

Thermal Insulating Underlayment 6mm (1/4" nominal)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS Tile Floors Over a Heated Wire Floor System on a Concrete Slab Subfloor

SUBFLOOR Preparation is essential for a quality installation

1. All subfloor work should be in accordance with the recommended procedures as published by the Tile Council of North America (TCNA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).
2. Concrete subfloor should be level, properly sloped and structurally sound.
3. Inspect concrete subfloor for any open cracks and fill with a high-grade epoxy filler.
4. Remove any excess concrete lumps or residue that may interfere with the installation of the AcoustiCORK underlayment.

TESTING FOR MOISTURE as recommended by the TCNA (Testing is recommended with or WITHOUT cork)

1. Test any concrete slab subfloor in direct contact with the ground, either above or below grade, for excessive moisture vapor transmission prior to the installation of the AcoustiCORK underlayment
2. If excessive moisture is present in the subfloor, normally >5 lbs. per 1000 s/f in 24hrs as per ASTM Test # F1869-04 (Calcium Chloride Test), some form of moisture vapor-retarding remediation must be installed to correct the problem. Consult the project manager or flooring adhesive manufacturer for details.

ACOUSTICORK UNDERLAYMENT Installation for thermal insulating

1. Cut the 6mm AcoustiCORK underlayment to desired length and install directly over the subfloor with crown of the rolled material down (label side down). The temporary curl of the material will easily flatten out after the material has been glued and rolled.
2. Cut and fit as necessary to cover the entire floor area (or you can do the floor in sections) making sure the joints are butted tightly together without gaps and staggering the seams between adjoining sections.
3. Move the loose laid material back at least half the length of the cut cork section. Using the proper size V-notch trowel (as specified by the adhesive/thinset product & manufacturer you choose) apply the adhesive or thinset to adhere the Cork to the slab:
 - a. Using Thinset (Preferred method) - Using a properly sized V-notched trowel (minimum 1/8") apply a Latex-Modified Thin-Set to the concrete. Gently, return the moved material to its measured place and roll in both directions with a floor roller. Repeat the procedure for the other half of the measured material < OR >
 - b. Using Adhesive - Using a properly sized V-notched trowel (minimum 1/8") apply a Urethane type or other high quality wood flooring adhesive to the concrete slab. Multi-purpose & carpet adhesives should be avoided. Gently, return the moved material to its measured place and roll in both directions with a floor roller. Repeat the procedure for the other half of the measured material.
4. Once the entire area is adhered to the floor, Roll the floor in both directions using a 50 to 100# floor roller.
5. After completion, the AcoustiCORK material should cover the floor area desired without gaps and be securely bonded with any joints tightly butted. *It is recommended that you wait 24 hours for the mortar/Adhesive to set up before proceeding to install on top of the cork underlayment.*

ELECTRIC FLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS

1. It is important to read and follow the **Electrical Heating Systems Manufacturers Instructions COMPLETELY** with regard to the installation of and the connection of the system to the Electrical System of the building.
2. Please follow the heating system manufacturer's instructions with regard to their requirements for attaching the heating elements to the cork subfloor. Usually the use of 2-sided tape or hot glue will be all that is necessary to adhere the floor warming systems to the cork surface. When using clips, screws or staples (following manufacturer's instructions) to secure the wire heating system on subfloors under the cork that are NOT concrete, it may be necessary to fully penetrate the AcoustiCORK product and go into the subfloor for secure attachment; i.e. use a staple length to secure the mats to cork over a wood subfloor so the staples penetrate into the wood through the cork.
3. Be sure to perform ALL required floor heating system testing prior to the installation of the finished flooring as required by the manufacturer of the heating system.

CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION

1. Follow the tile and setting material manufacturers recommended instructions for the installation of the finished floor tile conforming to ANSI A108.1 A, B, C and A108.5, depending on the method of installation.
2. Direct bonded applications of tile should be done with a Latex Modified Thin-Set Mortar compliant to ANSI Standard 118.4. **Note:** The use of plastic trowels is **recommended** by some manufacturers, to avoid damaging any wires during the tile setting process.

Important: These installation instructions are recommendations, but are not intended as a definitive project specification. They are presented in an attempt to be used with recommended installation procedures, as published by the Tile Council of America and as specified by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for Tile installations

If you are installing cork on an upper floor for its Sound Control benefits and acoustic properties, the installation procedures are different. Find more detailed instructions for sound control installations on the website.

AcoustiCORK™ PRODUCTS

Sound Control & Thermal Insulating Underlayment/Crack Suppression Membrane

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Warm Your Floor & Amorim RECOMMEND the use of Thinset for adhering cork to a concrete slab. It is the preferred installation method by the factory and tile professionals throughout America. Our second choice would be a Urethane adhesive from Bostik. The ONLY Multi-purpose adhesive we would consider is the Henry (Ardex) 356.

When installing TILE, you already have the Thinset on your job. Use the same thinset (mixed from a powder like the pros do NOT purchased PREMIXED in a bucket) for adhering the cork to the concrete as you use for adhering the tile on top of the cork over the Electric Heating Elements.

Why is thinset recommended on concrete slab on or below grade?

- Extreme Alkalinity from concrete can degrade latex based adhesives, relatively quickly
- If there is moisture vapor transmission through the concrete, it can enhance the alkalinity issue
- Often the presence of a vapor retarding barrier below a slab is not know, or the condition is uncertain

Since cement based mortar (aka thinset) is highly alkaline to begin with, it is not affected by the conditions noted above.

This is a List of acceptable adhesives published by Amorim. This list is NOT limited to the following, but we cannot monitor ALL of the adhesive manufacturers and their many changes of formulation and names.

| <u>Adhesive Manufacturer</u> | <u>Urethane Adhesive Products</u> | <u>Non-Urethane Adhesives</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Anderson Hardwood Floors | A.F.B. Duck-Thane | A.F.B. Duck-Glue |
| APAC | U-984 Urethane Adhesive | U-757 Wood Flooring Adhesive |
| Bostik | Bostik's Best, BSTurethane, EFA, TKO | N/A |
| Armstrong/Bruce Hardwood Floors | Equalizer Urethane Adhesive | Connection PR, ProConnect |
| ChemRex | CX-941 | N/A |
| Dritac | 7500 Urethane, 7600 Urethane | 6200 |
| Durabond | D317, D321, D332 | N/A |
| Franklin/Titebond | Titebond 811 Advantage, 821 Premium | 231 Acrylic Polymer Adhesive, 741 Ultimate MS-Polymer |
| Harris-Tarkett | PF-50 | PF-40 |
| Hartco Hardwood Flooring | Hartco 57 | QuickLink 60 |
| Henry (Ardex) | 971 Plank Pro | Sure Lock 1171 |
| Mapei | Ultrabond 980, 990 | N/A |
| Parabond | Millennium 4002 | Millennium 2002, Millennium 3002 |
| Robbins | FusionLock | ProConnect |
| WF Taylor | N/A | 2051,2071 Meta-Tec, MS Plus (MS Polymer) |
| Stauf | N/A | WFR-930 Solvent Based Adhesive. |

If you choose an adhesive, make certain it is rated for gluing directly to a concrete slab. Any other adhesive related questions should be directed to the manufacturer of the particular adhesive; they know their products best and are aware of any changes to formulation or application.