

METHOD STATEMENT

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The preparation/dryness of the subfloor and installation procedures should all be as BS 8203: 2001. i.e.: The relative humidity of a solid subfloor should be below 75%RH (Unik = 85%RH) when tested with a Hygrometer as described in this British Standard. However, Acczent Unik can be loose laid onto a subfloor with a moisture content not exceeding 85%RH.

Prior to selecting a smoothing compound, it will be necessary to investigate what type of traffic the floorcovering once installed will be subjected to. Latex smoothing compounds are not suitable for areas that will receive heavy traffic, especially heavy-wheeled traffic with narrow wheels. Never subject a newly installed floorcovering to heavy wheeled traffic at an early stage, as this will disperse trowelled applied adhesive from below the floorcovering which may result in future problems. Wheels should be + 30mm and preferably made of neoprene. If it is necessary to traffic the floorcovering at an early stage, protect the installation with hardboard or plywood.

For specific subfloor types and preparation, please refer to our Specifications Subfloor Types.

Although Tarkett may on occasion list a choice of adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not however guarantee the products listed (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) or suggest that the list of products or manufactures, are complete or current. Tarkett would not accept any liability (except for Tarkett wood adhesives) for any of these products failing to perform in conjunction with any of their products. It is the responsibility of the adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp proof membrane manufacturer and flooring contractor to ensure the products being used are appropriate for use and applied in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

Recent studies have shown that micro-organisms can colonise, under certain conditions, the area between the subfloor (wooden or cement) and the installed flooring. These micro-organisms can thrive in warm, damp conditions where there is sufficient 'food' available – for example, certain types of levelling compound used prior to the flooring installation. During their normal life-cycle, these micro-organisms produce a colorant, usually pink, purple, red or black (but can be other colours), which can 'bleed' through to the surface of the PVC flooring product over a period of several months or longer.

Advice should always be sought from the manufacturers of subfloor preparations and adhesives prior to installation, to ensure that their products are suitable for the environment in which the PVC flooring is to be laid – this advice may include using products that contain biocides or of specific resin types.

For wooden fabricated underlay e.g. plywood, care must be taken to store the material in an area where it will not become damp or contaminated.

The 'bleed through' of colorant created by micro-biological activity below PVC floorcovering products is not attributable to a product/manufacturing fault.

It is imperative that underfloor heating systems have been previously commissioned and found to be functioning correctly prior to the floor finish being installed. Ensure that the underfloor heating system is switched off 48 hours prior to the floorcovering installation commencing and remains off for at least 48 hours after the installation is complete. During the period of decommissioning of the underfloor heating system, an alternative heating source should be provided, if required, to ensure that the area of installation is kept at a constant temperature of 18°C - 27°C. Gradually increase the temperature over a number of days by only a few degrees per day until the desired room temperature is reached. The temperature should never exceed the floorcovering industry agreed maximum of 27°C at the underside of the floorcovering (the adhesive line). Failure to follow these guidelines can result in the floorcovering de-bonding, joints opening, and on some occasions discolouring, all which can occur within a long or short period of time.

CONDITIONING

It is important that the material (rolls) is stored in an upright position. 24 hours prior to use, the material should be cut to the desired lengths and acclimatised within the area to be installed by laying flat on a prepared, clean subfloor at a temperature of 18° - 27°C. This temperature should be maintained throughout the duration of the installation. The minimum temperature of the subfloor should be 15°C. Care should be taken when handling all types of floorcoverings to ensure that safety procedures are followed and damage does not occur to the material.

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INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

