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## Installation requirements and preparation for Unnatural flooring

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### Surface Requirements & Preparation

#### Acceptable Substrate Surfaces

1. Fully cured concrete.
2. Wood subfloor such as APA grade plywood (min. 6mm thickness).
3. Exterior grade plywood (Group 1 CC type).
4. Vinyl composition tile (limited to one layer) and stripped of any waxes and fully bonded.
5. Properly levelled embossed sheet goods that are securely bonded and fully adhered.
6. Cement terrazzo or ceramic tile (that has been levelled and the surface properly prepared – such as sanded and de-glossed).
7. Bared steel, aluminium.
8. Non-porous surfaces (consult with Unnatural Flooring for additional information).

#### Non-Acceptable Surfaces

1. Presswood
2. Chipboard, Flakeboard or Particleboard.
3. Gypsum based toppings, levelling and patching compounds as exclusions.

#### General Surface Recommendations

1. Supporting surfaces shall be clean and free of dust, oil, grease, tar or other loose substances that prevent or reduce adhesion.
  2. Test concrete slabs for excess moisture. Should not exceed 1.4kg per 93 sq.m. per 24 hours as measured by anhydrous calcium chloride test.
  3. Where necessary, insulation should be used to prevent dampness or humidity from below affecting the flooring.
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### Adhesives

#### F Ball and Co

[www.f-ball.co.uk](http://www.f-ball.co.uk)

T: +44 (0) 1538 361 633

See F Ball Recommended Adhesive Guide for full information under The Unnatural Flooring Co.

#### UZIN Ltd

[www.uzin.co.uk](http://www.uzin.co.uk)

T: +44 (0) 1788 530 080

See UZIN Recommended Adhesive Guide for full information under The Unnatural Flooring Co.

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### Application

#### For indoor installation, use Trowel size;

- 1.5mm x 5mm V Notch Trowel applied to smooth surfaces.
- OR
- 2mm x 6mm V Notch Trowel applied to rough surfaces.

#### For outdoor installation, use Trowel size;

- 2.4mm x 2.4mm x 2.4mm
1. Do not apply adhesive when substrate temperature is below 18°C, 24 hours before, during and after installation.
  2. Use recommended notched trowel.
  3. Using the recommended trowel size ensures that minimum 90% of adhesive transfers to the floorcovering backing while maintaining full coverage on the substrate. DO NOT USE SMALLER TROWEL SIZES.
  4. When installing over porous substrates there is no need to allow open time. Allow the adhesive to tack no more than 25 minutes based on 24°C and 50% relative humidity.
  5. Open time, when installing over non porous substrates, is 30 minutes. Based on 24°C and 50% humidity. Higher temperatures and less humidity shorten the open time. Place flooring onto adhesive so as to minimise air bubbles and wrinkles.
  6. Roll flooring surface (34-45kg roller) across width and length to break down adhesive ridges and ensure removal of trapped air. Wait 1-2 hours then repeat rolling procedure.
  7. Promptly clean adhesive smudges from the flooring surface. Use a wet cloth when adhesive is fresh or mineral spirits when dried.

### Seams

- For indoor installation, use Seam Weld or a latex seam sealer compatible with PVC flooring.
  - For outdoor installation or for waterproof seams, use Seam Weld.
1. Double cut overlapped strips of flooring to form two seam edges.
  2. Apply seam adhesive to the edge of the bottom strip of floorcovering, then drop the other edge into place. The seam adhesive is manufactured to form a bond between the edges of the flooring and not a bond to the substrate floor.
  3. Do not separate or shift the seam while the initial weld is being made.
  4. Take care not to get excessive cold weld adhesive on the flooring surface.
  5. For loose lay installation seam use a fabric reinforcing strip (tape). Adhere to back of the seam after following steps 1-4.

### Recommended Company

Mueller Cold Weld System T: +00 49 62 33 37 930  
www.mueller-pvc-nacht.de

Type A for new installations available in UK through Janser in Halesowen  
T: 01215 615 888 44g 15 linear metres 132g 40 linear metres.

