

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

When installing design floorcoverings always follow current standards for the installation of floorcoverings (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany and other relevant national standards), also best current installation practice incorporating the latest technical developments should be employed.

Subfloor preparation and use of correct subfloor materials are essential if the performance benefits from the floorcovering being used are to be fully realized. For guidance refer to the instructions provided by the manufacturers of these materials (such as primers, underlays, adhesives etc.). It is important that all the materials used in the subfloor system are compatible, and wherever possible from one manufacturer.

On receipt of materials, check that colours correspond to those ordered and that there is no damage or visual defects in the material. In particular, check that the material is from one batch. Claims for visual defects can only be accepted prior to installation and cutting.

2. TESTING AND PREPARATION OF SUBFLOORS

Subfloors should be tested and prepared according to current standards for the installation of floorcoverings (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany, and other relevant national standards). Prior to laying, ensure that the subfloor surface is clean, dry, even, smooth, and free from cracks. Make sure that the subfloor does not suffer from rising damp or hydrostatic pressure. Prior to installation the moisture content of the subfloor must be established to ensure that it conforms to the parameters set in the relevant national standards.

A smooth, even and absorbent surface is necessary for correct installation of the flooring. It is principally recommended that a floor smoothing underlayment of 2.0 mm be applied prior to the laying of design floorcoverings.

In installations where underfloor heating is used, current standards should be followed (Germany: DIN 18365 and EN 1264-2). Maximum working temperature on the surface of the flooring is 27 °C.

3. INSTALLATION

When installing design floorcoverings always follow current standards (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany, and other relevant standards), also best current installation practice incorporating the latest technical developments should be employed.

To achieve best results, site conditions should be as described in DIN 18365 for Germany: minimum floor temperature of 15 °C, minimum room temperature of 18 °C and a maximum moisture content of 65 %.

It is strongly recommended that the floorcoverings and adhesives are stored and conditioned for at least 24 hours in the areas where they are to be installed before laying. Ensure that the site conditions are kept at a constant level while the adhesive achieves full bond strength.

It is advisable to plan the layout of the room to maximize the visual appearance of the installed floor. Measure the room concerned in both directions. Mark a chalk centreline, ensuring that it is square to the wall with the main doorway, loose lay the tiles to check that no small cuts will be required at the perimeter, then chalk another line square to the first one and repeat the process of loose laying to ensure that no small perimeter cuts are required.

The adhesive should be applied using a notched trowel as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. It is recommended to use approved dispersion adhesives. Adhesive manufacturers provide details of the open time and their instructions should be followed. Ideally, the floor area should be divided into small sections leaving the perimeter tiles unadhered until the main body has been installed. When a section has been installed it should be thoroughly rolled in both directions with an articulated roller.

The tiles/planks should be fitted together tightly but without undue pressure, the perimeter tiles should be fitted last ensuring that they do not apply any pressure to the adjacent tiles.

After a period of 45 – 60 minutes (depending on the site conditions) roll the floor again with an articulated roller.

Early trafficking should be avoided, as this will disturb the adhesive bond.

Please also refer to our current list of recommended adhesives and our maintenance guide!