INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

SLIDELOCK™ RUBBER TILE

Triumph & Inertia®

INTRODUCTION

These instructions are written as a guide to be used by professional installers when installing Tarkett products. These instructions, combined with our adhesives and flooring products, create a system. Utilizing this system will ease the installation process and provide the customer with a completed product that will perform to its intended purpose. Always visit www.tarkett.com for the most current installation and maintenance instructions. Technical videos and tip sheets are also available. Contact Tarkett Technical Services at (800)-899-8916 with any questions.

HANDLING AND STORAGE

Tarkett cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that may result due to processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside of our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

NOTE: Tarkett recommends that the installation of new flooring material not be performed until all the other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after the installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed flooring.

STORING ALL PRODUCTS & ADHESIVES	PRE-INSTALLATION
Stack cartons squarely on top of one another, do not over stack cartons and protect corners from damage by tow-motors and other traffic. **NOTE: Do not flex, bend, or stand cartons on end. Never double stack pallets.**	Room temperature must be maintained between 65ºF (18.3ºC) and 85ºF (29.4ºC) with ambient relative humidity between 40% and 60% for 48 hours prior to, during the entire installation, and after installation. **NOTE: Permanent, operational HVAC systems are highly recommended. If alternate system is utilized, it must provide proper control of both temperature and humidity for the above stated time durations.**
Store on a dry, flat, level surface.	Site-condition flooring, accessories, and adhesives 48 hours prior to installation. The location selected for site-conditioning must be either the room where the flooring will be installed or have similar ambient temperature and relative humidity readings as the room where the flooring will be installed.
Maintain temperature between 65ºF (18.3ºC) and 85ºF (29.4ºC).	In areas exposed to intense or direct sunlight, protect the product by covering the light source during site-conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods. If exposure to intense or direct sunlight will continue after the installation and adhesive curing period, refer to adhesive chart below.
Maintain relative humidity between 40 – 60%.	Inspect all flooring material to verify accuracy of order as well as for any damage, visual defects, and satisfactory color match. Notify an authorized Tarkett Distributor or Representative prior to installation if any defects are found. **NOTE: Tarkett will not pay for labor or material costs claimed on installed materials with visual defects.**
Tarkett products are recommended for installation in Indoor, Climate-Controlled spaces only. **NOTE: Exposure to excessive UV light can result in fading, degradation, and/or color variation.**	

GENERAL SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Substrate Construction	Requirements
All Substrates	Permanently dry, clean, smooth, and structurally sound
	The finished substrate must be flat to tolerance as specified. If not otherwise specified, refer to **ASTM F710** *Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring*, which requires the substrate to be flat to within the equivalent of 3/16" in 10' (4.75mm in 3.05m)
	Free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing and parting compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material, which could affect the installation and adhesive bond to the substrate. All substrate contaminants must be mechanically removed prior to the installation of the flooring **DO NOT use liquid solvents or adhesive removers** **DO NOT use oil-based sweeping compounds** **NOTE: Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, or similar marking tools used to mark the substrate or back of the resilient flooring material will cause migratory staining that is not covered by the warranty.**
	Minimum substrate temperature must be 60ºF (15.6ºC) and must be within 5ºF (2.8ºC) of ambient temperature
	Substrate temperature must be a minimum of 10ºF (5.6ºC) higher than the dew point temperature **NOTE: Dew point calculators are available online. If the substrate is not 10ºF (5.6ºC) above the dew point, contact Technical services at (800) 899-8916**
	AT THE TIME OF INSTALLATION: Testing the substrate with a Tramex moisture encounter meter (refer to ASTM F2659) is recommended due to possible issues related to topical moisture from dew point conditions. Substrate surface readings must not exceed 4.0%, if above 4.0%, contact Tarkett Technical Services prior to beginning installation. If these conditions are not properly addressed, the open and working times, bond strength, and setting of the adhesive may be affected.
	Fill all depressions, dormant cracks, dormant saw cuts (control joints), and other surface irregularities with a good quality, cement-based underlayment patching compound appropriate for this purpose.

