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# WICANDERS



GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION  
FOR WICANDERS FLOATING FLOORS

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AMORIM CORK FLOORING



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## (Preparation)

### Subfloor preparation

The subfloor and the room climate conditions must satisfy the requirements of DIN 18356 and the applicable national standards.

Subfloors must be permanently dry (on concrete subfloors without radiant heat, consider the maximum humidity less than 75% RH or less than 2.0 % weight (CM) or less than 3lbs/1000sqft/24 hours in USA and Canada), firm, level and free of cracks, contamination and substances which hinder bonding.

If moisture is a concern and exceeds above values, use a moisture barrier that is compatible to the adhesive being used.

The maximum unevenness of the subfloor is 3mm/2m ( 1/8" in 6 1/2 feet), no dents are allowed.

Casein-free levelling compound is recommended to level the subfloor. Other US manufacturers may recommend their product also. To make sure that the levelling compound adheres and forms a strong surface, use the additives recommended by the glue manufacturer.

All old flooring must be removed if it does not provide a solid gluing surface.

Calcium sulphate concrete must be pre-treated mechanically and vacuumed according to the instructions of the manufacturer or among the relevant national standards.

### Installation of Wicanders Floors over Heated Subfloors:

When using Wicanders floating floors as a glued down installation in a heated subfloor, the surface temperature of the subfloor must not exceed 28°C (82°F).

Remember that rugs or mats placed on top of the floor may function as heat accumulators and will increase the floor surface temperature more than the maximum surface temperature (must not exceed 20 - 22 °C / 68 -72°F).

The drying of a heated subfloor has to be made by turning the heating on/off with a pause before installation of the floor, following a documented protocol. After that you can begin the «heating phase».

The beginning of the heating phase in concrete subfloors is to be made after complete curing of the substrate. The heating phase has to begin with running temperature of 25°C, (78°F) for 3 days.

The subfloor should be in place and cured for at least 60-90 days.

The temperature should then be increased no more than 5°F each day until the maximum temperature allowed according to the systems manufacturer. This maximum value is to be at least 72 hours and maintained for 5-7 days without any turning off. The decrease of temperature is made by reducing it gradually every day until 18°C, (65°F) on the surface is achieved. The heating system must be turned on eight days before the application of the levelling compound, so that the concrete slab dries completely.

The heat should be turned off before the levelling compound is applied. Then, 3 days after the flooring is installed, increase slowly to a normal level. Maximum of 28°C (82°F) on the subfloor's surface.

### Important notes:

- Failure to observe these precautions can cause a build-up of moisture or partial evaporation of the levelling compound or fast drying of adhesive.
- If the heat is turned on when the adhered material has not been conditioned properly on-site for at least 7 days and is not completely dry, the material may shrink. Avoid abruptly turning on radiant heat when cooler weather prevails as it will subject the flooring to rapid movement of expansion and or contraction. Gradually increase temperature regardless of the season.
- The adhesive used must be suitable for heated subfloors.
- All hot water pipes and electrical heating elements should be embedded in concrete in accordance with the appropriate building codes and regulations.
- For detailed information, follow the instructions supplied by the subfloor heating system manufacturer/contractor, or contact your supplier.

## (Prior to installation)

### Transport, storage and acclimatization

Transport and store the cartons horizontally.

Packed tiles and adhesive should be acclimatized at job the site in a dry, well-ventilated area for a minimum of 48 hours so that flooring may acclimate.

Remove tiles from packages just before starting installation.

During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to a level consistent with the conditions which will prevail when the building is occupied. In most cases, this means maintaining a temperature range from 18°C to 28°C (65 F to 82F) and relative humidity range from 35% to 65%. In order to reach this climate, use heating or air conditioning in the appropriate duration of time before starting the installation. A humidification system may be required.

Wicanders shade variation is an inherent and attractive characteristic. To achieve the most pleasant blend of shades, open two or three cartons and shuffle the planks before laying.

