

STATEMENT

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TARKETT TAPIFLEX (ALL RANGES)

2016

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 when tested with a Hygrometer as described in this British Standard.

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-Tarkett may on occasion list a choice of alternative adhesives, levelling compounds and surface damp proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not however guarantee the products listed (except Embond Branded Products) or suggest that the list of products or manufactures, are complete or current. Tarkett would not accept any liability (except Embond Branded Products) 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 - SHEET

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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CONDITIONING - TILES

It is important that tiles, when stored are stacked no higher than 80cm high. At least 24 hours prior to use, the material should be removed from their cartons and placed in small neat vertical bundles no higher than 20cm high and acclimatise within the area to be installed at a temperature of 18 - 27°C. This temperature should be maintained throughout the duration of the installation and thereafter. 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.

INSTALLATION – SHEET

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 longer than the size of the measured length of the room.
5. Place first sheet against the longest wall with the surplus material riding up either end of the room/area being installed and scribe down this wall using a long scribe.
6. **All consecutive sheets should be installed in the opposite direction to the previous sheet installed. (Reverse sheets)** i.e.: 1st sheet facing north, 2nd sheet facing south, etc. Arrows on the reverse of the material can identify the direction of the sheets. Overlap each sheet by approximately 2.5cm onto the previous sheet and allow the Cushioned flooring to ride up the wall at either end of the room as before.
7. Prior to adhering the Cushioned flooring, all the overlapped joins should be cut in by placing a straightedge on top of the overlapped material 10mm in from the edge of the sheet. Cut through both top and bottom sheets by guiding the knife down the edge of the straightedge.
8. Carefully pull the sheets of Cushioned flooring halfway back across the size of the room, one sheet at time, until all the sheets are pulled back to expose the subfloor.
9. Re-sweep the back of the Cushioned flooring and the subfloor to ensure that no debris is present that may visually impair the installation and cause premature wear.
10. Apply an acrylic adhesive from the current adhesive range of Tarkett Embond 170.
11. The adhesive should be applied using an appropriate 'V' notched trowel (**pressure sensitive adhesives should be trowel applied and then flattened with a lambs wool roller – please seek adhesive manufacturers advice**). It is important that the notches on this trowel remain the correct size throughout the duration of the installation. Place the Cushioned flooring into the adhesive whilst wet (**pressure sensitive – seek manufacturers advice**) and roll with a 68Kg roller in both directions. Do not roll the last 25cm section of the Optic Acoustic, as this will ensure that the second half of the sheet is easily pulled back to expose the edge of adhesive.
12. Whilst the adhesive is still wet, trim the Cushioned flooring flush with the skirtings. This can be achieved by using an adjustable trimming tool, which are readily available from Floorcovering Distributors, or if preferred, 'free-handing' the material to the skirtings using a hook knife. Once the Cushioned flooring has been trimmed flush with the skirtings, roll with a 68Kg roller until fully bonded to the subfloor.
13. Now repeat sections 8-11 for the other half of the sheets prior to the adhesive setting on the first half.
14. After a lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld the Cushioned flooring using vinyl flooring weld rod at a temperature of between

250-300°C when fitted with a Tarkett speed-weld nozzle. Although Cushioned flooring can be solvent welded, the preferred solution is to hot weld.

Cushioned flooring can also be installed using the conventional method of scribing with long scribes, but as the product is so flexible, it is not as easy to trim as some cushioned vinyl's. If in doubt use conventional installation fitting techniques.

INSTALLATION - TILE

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 box numbers should also be used.
3. Plan the area to be installed to ensure whenever possible that small cuts of tiles are not used, especially near doorways.
4. Choose the longest wall in the area to be installed.
5. Measure out from this wall at either end, across to the other side of the room.
6. If there is a significant difference in both these sizes choose the larger of the sizes.
7. Again measure out from the same wall at both ends. This time measure only half the size previously chosen. Mark this size on the subfloor in pencil.
8. Strike a chalk line between both pencil marks. This chalk line indicates the centre of the width of the room.
9. Repeat procedures 2-6 on the shortest wall. This now indicates the centre of the length of the room.
10. Although the centre point of the area to be installed has now been identified, this procedure does not calculate the size of the part tiles that will have to be inserted at the edge of the walls. They may be too small to be acceptable. (-10cm)
11. To adjust the size of the perimeter tiles, move the centre chalk-line half the size of the tile. E.g.: - tile size 50cm, move chalk-line 25cm from its present location. By doing this, the tile size at the perimeter of the walls will increase or decrease in size whilst still achieving a balance tile size on either side of the area being installed.
12. When the chalk-lines are in their final position, butt a straightedge up against them and draw a pencil down the edge of the straightedge onto the subfloor.
13. Apply Tarkett Embond 170, pressure sensitive acrylic adhesive from Tarkett.
14. The adhesive should be applied using the appropriate 'V' notched trowel for the chosen adhesive. It is important that the notches on this trowel remain this size throughout the duration of the installation. Place the Cushioned flooring into the adhesive as a late but **wet** placement **or as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer *(pressure sensitive)** and roll with a 68Kg roller in both directions.
15. When applying adhesive to the subfloor to receive the tiles, it is important that only the amount of square metres that can be comfortably covered by the tiles within the open time of the adhesive should be applied.

