

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 65°F (18.3°C) and 85°F (29.4°C) 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-conditioning 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 65°F (18.3°C) and 85°F (29.4°C).	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

An adhesive bond test must be performed per **ASTM F3311 Standard Practice for Mat Bond Evaluation of Performance and Compatibility for Resilient Flooring System Components Prior to Installation** and using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test areas must be a minimum of 36" piece and remain in place for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the substrate.

A porosity test must be performed on the substrate to determine which installation method (porous or non-porous) will be required. Refer to **ASTM F3191 Standard Practice for Field Determination of Substrate Water Absorption (Porosity) for Substrates to Receive Resilient Flooring**

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 60°F (15.6°C) and must be within 5°F (2.8°C) of ambient temperature
	Substrate temperature must be a minimum of 10°F (5.6°C) higher than the dew point temperature NOTE: Dew point calculators are available online. If the substrate is not 10°F (5.6°C) above the dew point, contact Technical services at (800) 899-8916

(All Substrates Cont.)	<p>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.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
Existing Flooring	<p>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.</p>
Concrete	<p>Constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute’s (ACI) 302.2 <i>Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials</i> NOTE: Refer to ACI 302.2 for recommended drying times for newly poured concrete.</p>
	<p>Prepared in accordance with ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring</p>
	<p>NOTE: The use of a high moisture and alkali resistant cementitious underlayment may be required. Contact a cementitious underlayment manufacturer for best recommendations.</p>
	<p>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.</p>
	<p>Test for moisture in accordance with: ASTM F2170 Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes -OR- ASTM F1869 Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride. Acceptable moisture limits can be found in the adhesive section at the end of this document, on the adhesive label, and in the adhesive specifications found online at www.tarkett.com. 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.</p>
	<p>Test for pH in accordance with ASTM F3441 Standard Guide for Measurement of pH Below Resilient Flooring. Acceptable pH limits can be found in the adhesive section at the end of this document, on the adhesive label, and in the adhesive specifications found online at www.tarkett.com. Test results must not exceed the limits of the adhesive; if they do, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.</p>
	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
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 <u>non-porous</u> 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 85°F (29.4°C)
	24 hours prior to install, lower the thermostat to a minimum of 65°F (18.3°C). Maintain this temperature throughout installation and for 48 hours after completion
	48 hours after installation, gradually increase the thermostat in increments of 5° every twenty-four hours, never exceeding 85°F (29.4°C)

INSTALLATION

1. **Adhesive Selection:** See adhesive chart below and follow adhesive label instructions for proper use.

2. **Installation Procedure:**

- **Glue-Down Type**

Transitions, Reducers, Edge Guards, Cove Caps, Thresholds, Filler Strips, and Tub Moldings

- Apply Tarkett 946 Premium Contact Adhesive to the back of the molding and the wall/floor surface area. Allow adhesive to thoroughly dry to the touch.
- Carefully position and install the molding. Use a small hand roller and roll the molding to ensure proper adhesive bond. **NOTE: Once contact is made to the wall/floor surface, the molding cannot be moved.**
- When adjoining carpet, trim the carpet so that it fills the undercut area of the molding completely.
- Fold back the carpet and apply adhesive to the back of the carpet and to the base surface of the molding, which will extend under the carpet after installation.
- Allow adhesive to dry, as discussed in step #3.
- Tuck the edge of the carpet into the undercut by bending slightly. Use a tucking tool to force the carpet completely into the undercut. Use a J-roller to smooth out irregularities.

- **Snap-In Type Transitions**

- Tarkett Snap-In Type Moldings must be allowed to condition for 24 hours prior to installation. Coiled moldings must be uncoiled and laid out flat during the conditioning period.
- Install the track base (CDB-OO-A or MT series types) first. CDB-OO-A must be installed with Tarkett 946 Premium Contact Adhesive. MT series track bases can be installed with contact bond adhesive or mechanically fastened with nails or screws.