1. Prepare the subfloor as necessary and remove all traces of debris.
2. Ensure that material with the same batch number is allocated to each area to be installed. Consecutive roll numbers should also be used.
3. Plan the sheet direction of the area to be installed to ensure whenever possible that joins do not coincide with doorways or main traffic lanes.
4. Cut the lengths of the material 10cm plus pattern match longer than the size of the measured length of the room.
5. Scribe the first sheet down the length of the room with the two ends lapped up the wall. Cut down the scribe mark using utility knives with straight and hook blades removing the scrap material and place into position.
6. Place the sheet against the wall, draw a pencil line down the edge of the Acczent Unik on the subfloor lengthways opposite the scribed wall.
7. When in position draw a pencil line at 90° to the edge of the sheet from the Acczent Unik onto the subfloor using a ruler. This cross mark should be approximately 2cm away from one of the ends still lapped up the wall.
8. Slide back the sheet along the first pencil line until the end of the sheet lies flat on the subfloor and slightly short of the wall. The two cross lines will now have moved apart.
9. Set the long scribes at the distance between the two lines and scribe this size from the wall onto the Acczent Unik at the same time keeping the scribes parallel with the sheet edge. With the scriber adjusted to this setting, the end of the sheet is now scribed and cut and the surplus removed.
10. Slide the Acczent Unik back into its previous position with the material now fitted to the long wall and end wall. Repeat this last procedure at the end still lapped up the opposite wall.
11. All consecutive sheets should be installed in the opposite direction to the previous sheet installed unless otherwise instructed. (Reverse sheets) i.e.: 1st sheet facing north, 2nd sheet facing south, etc. Print or arrows on the reverse of the material can identify the direction of the sheets. *Do not reverse Acczent Unik Ref: 3712004 & 3712005.
12. Butt the next sheet to the previous sheet leaving a 0.5mm gap with one end already 2cm – 3cm short of one wall. Adjust the scribes to scribe a small amount off this end of the sheet and cut to size. Slide this end of the sheet into position against the wall just fitted to. Now repeat the procedure adopted for fitting the previous sheet where the Acczent Unik was still lapped up the remaining wall.
13. This entire procedure should be copied for all consecutive sheets apart from the last sheet, which should be installed in the same manner as the first.
14. Identify the sheet that is approximately central to the area.
15. Carefully pull this and the adjoining sheet back half their length and re-sweep the back of the Acczent Unik and the subfloor to ensure that no debris is present that may visually impair the installation and cause premature wear.
16. Using the Tarkett single-sided tape (1257010) or a similar type of tape guaranteed to be non-staining, place the tape inline with the sheet join and remove the paper face on the tape and place the Acczent Unik onto the tape leaving a 0.5mm gap at the seam and roll with a hand roller until fully bonded.

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17. Repeat procedure for the second half of the sheets as soon as the first half has been taped.
18. All other sheet joins should be bonded to one another leaving a 0.5mm gap using the double-sided tape as a single-sided tape by not removing the paper on the side adjacent to the subfloor. Do not adhere the tape to the subfloor.
19. Hot weld the Acczent Unik using Acczent Unik weld rod at a temperature of between 250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett speed-weld nozzle (1258012).
20. Tarkett Ventilated Skirting's or the previously removed skirting's should now be refitted to the base of the walls. Leave a 2mm clearance above the floorcovering. If the previously removed Skirting's are being refitted, prior to doing this, spacers made from strips of the floorcovering or similar type material should be placed behind the Skirting's to leave a 5mm gap. This procedure is vitally important if the moisture content of the subfloor is above 75%RH. If the moisture content of the subfloor is less than 75%RH, the Skirting's can be removed and refitted later leaving a 2mm clearance. Alternately the Acczent Unik can be installed to within 3mm of the skirting and a half round bead can then be fixed to the base of the skirting leaving 2mm of clearance.

WELDING ACCZENT UNIK

1. Acczent Unik can be hot welded immediately after the installation is complete using Acczent Unik welding cable.
2. Groove seams using a Tarkett Seam Groover (1258027) & Blade (1258028), "P" type grooving tool or an automatic seam router.
3. The groove should be down 2/3rds into the thickness of the material.
4. Make sure the groove is clear of all debris and excess adhesive prior to commencing welding.
5. The recommended welding temperature is 250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett speed-weld nozzle (1258012).
6. Using a Leister hot air welding gun fitted with a speed-weld nozzle, this will require the setting to be number 5-6. If unsure consult manufacturer's instructions for correct setting. Set the welding gun at this temperature for several minutes prior to commencing welding to attain the correct temperature.
7. Try out the welding operation on a scrap piece of Acczent Unik prior to welding the main area.
8. Weld at approximately 2 metres a minute.
9. Preferably 2 people welding. One operative welding at least 3 metres ahead of the other prior to the second person trimming the cable 1mm proud of the Acczent Unik with the aid of a spatula knife inserted into a welding slide. The weld should then be allowed to cool down. Finally trim the weld cable flush with the surface of the Acczent Unik with the spatula knife only.