*** Pressure sensitive adhesives require to be trowel applied and the applied adhesive rolled whilst wet with a lambs wool roller which should be continually saturated in the pressure sensitive adhesive.**

WELDING CUSHIONED FLOORING

1. Allow at least 24 hours to lapse prior to hot welding with the Cushioned flooring welding rod.
2. Groove seams using a Tarkett Seam Groover (1258027) & Blade (1258028), "P" type grooving tool or an automatic seam router.
3. **Do not groove the Cushioned flooring deeper than the solid vinyl wear layer. i.e.: do not groove into the foam backing.**
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, item - 1258012.
6. Using a Leister hot air welding gun fitted with the speed-weld nozzle, this will require the setting to be approx 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 Cushioned flooring prior to welding the main area. The responsibility to ensuring that the floorcovering is not burned or singed and is watertight, is the installers, as all welding gun temperatures vary. The above temperature settings are for guidance only.**
8. Weld at approximately 2m a minute.
9. Preferably 2 people welding. One operative welding at least 3m ahead of the other prior to the second person trimming the cable 1mm proud of the Cushioned flooring 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 to the surface of the Cushioned flooring using the spatula knife only.

VARIOUS TYPES OF COVING

SELF COVING SHEET

It is possible to self-cove this product over a 3.8cm radius cove former and up a wall to a desired height where it is normally finished to a PVC capping seal. This can be achieved in one piece with a minimum of joins, although there will have to be internal and external vertical joins. Adhere all vertical surfaces and cove detail with a solvent free contact adhesive.

PVC PRE-FORMED SET-IN COVING

Pre-formed PVC set-in coving is available in lengths of 2m and is normally 100mm in height and protrudes 5cm out at the toe. Fix the coving to a prepared wall and subfloor with a solvent free contact adhesive. Measure the area to be installed and cut off the lengths of the vinyl so that they overlap onto the cove by approximately 2cm.

With 2mm thick skirting it is advisable that a suitable filling agent is used below the toe of the product to raise the thickness of the skirting when butting to the Cushioned flooring material for ease of welding and aesthetics.

Overlap sheets by 2.5cm and re-cut to leave a close butt joint. The adhesive should be applied using an appropriate 'V' notched trowel (whilst still overlapping onto the cove) up to the edge of the set-in cove (**pressure sensitive adhesives should be trowel applied and then flattened with a lambs wool roller – please seek adhesive manufacturers advice**). It is important that the notches on this trowel remain the correct size throughout the duration of the installation. Place the Cushioned flooring into the adhesive whilst wet (**pressure sensitive – seek manufacturers advice**) and roll with a 68Kg roller in both directions. Do not roll the last 25cm section of the Optic Acoustic, as this will ensure that the second half of the sheet is easily pulled back to expose the edge of adhesive.

Using short scribes, (over & unders) scribe and cut the vinyl to the edge of the set-in cove and roll with a 68Kg roller whilst the adhesive is still wet. After the lapse of at least 24 hours, hot weld all sheet to sheet and sheet to set-in coving joints with the Tarkett

vinyl welding cable.

PVC SIT-ON COVING

This type of coving should not be used when watertight joints are required. It is normally used as an alternative to a wooden skirting in areas that will not be subjected to large amounts of surface applied water.

Sit-on PVC coving is available in lengths of 2m as well as in coils of varying lengths and is normally 10cm in height and protrudes 1.0–1.5cm out at the toe. Install the floorcovering in the normal manner, scribing to a wall instead of a skirting and adhere to the subfloor. Fix the coving to a prepared wall with a contact adhesive. Prior to adhering the sit-on coving to the wall, the scribed edge of the floorcovering to the wall can be sealed with a sealant. This will provide extra protection to the floorcovering from surface moisture attack, but should not be used as a cheaper alternative to a pre-formed coving or self-coving when a watertight join is required.