after curing apply a second 20 cm wide layer of KÖSTER Dachflex over the KÖSTER Flex Fabric, so that the material is completely covered and the pattern of the KÖSTER Flex Fabric is no longer seen. The consumption per coat is approx. 130 - 175 g/m.



After cure, a final layer may be applied to smooth transitions and texture the repair. The whole area can be painted over with KÖSTER Renovation Paint White.



Cracks repaired with KÖSTER Dachflex:



Painted surface over KÖSTER Dachflex



6.4 An example for repairing cracks around window frames

Water infiltration commonly occurs at openings in exterior walls of concrete structures. These areas exhibit heightened stress concentrations due to the behavior of the building frame, emphasizing the necessity for elastic waterproofing materials such as KÖSTER Dachflex. In addition to cracks, areas around openings often feature adjustment mortar used for sash installation and joints between building blocks, posing additional challenges for waterproofing. Mere sealing around the sash and repairing visible cracks may prove insufficient.

The aluminum sash surrounding the opening experiences recurrent thermal expansion, exerting stress on the wall. Over time, this stress can lead to cracks and separation between the adjustment mortar and the frame. KÖSTER Dachflex is capable of effortlessly waterproofing both cracks and butted joints around openings, ensuring comprehensive protection against water infiltration. Repair marks will become invisible if finished with a fine elastic filler and water-based top coat.



KÖSTER Dachflex waterproof range

VS



Waterproofing range of U-cut method

The U-cut method is a technique used in construction, particularly in the installation of facade materials such as cladding. It involves cutting a "U" shape into the material

to allow for better flexibility and conformity to the architectural features of a building.



6.5 An example for repairing ALC joints

Since the behavior of ALC (Autoclaved Lightweight Aerated Concrete) structures is even greater than that of RC (reinforced concrete), it is impossible to waterproof them with joint sealant and painting alone. Furthermore, if water leaks are left untreated, the strength of the ALC Plate will decrease and repair will be more difficult. Cracks may occur around the joints on the ALC Version, so it is effective to apply KÖSTER Dachflex across the joints.



7 Application techniques

7.1 Mixing of the KÖSTER Dachflex

Mix the material in the original bucket to homogeneity before use. It can also be thinned up to 5 % of potable water after it has been mixed to homogeneity.

7.2 Applying KÖSTER Dachflex

7.2.1 Brush application

KÖSTER Dachflex can be applied with KÖSTER Brush for Liquids. It's recommended for small details.



7.2.2 Roller application

For large areas it is recommended to apply the KÖSTER Dachflex using a roller.



7.3 Reinforcement

On roofs, it is recommended to install the KÖSTER Flex Fabric onto the first fresh layer on the whole area.

For wall / floor junctions it is recommended to install the KÖSTER Superfleece in the first fresh layer and completely covered with KÖSTER Dachflex.

7.4 Moving joints

If dilation joints are present in the structure, these should be sealed with KÖSTER Joint Tapes 20/30 or suitable jointing compounds such as KÖSTER FS Joint Sealants or KÖSTER PU-Flex 25 before starting with the application of KÖSTER Dachflex. KÖSTER KB-Pox Adhesive is applied to the prepared substrate on both sides of the joint so that both sides of the KÖSTER Joint Tape 20/30 are embedded into the adhesive at least 40 – 50 mm. The layer thickness of the KÖSTER KB-Pox Adhesive should be approx. 1 - 2 mm. The KÖSTER Joint Tape 20/30 is then immediately embedded into the fresh adhesive and pressed



into the adhesive using a hand roller or a similar suited tool. Make sure that the tape has complete contact to the adhesive. A second layer of KÖSTER KB-Pox Adhesive is then applied on top of the KÖSTER Joint Tape 20/30 so that the edges of the tape are over coated at least 40 – 50 mm. The KÖSTER Joint Tape 20/30 can be installed in the middle with a slightly concave form (omega profile) to allow for greater displacements of the joint. KÖSTER Dachflex is applied on both sides of the tape. The joint tape remains free in the middle.



8 Consumption rates

KÖSTER Dachflex consumption as a primer

Approx. 100 – 200 g/m² per coat as a primer diluted with clean water (1:1)

KÖSTER Dachflex consumption as a coating

Approx. 0.75 – 1.0 kg/m² per coat; 1.5 – 2.0 kg/m² total consumption

KÖSTER Dachflex consumption as a primer for cracks

Approx. 50 – 100 g/m for priming cracks diluted with clean water (1:4)

KÖSTER Dachflex consumption as a coating for cracks

Approx. 130 – 175 g/m per coat for cracks

9 General notes

9.1 Material storage

Store the material frost free. In originally sealed packages, the material can be stored for a minimum of 12 months. Water which has separated on the surface can be stirred in.

9.2 Packaging



20 kg Bucket

9.3 Important considerations

- Obey all local, state, and federal codes and regulations regarding the waterproofing of flat roofs.
- All values given for consumption may vary according to the substrate conditions and the waterproofing requirements for each application. All cracks and joints must be addressed before applying the area waterproofing.
- Apply a supplementary layer on all connections, terminations, or overlaps before the main area waterproofing coats. On vertical intersections or on wall/floor junctions, install a filled made of KÖSTER Repair Mortar Plus approx. 24 hours prior to the application of KÖSTER Dachflex.
- The drying time of the coats is extended by low temperatures and/or high humidity.
- When bridging cracks in substrates (not by façade repair) the fleece should be bonded to the crack surface, but instead be separated by 1 cm to effectively bridge it. The upper section of the mesh must be completely covered.
- KÖSTER Dachflex is considered a finishing coat.
- When using roller for application, more coats may be necessary.
- KÖSTER Dachflex is not intended to be used on waterproofing of balconies and terraces under tiles.
- Concrete substrates must cure for a minimum of 28 days before applying KÖSTER Dachflex.
- KÖSTER Dachflex is subject to get dirty after curing. Painting with KÖSTER Renovation Paint white is highly recommended.
- KÖSTER Dachflex is not suitable for foot traffic due to its limited strength. Therefore, it is advisable to avoid using it on sloped roofs where people may need to walk or stand. This precaution is necessary to prevent damage to the material and ensure the safety of individuals accessing the roof.
- If applied on low temperatures below +5 °C, KÖSTER Dachflex will not cure properly.
- A minimum gradient of 2 % must be maintained.
- Please note that national regulations must be observed when reworking roofs.

9.4 Limitations

- Do not mechanically load the coating with objects that can damage it.
- Do not use as a coat for submerged surfaces.
- Do not apply on substrates subjected to condensation or water saturated.
- The ingress of moisture in any form must be excluded until it is completely dry.

10 Certifications

- **Industry classification “Dachflex” registered at the German patent office, 395 06 702**
- **Test Report, College of East Friesland – Water vapor permeability**

11 Legal disclaimer

This method statement reflects general cases with standard parameters. It is not suitable as a step-by-step guide for all and each waterproofing project as the conditions on site at the moment of the application cannot be foreseen. It is solely the applicator's responsibility to

decide on the actual procedure considering the specific situation on the construction site. In any case, KÖSTER's Terms of business are valid and can be viewed under www.koester.eu 