

Installation Guidelines

Acclimatisation of Material

Please make sure at least **24 hours prior to installation**, flooring materials are removed from packaging (tiles and planks may be stacked, but must be rested flat) and allow to condition in the room where the installation is to take place. Room temperature should be kept between **18-26°C**.

Subfloors

Products must be laid only on subfloors with moisture level below **75% RH** when tested with a hygrometer (in line with BS8203-4; 2001 - Installation of resilient floor coverings). If hygrometer readings are above 75%RH it would be necessary to install a surface damp proof membrane (DPM), regardless old or new floors.

Please check "Subfloor preparations" section for further details on subfloors.

• Conservatories

In areas where excessive temperature of 50°C or above is possible (e.g. fully glazed south-facing conservatories) the floor must be installed with **epoxy** adhesive.

It is particularly necessary to keep the temperature in conservatories at 18-26°C 24 hours prior to, during, and 24 hours after installation. It would also be advisable to shade windows prior to and at least 48 hours after installation.

• Underfloor Heating

Our planks/tiles are suitable over underfloor heating systems, but they should have been insulated so that its surface temperature does not go over 27°C.

Universal, High Temperature (HT) or Epoxy adhesives

must be used. The underfloor heating must be switched off 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after the installation, then temperature gradually increased (typically 3 °C/hr) to desired warmth.

For **Electrical Underfloor Heating** please consult the manufacturers to make sure their system is compatible with our flooring. Mesh/Wire systems must be bedded into a base coat of reinforced fibre smoothing compound to cover the wires or mesh. Then a second coat of primer and reinforced fibre smoothing compound should be applied as a finish coat. This is applicable for both concrete and timber construction subfloors.

For **underfloor heating pipes set into concrete**, prime surface before applying a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm.

Subfloor Preparation Existing Floor Coverings (e.g. linoleum, PVC, thermoplastic, carpet)

Remove existing floor covering and all traces of adhesive residues. The sub floor should be treated as per the sub floor exposed.

Concrete/Sand Cement Screeds (New)

For new concrete floors below 75% RH (i.e. dry), clean the floor to remove contamination (laitance, paint, plaster, etc.) then prime the floor and apply a compatible smoothing compound to a **minimum of 3mm**.

For readings above 75% RH floors consult your supplier for information relating to surface DPM requirements.

Concrete/Sand Cement Screeds (Old/Refurbishment)

For readings below 75% RH the floor covering and adhesive residues must be removed, and the surface primed before applying a compatible smoothing compound to a **minimum of 3mm**.

For readings above 75% RH floors consult your supplier for information relating to surface DPM requirements.

Power Floated Concrete

If readings with the hygrometer are below 75% RH the power floated floors require abrasion prior to the application of a primer and compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. (Abrasion can be either scarification or light shot blasting).

For readings above 75% RH the surface still require abrasion before applying a surface DPM.

Quarry Tile/Mosaic/Terrazzo/ Ceramics

Test floor for evidence of damp. If after testing, dampness is apparent consult your supplier. Check floor area for unstable, loose or broken tiles. Remove loose pieces and fill deep holes with rapid drying mortar. Degrease, rinse and abrade the surface of the floor. Apply primer and compatible smoothing compound to a **minimum of 3mm**. A second top coat of primer and smoothing compound may be required to nullify sinking of smoothing compound over old tile grout lines

Asphalt

Asphalt should be de-greased and the surface rinsed with clear water. The surface should then be primed and a compatible smoothing compound applied to a **minimum 4mm**.

Timber Floors

- **Standard Floorboards / Tongue and Groove**
Floorboards should be well secured, loose boards firmly fastened, worn/broken boards replaced. Lay a minimum 6mm flooring grade plywood, fixed at maximum 150mm centers. Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound.
- **Undulating Timber Floors**
Alternatively for undulating timber floors apply a primer over the plywood and a minimum 3mm coat of fibre reinforced smoothing compound.
- **All Chipboard / MDF / Weyrock**
Overlay with a 6mm flooring grade plywood fixed at maximum 150mm centers Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound.
- **Wood Mosaic Panel, Woodblock, Wood strip**
Remove any of these products if laid direct to earth/bitumen/pitch, these should not be overlaid with an impervious vinyl.
- **Flooring grade plywood floors**
Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound. Alternatively apply primer and lay minimum 3mm coat of fibre reinforced smoothing compound. (Any plywood floors with thickness less than 6mm treat as chipboard)
- **Laminate**
Existing laminate floor coverings must be uplifted and removed together with any underlay and laminate flooring accessories. The sub-floor should be treated as per the sub floor exposed.

Painted Floors

Mechanically remove all paint back to original base prime and apply a compatible smoothing compound to a **minimum of 3mm**.

Cork

Uplift, remove adhesive residue. The sub floor should be treated as per the sub floor exposed.

Metal Floors

Consult your supplier.

Miscellaneous Floors

Magnesite, granwood, anhydrite, etc. - Consult your supplier.

Cleaning

Please refer to our Floor Care Guide that comes with our cleaning products.

Contact Details

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