

ARCHITECTURAL SPECIFICATION

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Natural Cork® Cork Décor™

All references included in this document refer to USF Contract as the product manufacturer. NaturalCork® is a trade brand name represented under the exclusive control of USFloors Inc.

PART 1 – General

1.1 Description

- A. This document specifies a Cork Décor tile floor made from the renewable resources of 100% cork oak granules.
- B. General contractor shall provide suitable concrete or wood surface subject to approval of installer. Installation surface shall be free of dust, soils, and coatings and sealers. Surface tested for moisture, not to exceed Natural Cork® flooring guidelines. Labor and materials necessary to put surfaces in acceptable condition shall be responsibility of general contractor.
- C. Installer shall be an experienced and competent installation technician of cork and supporting materials

1.2 Related Documents

- A. Responsibility and submittal of Drawings and general provisions of the contract is the responsibility of the general contractor and the flooring contractor, including general and supplemental conditions
- B. Submittals of USF Contract printed product data, test reports and installations- Included shall be materials, finishes, required substrate preparation, adhesive and accessories
- C. Two samples of product to be submitted to illustrate product shade, design and finish. Samples are the standard for materials installed
- D. Submittals of sustainable practices and materials as outlined in USGBC – LEED credit documentation. Referred credit review for this specifications document include but are not limited to:
 - (1) MR 4.1 Recycled Content 10%
 - (2) MR 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
 - (3) EQ 4.4 Low Emitting Materials – Composite Wood and Agrifiber Products

1.3 Quality Assurance

- A. Flooring contractor qualification: Flooring technician must have a minimum of five years of experience who has demonstrated performance and techniques in cork installation
- B. Flooring contractor shall install cork flooring in accordance to USF Contract procedures
- C. Requirements of floor preparations, labor and materials in accordance to USF Contract are the responsibility of the general contractor
- D. Mock-up: Installation of a mock-up for evaluation of surface preparation techniques and applications may be required. At this point approval by the evaluating design professional or end user is required

1.4 Delivery, Storage and Handling

- A. Materials delivered in the original packages, with seals unbroken, bearing USF Contract labels indicating product identification
- B. To prevent damage and loss, store in secure climate controlled space
- C. Store cork flooring on flat surface in accordance with USF Contract handling instructions
- D. Custody and disposal of all materials must comply with requirements of local authorities having jurisdiction

1.5 Site Conditions

- A. Do not deliver or install cork planks until all trowel trades are completed, building is enclosed and weather tight, and permanent heating, air conditioning, ventilating and lighting are installed and operating.
- B. Move product into installation area at least forty-eight [48] hours prior to installation for acclimation
- C. Install flooring subsequent to finishing operations ; including painting
- D. Cover areas of flooring where contractor traffic may occur after installation to protect from damage
- E. Maintain temperatures and humidity in accordance to USF Contract installation procedures

1.6 Warranty

- A. USF Contract will provide a warranty statement of products in a commercial application in accordance to specific products and applications. Refer to USF Contract product specification guide.

PART 2 – Product – Cork Décor Cork Tiles

2.1 Manufacturer

A. USF Contract™

A Division of USFloors Inc
3580 Corporate Drive
Dalton, GA 30720 USA
800.404.2675

www.USFloorsllc.com

B. USF Contract Natural Cork® tiles are a Product of Portugal produced exclusively by Amorim Cork in accordance to the requirements certified by DIN [Deutsches Institute for Normung-German Institute for Standards], member of the USGBC and National Wood Flooring Association

2.2 Materials

Written- **USF Contract or Natural Cork®** Product: **Cork** Size: **XXXX** Color: **XXXX** Pattern: **XXXX**

A. Cork Flooring – Cork Décor

1. Species: Quercus Suber [Oak Cork] 100% pre-consumer materials
2. Size 17 23/32" x 23 5/8" x 1/8"
3. Composition – compressed cork granules with Acrodur® [no added formaldehyde]
4. Stain Resistance
5. Static Suppressive - nonconductive
6. Colorfast
7. Edge – square edge
8. Finish Vinyl clad Endura AR+ Nano™
9. Physical properties performance Requirements:
Complete data documentation provided by USF Contract – NaturalCork®

PART 3 – Execution – Natural Cork® Cork Décor

3.1 Examination

- #### A. Verify that substrate is clean, dry, and free of contaminants that would interfere with the adhesive bond
1. Concrete substrate
 - a. Verify that the substrate complies with ASTM F 710
 - b. Verify that the subfloor is level and flat to 1or8" in 10'
 - c. Slab substrate are dry and cured
 - d. Substrates are free of cracks, ridges, depressions, scale, and foreign debris
 - e. Check slab with calcium chloride moisture test, results not to exceed 3lbsor 1,000sqorft peror24 hrs
 2. Wood substrate underlayment-grade plywood and man-made board
 - a. Verify that the substrate over the subfloor complies with the requirements specified in Division 6 Section "rough carpentry"
 - b. Subfloor must not exceed 14% moisture content (ER method)
- #### B. Notify general contractor in writing of any discrepancies in the substrate
- #### C. General contractor shall have substrate "broom cleaned" and vacuumed, free of debris
- #### D. Verify that the HVAC system is operating and maintaining occupancy level temperature and humidity conditions
- #### E. Proceed with the installation once verifications are satisfied or only after unsatisfactory conditions corrected.

3.2 Preparation

- A. Acclimate materials 48 hours prior to installation
- B. Fix and repair necessary substrates in accordance to acceptable principles
- C. Compare submitted tile or mock-up to ensure installation of proper materials
- D. Inspect material for imperfections during installation

3.3 Installation cork tile – Natural Cork® Cork Décor

- ◆ Installing on concrete substrate
 - ◆ Installing on underlayment-grade plywood and man-made board substrates
 - ◆ Installation on in-floor radiant heating systems
- #### A. Install tile in accordance with USF Contract recommendations, by skilled artisans under the direction of an experienced and competent supervisor or supervisor.

- B. All material shall be set in strict accordance with USF Contract printed specifications
- C. Trim tiles to touch for the length of intersections at pipes and vertical projections, seal joints at pipes with waterproof cement.
- D. When laying cork tiles do not butt too tightly during dry season. Only press together finger tight. Leave a minimum 1/4" expansion gap around perimeter of each room and around other walls, thresholds, pipes, outlets and vertical surfaces.
- E. Roll tile floor during and after installation frequently with an 100 pound roller.
- F. Extend tiles into toe spaces, door reveals, closets, and similar openings.
- G. Adhere tiles to flooring substrates without producing open cracks, voids, raising and puckering at joints, telegraphing of adhesive spreader marks, or other surface imperfections in completed tile installation

3.4 Edge Strips

- A. Install edge strips at doorways where composition floor materials intersect with other materials extending from jamb to jamb, located so that when door is closed, strip is directly under center of door.

3.5 Cleaning and Protection

- A. Remove visible adhesive and other surface blemishes using cleaner as recommended.
- B. When the cork tile sufficiently seats, clean in accordance with USF Contract written directions.
- C. After cleaning the flooring surface, it is necessary to protect the floor from marks, indentations, paint drippings, or other damage by either using building paper or by keeping traffic off the floors until the building is ready for occupancy.
- D. Should the floors become dirty or damaged prior to final acceptance by the Owner, they shall be repaired, recleaned, refinished, or replaced as required so that the Owner will receive floors ready for occupancy without additional cleaning before using.

3.6 Operation and Maintenance Documents

- A. The General Contractor shall supply original copies of all cork flooring cleaning and maintenance information provided by USF Contract. The Owner's maintenance personnel must receive this information upon completion of work.