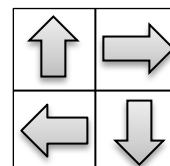
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### Installation Procedures

1. Acclimatise flooring to room temperature and humidity levels. Make installation cuts 5-10cm longer than the area requires. Allow these cuts to lay out, unrolled for 24 hours for sufficient acclimatisation period.
2. Unnatural Flooring can be installed with all types of domestic underfloor heating, up to 27°C. Please ensure the underfloor heating has been turned off at least 24hrs in advance, and the flooring has acclimatised to its surroundings. Consult the adhesive company and heating specialists for any further information. After laying the floor covering, wait at least 24 hours before putting the heating back on and do so in 5°C increments per day.
3. Side seaming is recommended. When laying out the installation cuts, avoid end, cross or butt seams.
4. Run the flooring cuts in the same direction using the arrows on the reverse as a guide. Do not reverse lay consecutive strips.
5. Lay the strip of the flooring on to the adhesive and overlapping the edges of the adjoining strips of flooring by 2cm – 5cm.
6. Double cut the overlapping edges of the adjoining strips to form the two seam edges.
7. Pull back the two seam edges. This is the area that was left without a coat of adhesive. Apply adhesive to the floor underneath the length of the seam.
8. Seam bond the edges, described in the seaming section.
9. After setting the seam, roll the surface of the two adjoining strips. Repeat rolling 1-2 hours later if high humidity levels are slowing the drying rate.
10. Tiles must be laid in alternating directions, at 90 degrees (a quarter turn) from each other, in accordance with industrial standard tile laying techniques.



### Loose Lay

1. Allow 6mm along the wall for expansion.
2. Seam following the procedures in the seaming section.
3. For loose lay installation seams use a fabric reinforcing strip (tape). Adhere to back of the seam after the use of seam adhesive. (See above for recommended seam adhesive).

### Protection

Do not allow traffic or furnishings for 72 hours on commercial or heavy traffic applications and 24 hrs on residential applications.

### IMPORTANT

**Unnatural Flooring must be inspected before installation.** Any faults must be reported to our office prior to fitting. No claims will be entertained once the material is cut and/or installed.

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### Care and Cleaning

#### 1. Immediately after Installation

-Protect and do not disturb the sealed seams for at least 48hours. Keep traffic to a minimum on the entire surface to allow the adhesive to harden. Do not place furniture on the floor until the adhesive has had adequate time to dry.

-Always move heavy appliances and furniture with care to avoid gouging or tearing the floor. Lay plywood panels on the floor and slide the heavy objects on the panels.

#### 2. Regular Maintenance

-Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove dirt. Using a vacuum with a roller brush is best for removing trapped dirt from the texture of Unnatural Flooring. Wipe up spills promptly to avoid stains and dry with a clean cloth.

-Wash your floor as needed with a mop and warm water. For a more thorough cleaning use a soft bristle brush. Clean the flooring with a neutral solution or a slightly alkaline solution by rubbing with a soft brush. Rinse with water after cleaning solution is used and dry with a clean cloth. Always keep the floor as dry as possible.

-Use Dr Shutz Active Cleaning Agent. Dilute as instructed with warm water. This can then be used as a cleaning agent with a bristled brush. For best results use a spray extraction floor cleaning machine to spray and suck up the loosened dirt from the textured flooring. Please contact our office if you would like us to supply you with the machine.

-Do not use dishwashing liquids or detergent soap cleaners. They can leave a sticky residue, which attracts soil and can cause a reduction in gloss.

#### 3. How to treat stains and spills

-Stains and spills such as acids, alkalis, blood, mustard, strong soaps, dye, dye markings, food, candy, fruit and fruit juices, grass, iodine, rust and urine;

- a. Blot up excess at once.
- b. Rug gently with a damp cloth dipped in mineral spirits.
- c. If paint is dried, gently peel it from the floor.
- d. Clean area with fresh water and dry with a clean cloth.

-Stains that won't wipe up such as adhesives, asphalt, chewing gum, oil, grease, candle wax and tar;

- a. Remove excess with a dull kitchen knife.
- b. Rub lightly with mineral spirits on a clean cloth.
- c. Clean area with fresh water and dry with a clean cloth.