- c. Care must be taken when handling and installing snap-in moldings to eliminate the possibility of stretching the material, which will result in gaps after installation.
 - d. Measure the length required for the application. Cut the molding slightly larger than the measurement so that it can be compressed into the track, following the installation recommendations.
 - e. When adjoining carpet, trim and glue the carpet to the track base mounting leg.
 - f. Position the snap-in molding over the track base. Install approximately 1 ft. (.3 m) of the snap-in molding into each end of the track base using a rubber mallet.
 - g. Continue installing the snap-in molding into the track. Install 2 to 3 feet at a time, alternating from end to end, slightly angling the mallet head back towards the starting point.
 - h. When installing mitered corners, apply contact adhesive to the barbed insert of the snap-in molding and the channel of the track base. Apply adhesive for 2-3 inches in both directions of the mitered corner. Install as previously discussed.
- **Vinyl Corner Bumper Guards**
 - a. Tarkett Corner Bumper Guards must be allowed to condition for 24 hours prior to installation.
 - b. Position and pencil mark the desired installed location of the bumper guard on the wall surface.
 - c. Apply Tarkett 946 Premium Contact Adhesive to the back of the corner bumper guard and the marked wall surface area. The adhesive is ready for installation when it is dry to the touch and does not transfer to the finger.
 - d. Starting at the top, slightly expand the bumper guard legs as that the inside angle of the bumper guard makes contact to the angle of the wall surface first, then press the legs into place. Continue this procedure until the installation of the bumper guard is completed. **NOTE: Once contact is made to the wall/floor surface, the molding cannot be moved.**
 - e. Use a small hand roller and roll the bumper guard to ensure proper bonding.
 - **Vinyl Feature Strips**

NOTE: Vinyl Feature Strips have a stipple-like grout textured surface on one side and a smooth surface on the opposite side. It is the installer's responsibility to verify which surface is to be the show surface with the specifier or project specifications prior to installation.

 - a. Follow the resilient flooring manufacturer's installation instructions for the specific flooring product to be installed. Vinyl Feature Strips must be installed during the resilient flooring material installation.
 - b. Prepare the substrate and apply the manufacturer's recommended adhesive for the specific flooring according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - c. **Important:** When Tarkett Vinyl Feature Strips are installed with resilient flooring materials and adhesives other than those manufactured and approved by Tarkett, Tarkett will assume no responsibility or guarantee the compatibility or adhesion performance of those adhesives.
 - d. Following the flooring layout outlined by the project requirements, abut the vinyl feature strip tightly and uniformly along the edge of the resilient flooring material while pressing the feature strip into the adhesive layer. Occasionally lift the edge of the feature strip to ensure adhesive transfer.
 - e. Vinyl Feature Strips and the resilient flooring material shall be thoroughly rolled in both directions with the roller, as described, in the resilient flooring manufacturer's installation instructions.
 - f. **Maintenance:** Refer to the resilient flooring manufacturer's maintenance requirements.
 - **Contoured Edge Transition Molding**
 - a. Mark a pencil line on the floor where the transition is to be installed.
 - b. Position and hold the transition along the pencil line and mark the floor every 3" through the holes in the flanges.
 - c. On concrete floors, drill 5/32" pilot holes in the flange hole locations and secure the transition using 3/16" x 1-1/4" long self-tapping concrete screws.
 - d. On wood floors, secure with #10 x 1-1/4" long round head wood screws

ADHESIVE CLEAN UP

Excess adhesive should be removed during the installation process.

946™ Premium Contact Adhesive, RollSmart™ Adhesive

- Use a clean white cloth dampened with water to remove wet adhesive from floor covering and tools.
- Dried adhesive may require the use of denatured alcohol (methyl hydrate) or 70% isopropyl alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using these chemicals.)

MAINTENANCE

1. Wait 72 hours after installation before performing initial cleaning.
2. A regular maintenance program must be started after the initial cleaning.
3. Tarkett Resilient Moldings are maintained with regular wiping using a wet, clean, soft, white cloth.
4. A mild detergent may be added to the water.
5. Coarse scrubbing media or harsh cleaning chemicals may damage the surface of the chair rail.

ADHESIVE SELECTION CHART Only Tarkett adhesives are recommended for use with Tarkett products. When used as recommended, Tarkett adhesives are guaranteed by the limited warranty of the flooring product.

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A **pH test** must be performed in accordance with **ASTM F3441 Standard Guide for Measurement of pH Below Resilient Flooring**

Products	Adhesive	Application and Coverage		Moisture / pH Limits			Notes
		Porous	Non-Porous	RH%	CaCl ₂	pH	
Resilient Moldings	946 Premium Contact Adhesive	Applied with Brush or Roller		85%	7 lbs.	9	Coverage based on both sides
		1 qt unit 24 – 36 sq. ft.*	1 qt unit 24 – 36 sq. ft.*				
		1 gal. unit 144 – 215 sq. ft.*	1 gal. unit 144 – 215 sq. ft.*				
Resilient Moldings	RollSmart Adhesive	Applied with a Brush or Roller		95%	8 lbs.	10	Coverage based on both sides Recommended for use under hospital beds. Adhesive coverage must not exceed 400 ft ² / gallon. While still wet, adhesive bed should read 10 – 14 mil on wet film thickness gauge.
		350-400 sq. ft*. per gal.					

*= To calculate Linear Footage:

$$sq. ft. \times 144 = sq. inches$$

Determine Width of Molding (this is the area that will be adhered to substrate)

$$sq. inches \div (width of molding) = linear inches$$

$$linear inches \div 12 = linear feet$$

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