Existing Flooring	Remove all existing, resilient flooring materials and adhesives mechanically prior to installation of Tarkett flooring **NOTE: Refer to the Resilient Floor Covering Institute's (RFCI's) *Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Flooring* for best work practices** **CAUTION: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers," and special handling of this material is required.**
Concrete	Constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's (ACI) 302.2 *Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials* **NOTE: Refer to ACI 302.2 for recommended drying times for newly poured concrete.**
	Prepared in accordance with **ASTM F710** *Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring*
	NOTE: The use of a high moisture and alkali resistant cementitious underlayment may be required. Contact a cementitious underlayment manufacturer for best recommendations.
	DO NOT install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints. These joints must be respected and should not be filled with products that are not intended for that purpose. Contact an expansion joint cover manufacturer to meet specific substrate conditions. **DO NOT install Tarkett flooring directly over moving cracks or joints in the substrate.** Contact a cementitious patch manufacturer to meet specific substrate conditions.
	Test for moisture in accordance with: **ASTM F2170** *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes* **(limit not to exceed 99% RH)** ***-OR-*** **ASTM F1869** *Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride*. **(limit not to exceed 10 lbs. per 1,000 ft^2/24 hours)** **NOTE: Following ASTM F2659 *Preliminary Evaluation of Comparative Moisture Condition of Concrete, Gypsum Cement and Other Floor Slabs and Screeds Using a Non-destructive Electronic Moisture Meter* can provide qualitative information prior to performing ASTM F2170 or ASTM F1869.**
	Test for pH in accordance with **ASTM F3441** *Standard Guide for Measurement of pH Below Resilient Flooring.* Acceptable pH limits should be between 7-12.
	MOISTURE MITIGATION If the moisture and pH test results exceed the limits of the adhesive, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected. Tarkett does not recommend or warrant any product or procedure for the remediation of high moisture in concrete substrates. There are several companies that manufacture products suitable for moisture remediation. Tarkett recommends: • Contact Moisture Remediation product manufacturer and supply testing results. • Follow the remediation recommendation provided using products that meet **ASTM F3010** *Standard Practice for Two Component Resin Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Flooring Systems.* • Cap the moisture remediation system with a cementitious-based product per the moisture remediation system manufacturer's recommendations for primer, thickness, drying time, etc. • Install Tarkett flooring over the cementitious-based capping product following our standard installation instructions.
Wood	Underlayment grade plywood that is smooth, free of knots or voids, and a fully sanded face. **DO NOT** use preservative treated, fire-retardant plywood as these may be manufactured with resins or adhesives that can discolor the flooring **NOTE: Do not install over OSB (Oriented Strand Board), particle board, chipboard, lauan, cementitious tile backer boards, or composite type underlayments. DO NOT install over wood floors in direct contact with concrete substrates or installed over sleeper systems.**
	Minimum 1" (25.4mm) overall thickness, Double Floor wood construction in compliance with **ASTM F1482** *Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayments to Receive Resilient Flooring* **NOTE: Single Floor Wood Construction substrates and existing Tongue and Groove strip wood** must be covered with an APA approved underlayment plywood. • For single floor wood construction and strip wood floors with a face width of 3" (76mm) or less, use minimum ¼ " (6.4 mm) thick underlayment panels. • For strip wood floors with a face width wider than 3" (76mm) face width, use minimum ½" (13mm) thick underlayment panels.
	Minimum 18" (47cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of joists and ground, and exposed earth spaces must be sealed with a polyethylene moisture barrier
	Meet local and national building codes. Refer to **ASTM F1482** *Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayments to receive Resilient Flooring* for additional information.
	Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality, cement based patching compound designed for this purpose

Gypsum	Refer to ASTM F2419 *Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring* for guidelines when pouring gypsum underlayments or preparing for use as an underlayment under Tarkett flooring. Follow the gypsum underlayment manufacturer's recommendations for proper application and preparation. Refer to the product manufacturers recommendations for sealing and/or priming the finished surface.
Terrazzo & Ceramic	Thoroughly sand to remove all glaze and wax
	Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean the grout lines
	Use a good quality, cement-based leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions
Steel	**NOTE: Follow all non-porous installation instructions**
	Mechanically abrade to assist with adhesive bond
	Fully clean to remove all dirt, rust, and other contaminates
	Prime with a rust inhibitor
Radiant Heat	Must be embedded in concrete a minimum of 2" below the surface of the substrate
	Check the manufacturer of the radiant heat system to ensure it is safe for use with resilient flooring
	Concrete surface must never exceed 85ºF (29.4ºC)
	24 hours prior to install, lower the thermostat to a minimum of 65ºF (18.3ºC). Maintain this temperature throughout installation and for 48 hours after completion
	48 hours after installation, gradually increase the thermostat in increments of 5º every twenty-four hours, never exceeding 85ºF (29.4ºC)

INSTALLATION

SlideLock tiles are designed for loose lay installation only and cannot be adhered to the substrate.

1. **Tile Installation Procedure:**
   - **a.** Square the area and establish reference points on substrate.
   - **b.** Lay out the tile so that a minimum of one-half of a tile forms the border along the perimeter.
   - **c.** Use established reference points and install the flooring.
   - **d.** Start with the first row of tiles in the upper left corner of the area with the recessed channel facing outward to receive the tab insert of the next tile to be installed.
   - **e.** Align the next tile to the installed tile by inserting the tab insert into the recessed channel.
   - **f.** Once the tiles are properly aligned, roll the edge of the tiles with a small hand roller to lock the channel and tab together.
   - **g.** Make all final cuts around the perimeter of the area, alcoves, offsets, and other obstructions with a utility knife. Cut tiles net to walls and vertical objects. Cutting tiles tight or heavy to walls and vertical objects may cause tiles to lift or peak at the seams.
2. **Post Installation Floor Protection:**

   We recommend that the installation of new flooring material not be performed until all the other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after the installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed flooring.

   a. Immediately after installation:
   - Flooring must be swept or vacuumed to remove loose dirt and grit prior to the application of proper floor protection. Do not trap dirt and grit under floor protection. (Lightly damp mop if necessary)
   - Apply floor protection suitable for construction foot traffic such as: undyed heavy Kraft paper, Ram Board, 1/8" Masonite panels, or similar product designed for resilient floor protection.
   - Areas that will receive heavy traffic, rolling loads, pallet jacks, and furniture or appliance placement must be protected with ¼" thick Masonite or similar wood panels

MAINTENANCE

1. Initial cleaning should be performed immediately after installation.
2. Since SlideLock Tiles are not adhered to the substrate, it is important to follow the recommended maintenance instructions using a minimal amount of water.
3. Refer to Tarkett's Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

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