



READYCORK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Important Information

It is important to employ safe working practices when cutting or fitting floor coverings. Protective eyewear and safe footwear (steel capped preferably) should be worn throughout the installation to help prevent against injury. Dust extraction and respiratory protection (appropriate dust masks) should be used when cutting flooring or trims using a saw of any type. Materials Safety Data Sheets are available by contacting your local Premium Floors or Floorscape branch. If using ancillary products like levelling compounds etc, it is recommended to adhere to the specific safety requirements as stated by the manufacturer of the product.

Storage

If storing ReadyCork, ensure that the area is dry and well-ventilated. Ideally temperature and relative humidity should be consistent:

- Temperature: 18o to 28oC;
- Relative humidity: 35% to 65% ReadyCork is a natural product and some shade variation is normal and natural and is therefore to be expected. It is recommended to shuffle and mix panels from different cartons during installation.

Surface Preparation

- ReadyCork Uniclic can be installed atop most hard surfaces including concrete and timber subfloors, even over existing hard flooring like ceramic tiles.
- Soft floor coverings such as carpets must be removed.
- The floor must be flat and dry and variations in level should not exceed 2mm over 1 lineal metre. Variation greater than this should be leveled by sanding, grinding or by use of an appropriate levelling compound.
- 200 micron plastic film should be laid out to prevent moisture uptake from the subfloor. Joints in this film should be overlapped 300mm and taped using duct tape or similar vapour-tight tape.
- Alternatively, a recommended combination underlay can be used.
- Under-cut all door jambs and architraves and ensure sufficient clearance under all doors.
- For heated floors the surface temperature of the slab should not exceed 28oC at any time.
- Planks should not be nailed or glued to the subfloor.
- A constant perimeter expansion gap needs to be left to the entire perimeter of the floor. A 10-12mm gap is recommended for most installations with a gap of 14-16mm required for larger installations or in areas of high humidity, like Queensland or Northern NSW. Some multi-room installations will need expansion gaps installed throughout the floor, usually under door frames to allow the areas to expand independently. If in doubt in this regard, please contact your local Premium Floors or Floorscape. Office prior to commencement of installation.

Installation -Simple And Fast

Decide on the direction of installation. It is usually best to start on the longest wall.

Starting in the left corner, install the panels along the length of the starting wall. Using a scribing block, mark the first row of boards using a pencil or marker to follow the contour of the wall. The first row can then be removed and cut using a jigsaw to follow the contour of the starting wall.

Insert spacer block along the starting wall (to maintain the expansion gap) and then re-install the first row against the spacer blocks, short tongue side to the wall. To engage the panels together, rotate, push and wiggle the tongue into the groove.

Continue to use spacers around the entire floor.

If the off-cut from the first row is at least 30cm long, it can form the first piece of the second row. If not, a new piece will need to be cut for this. Join this piece to the first row by rotating, and install a spacer between it and the wall. Ensure that when installing any board, the end (short) joins are staggered by a minimum of 30cm.

Install the next panel (second board in the second row) by rotating and pushing the long side. Then, using a Uniclic tapping block (available from your place of purchase) and hammer, carefully hit the board along to engage the end joint. Continue this process and use the pulling tool to close the end joint of the last board in each row.

Continue laying the following rows in this way. Cut the final row to width, remembering the expansion gap, and bring it into place using the pulling tool.

Install cover trims, scotia or skirting board to cover the perimeter expansion gaps and any in-floor gaps, ensuring that the floor can expand freely.

The floor can now be swept and cleaned.

Maintenance And Product Care

If any major work needs to be performed after the floors installation, protect the floor from damage.

- Do not drag furniture or roll heavy items across the floor.
- Use premium felt floor protectors on chairs and furniture legs. Install protective chair mats under office chairs.
- Place quality mats at all external entrances that will retain grit, dirt and moisture.
- Never use latex or rubber backed mats as they can permanently stain the floor.
- For best results use the Quick-Step Maintenance kit and Quick-Step cleaning product to mop your floor clean.
- Never use steam mops or non-recommended cleaning agents to clean your floor.
- Avoid moisture on this floor by wiping up any liquid spills as they occur. Intensive room heating, may cause the floor to dry out.
- As cork is a natural material, this may cause shrinkage and minor gaps in the flooring joints. Humidifiers can be used to avoid this.
- Cork, as a natural material, may tend to fade when exposed to sunlight. Use blinds, curtains or other similar system to minimize the sun's effects.
- If you have any questions about installation, surface preparation or maintenance, contact your local Premium Floors or Floorscape Ltd. office prior to installation.