

YOU MUST READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

Responsibility for the suitability of cork US Floors since USFloors has no influence on the installer's proper application. Should an individual cork-flooring tile be doubtful as to appearance or dimension, the installer should not use this piece. USFloors will send replacement in a timely manner.

Cork is a natural product. Just like wood, cork floor tiles will vary in shade or pattern definition. In addition, while not as prevalent as with wood, cork is subject to the normal behavior of minor expansion during periods of high humidity and minor contraction during periods of low humidity (usually the heating season). Minimizing expansion and contraction of the cork by stabilizing the temperature and humidity control, allowing for proper acclimatization of the product prior to installation, using only approved adhesives, and providing the recommended expansion space mentioned below.

INSTALLING ON CONCRETE SUBSTRATE: The Installation on or above grade over concrete with cork floor tiles is acceptable. Concrete substrates are required to be sound, smooth, level and flat with a maximum variation of 3/16" in 10'. The subfloor should be free of dust, dirt and solids. **Any uncorrected irregularities will telegraph through cork floor tiles.** All cracks, holes and expansion joints require patching with a **Portland cement based compound**. Follow compound manufacturer's instructions fully and make sure patches are completely dry and well adhered. **USFloors prohibits the use of gypsum base compounds.** Follow concrete substrate preparation guidelines in accordance with the current version of ASTM F710. The substrate must be dry and clean. Remove any foreign matter that would interfere with a good bond. Check concrete slab for moisture the spray adhesive will perform with up to 90% in-situ Relative Humidity as determined per latest version of ASTM F2170, and pH up to 10.0

INSTALLING ON UNDERLAYMENT-GRADE PLYWOOD OVER A BASEMENT OR RAISED FOUNDATION: Only certified underlayment grade substrates are allowable for installation of cork flooring. Install smooth 1/4" or greater underlayment grade ply-board. Fill cracks and sand uneven areas. **Any uncorrected irregularities will telegraph through cork flooring tiles.** Subfloor must not exceed 14% moisture content (electrical resistance method). To avoid damage to cork floor tiles caused by moisture, check basements and under floor crawl spaces to be sure they are dry and well ventilated. For buildings with crawl spaces, install ground cover of six mil polyethylene sheets, overlap seams 8", and tape the sheets together.

*** Cork floor tiles installed over any surfaces other than the ones above mentioned are subject have all warranties void.**

CORK FLOOR TILES AND ADHESIVE MUST BE ACCLIMATED: The floor and room temperature, as well as flooring materials and adhesive, must be maintained at 65° - 95° F, and the humidity below 65% for a minimum of 72-hours prior to installation. During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to level consistent with conditions that will prevail in an occupied building. HHVAC must run for an appropriate length of time prior to and during installation. With improper acclimation, the floor could noticeably expand or contract after installation.

IN-FLOOR RADIANT HEATING SYSTEMS: With radiant heat, heat source is directly beneath the flooring and may gain moisture or dry out faster than with conventional heating system. Seams may become more noticeable in fluctuations of humidity; therefore, installation of cork tiles over radiant heated floors is not ideal. USFloors recommend the use of cork floating floors instead.

APPLICATION OF SPRAY ADHESIVE:

Do not use on substrates that have been chemically cleaned.

COVERAGE: To determine the accurate coverage rate, measure and chalk line the substrate into grids of approx. 150-sqft coverage and spray the entire can of adhesive onto each measured grid area.

NOTE: It is up to the end user to determine the coverage that is appropriate for flooring and jobsite conditions. Bond testing prior to the installation will help identify the appropriate application rate, open and working time, and any potential bonding problems to the substrate or flooring.

APPLICATION: Shake can well before each use. Point can downwards, press the side of the nozzle tip as you slowly walk back and forth. Do not use a sweeping motion as this may create uneven coverage. Clean up drips. A heavier application at the seams and sheet edges is recommended.

OPEN TIME: Allow the adhesive to dry completely with no transfer to fingers when lightly touched. Open time will vary depending on the adhesive coverage, substrate porosity and the ambient conditions. Working time for the adhesive should not exceed 4 hours.

INSTALLATION OF CORK FLOORING TILES: Use any standard laying pattern and walk-on method. Do not walk on the adhesive. For best installation, lay cork flooring with staggered joints. Shuffle cork flooring for best visual mix and identify possible manufacturing defects. Installer must accept liability for installing defective material. Mix cork flooring from various cartons to maintain natural color and pattern variation. Allow 1/4" expansion space between finished floor and all walls, thresholds, water pipes and other vertical surfaces. Failure to provide adequate expansion space could result in installation failure. When humidity at the time of installation is low, do not position tiles too tightly against one another. To the contrary, when the humidity is elevated, set tiles more closely fit. When cork floor tiles are in place, apply pressure on entire floor surface pressure will cause the flooring to adhere firmly and further movement will not be possible.

ROLLING FLOOR: Upon installation completion, roll the surface using a three-part, 75lb-100lb three-part floor roller. Roll entire floor several times from several directions.

SAFETY AND CLEAN UP: Wet adhesive overspray or drips should be cleaned with soap and water on a clean cloth. Dried adhesive may require the use of a solvent adhesive cleaner. Between uses, clean the spray tip immediately with a clean wet cloth to prevent accumulation of dried adhesive. Empty aluminum spray cans should be relieved of excess pressure and recycled or disposed of in accordance with local requirements. Do not expose to temperatures exceeding 115° F. Prolonged exposure to heat or direct sun may cause container to burst.

POST INSTALLATION: Clean the entire floor using a professional vinyl floor cleaner according to manufacturer guidelines. A clean sweep and a light damp mop is all that is required.

For more information, please call USFloors toll free at 800-404-2675.