### Site inspection

Prior to installation, please inspect the tiles in daylight for any visible faults or damage, and also check if the subfloor and site conditions are in accordance with the specifications described within these instructions.

Amorim Cork Flooring cannot be held responsible for claims associated with improper subfloors, improper applications, adhesives, Varnishes and the use of maintenance products not recommended or detectable defects verifiable prior to installation.

Nailed or screwed installations won't work with Amorim Cork Flooring floating products.

### Attention:

Nailed or screwed installations won't work with Amorim Cork Flooring products.

Glue down installation method has also risks of improper or no subfloor preparation, subfloor moisture, wrong adhesives, incorrect trowel used or not respected open time of the adhesive, resulting in de-bonding of the material from the subfloor. Furthermore, the connecting area between glued down floating floor and ceramic or marble is somewhat critical. Depending on the maintenance cleaning procedure of the ceramic area, moisture may penetrate transverse within the subfloor into the area of the floating floor or be absorbed by the floor. The installer must close accurately the joint between the two areas with a water resistant material - we suggest using an elastic MS polymer or polyurethane jointing material adjusted to the color of the floating floor or the ceramic tiles. However, in order to reduce the risks of failure (which will not be eliminated), if the client decides for Glue down installation method the following procedures shall be followed.

### Important notes:

- Failure to observe these precautions can cause a build-up of moisture or partial evaporation of the levelling compound or fast drying of adhesive.
- If the heat is turned on when the adhered material has not been conditioned properly on-site for at least 7 days and is not completely dry, the material may shrink. Avoid abruptly turning on radiant heat when cooler weather prevails as it will subject the flooring to rapid movement of expansion and or contraction. Gradually increase temperature 5°F regardless of the season.
- The adhesive used must be suitable for heated subfloors.
- All hot water pipes should be embedded in concrete in accordance with the appropriate building codes and regulations.
- For detailed information, follow the instructions supplied by the subfloor heating system manufacturer/contractor, or contact your supplier.

## (During installation)

Glue down installation should be performed by someone that has experience and know how.

The subfloor must be completely dry and the adhesives used should be specially developed and recommended for these types of floors (floating floors). Confirm that the complete area of the plank is glued.

### Laying (use the same precautions used in the floating installation):

Follow the installation instructions of the product you are installing (2G, 5G-C, Fold-Down), bearing in mind the following:

- Expansion joints in the building must not be closed by the flooring. If it is laid and stuck across expansion joints in the building, it may tear, as it is fixed firmly in place and cannot "work" with the movements of the building. Usually, expansion joints for the building are found, as a rule, in large areas.
- The expansion joint can be covered with an appropriate skirting, profile or with elastic polyurethane material adjusted to the color of the floating floor.
- To make the start of the installation easier, secure the start row with wedges or when necessary, cut it according to the wall line.

If you are installing floating floor planks or panels, start the next row with the piece left over (must be at least 300mm / 12" long).

- Start by applying the glue on the subfloor alongside the planks in an area of two rows of planks at a time, using a TKB B11 dented trowel for Wicanders floating floors with cork backing.
- Use only the following adhesives:

Producer	Reference
Mapei	Ultrabond P990 -1K
Sika	SikaBond T-55
Casco	PARKET ELASTIC PLUS - 3440 (water free elastic glue for wood flooring / build in moisture barrier up to 85%).
	PROFLEX - 3470 (water-free elastic glue for wooden floors / without moisture barrier).
Kiesel	Bakit EK
Taylor	Resolute, Dynamic, Pinnacle
Kerakoll	Parquet S11
	L 34 - 2 Comp.
Mapei	Ultrabond P990 -1K
Wakol	MS 260
BONA	R850
Fortane	Fortane LD

The questions related with adhesive should be directed to the manufacturer of the adhesive; they know their products and are aware of any changes or details on application. Before a wet cleaning, foot traffic or placing heavy furniture, you should wait 24-36 hours after installation of the floor, to allow the flooring adhesive to completely dry.