



Naturcork Series

Installation Instruction

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Do not install until you have finished reading the following instructions.
Failure to follow the recommended maintenance procedure will nullify all warranties.



I

■ Prefinished Glue Down Cork with 30NF Fastbond Contact Adhesive

Please read all the way through before beginning

May be installed:

A note about Naturcork Commercial Finish; This next generation finishing technology offers a very durable and wear resistant finish combined with the ability to apply on-site applications of urethane. A 15 year Residential / 5 Year Commercial Wear Warranty offers confidence even in demanding applications.

■ Acclimation:

- Allow cork tiles to acclimate in shipping cartons in the center of the room where being installed (not against a wall or in a corner) for 72 hours prior to installation. Room temperature should be maintained between 65° and 82°F (18° - 28°C). Relative humidity should be between 35 and 50%.

- Cork flooring is a natural and environmentally responsible product. As such, each tile is different from the next. Color, shade variation and tannin appearance are a part of its natural beauty.

■ Prior to Installation:

- Glue Down Cork Flooring can be installed over dry concrete or wood subfloors, on, above, or below grade. Installation is also suitable over radiant heat. Please consult the document titled 'Installing Naturcork Over Radiant Heat'.

- When calculating the amount of material you will require, be sure to add at least 10% additional material for cutting if laying square to the room and 10 – 15% additional material when laying on the diagonal (5% is allowed for out of square tiles, or other defects). Please be certain there is sufficient material to complete installation before beginning.

■ Tools Required:

- Sharp Utility Knife (with extra blades)
- Tape Measure • Straight Edge • Chalk Line
- Foam or Short Hair Roller with Handle
- 180 – 220 Grit Sandpaper • Long Pole Drywall Sander
- Damp Cloth (for cleanup)

II

■ Installation Preparation:

- Any quarter round and/or baseboard must be removed before proceeding. Doorjamb and casings need to be cut to allow for 0.06" (1 mm) clearance of tile.

■ Subfloor Preparation:

- Before installation begins, make sure the subfloor is in good condition and clean. There must be no more than 3/16" (5mm) variation in the surface of the subfloor for every 10' (3m) in any direction. Any bumps must be ground down or sanded away and any depressions must be filled.
- It is critically important to perform moisture readings on both the subfloor and ambient humidity prior to outset of installation. Moisture readings are to be documented and left with the end user. In the event of a warranty issue, this information will be required to file a claim.

■ Concrete Subfloor:

- New floors must be cured a minimum of 30 days. The subfloor moisture check is to be performed using ASTM F 2170 (Standard Test for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using In Situ Probes). Do not install if relative humidity inside concrete slab exceeds 75%.



- If a new subfloor is required, use Luan Mahogany or Birch plywood. Do not use Fir, poplar, other softwood plywood or chipboard. Moisture content of wood subfloors should not exceed 11% when tested with a non-invasive or pin type moisture meter. Follow NWFA guidelines on wood installation for moisture management. All seams and cracks should be patched using a Portland cement based floor patch. **DO NOT USE GYPSUM BASED FLOOR PATCH.** Allow to thoroughly dry and sand flush with subfloor. Vacuum and wipe with a clean, damp cloth. Subfloor must be free of dirt, grease or spills. If old adhesive is present, it must be scraped off to provide a smooth clean surface.

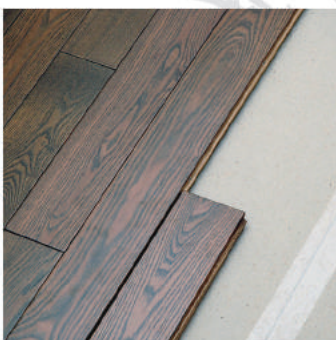
■ Planning Layout:

- Measure and mark the center point of the north wall in the room and do the same for the south wall opposite. Repeat for the east and west walls. Create a vertical and horizontal line from the center points using a chalk line. When installing a square or rectangular tile, joints should be staggered in a brick / halfstone pattern. For all other patterns, carefully line up tiles at edges using a straight edge to keep them aligned in both directions.

III

■ Inspection of Tile:

- **Before you proceed, inspect goods to make certain product shape, size and colour are correct. No claims will be accepted after installation; therefore, it is imperative that you inspect before you install.** Tiles are inspected prior to shipping for conformity to published technical standards. As cork is a natural product, moisture content and other factors can cause sizing variations during shipping and acclimation. Opus Floors Canada does not warrant or accept liability for incorrect installation of product. If there are any questions about the installation process, please call 800-653-6177 before beginning.





■ Application of Adhesive:

- Before installation, a coat of adhesive must be applied to the backs of the tiles, and the floor. Pour adhesive into a clean paint tray and load a foam or short hair roller for a controlled application. Only apply enough adhesive to cover the surface. Coverage rate is 75 sq ft per litre, when applied to the back of the tile, and the substrate. Excess application will reduce coverage rate. Adhesive dries quickly (approximately 30 – 60 minutes). When adhesive is transparent and dry to the touch on both surfaces, you can begin installing tiles. The waterbase adhesive has a very long open time.

■ Installation of Tile:

- When installing, select tiles from several packages and shuffle tiles. Tiles are to be checked for any visible defects. Any doubtful tiles should be set aside. Cork floor tile is very pliable and can be easily manipulated, stretched or compressed to ensure tight joints. Check backs of tiles and remove any dust or debris. This will assure a good bond and prevent any telegraphing to the surface of the tile.
- Line up edges of tiles with the guide line and butt joints tightly. Pressure should only be applied once the tile is aligned. Install carefully, once tile has bonded, further movement is not possible. Press each tile along edges. Tiles can be cut easily using a straight edge and utility knife. Change blades often for clean cuts. Leave a 1/4" (6mm) expansion joint around perimeter of room and any pipes or other obstructions. Always install cut tiles with factory edge facing installed tiles.
- When you have reached the final row, place the tiles for this row squarely on top of the tiles in the second last row. Using a full tile, mark the width on the planks allowing for the 1/4" (6mm) expansion gap and cut on marks to fill last row. When installation is complete, roll entire floor with a 100 – 150 LBS articulated roller. A laminate roller can be used along the wall and in tight areas.