

Leaders in Innovative Commercial Flooring!

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Soundstop Acoustical Glue Down & Glue Down Installation Instructions

GENERAL GUIDELINES

This information provides general guidelines for Advanced Flooring Concepts Soundstop Acoustical Flooring and Glue Down Products. All instructions and recommendations should be followed for a proper installation.

1. Install Advanced Flooring Concepts flooring only after the clear of dust and debris that could create lifting and an improper installation.
2. All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a non- shrinking, water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.
3. Adhesives used with this product must be a pressure-sensitive releasable adhesive either from Advanced Flooring Concepts or approved by Advanced Flooring Concepts Floors.
4. All areas where the product will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source operational and remain in operation during and after installation. Humidity should be no great than 65%
5. Acclimation is required of flooring for 48 to 72 hours, between a temperature of 65 and 85 degrees required. Fahrenheit Humidity levels need to be between 35% and 75%.
6. If you install outside of these temperature ranges, then depending on whether you installed it hot or cold, you may experience expansion or contraction of the flooring, and adjustments may be required. If for example, you install in a cold environment and later space is heated, you may experience a buckling of some planks in places. If for example, you install in a hot environment and later space is cooled, you may experience gapping or contraction of your flooring in places.

7. Calculate the total quantities required and add 5% for excess and waste.
8. Luxury Vinyl Planks should be laid randomly across the floor to create the best color effect. We recommend that you install the planks using a mix from several different cartons to ensure a random appearance.
8. Planks should be fitted lengthways towards the main incoming light source and, where possible, down the length of the room. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways.
9. All Glue Down and Glue Down with Pad installed over Gypcrete requires the Gypcrete is primed and tested for moisture prior to installation. SF Primer is an acrylic floor preparation solution designed to improve flooring substrates before the application of floor-covering adhesives. SF Primer will improve dry, porous substrates for a better bonding surface, help protect the adhesive from alkalinity damage and improve adhesive spread rate. Prime Stix is suitable for use over APA approved flooring grade plywood, concrete or acoustical concrete and floor patch and can prevent over absorption of adhesives resulting in a better bond and coverage. Prime Stix may also be used as a primer for gypsum-based substrates prepared in accordance with ASTM F2419. SF Primer is designed and warranted for use only in conjunction with adhesives manufactured by XL Brands/Bostik.
10. SF Enviro 1000 is a solvent-free adhesive with aggressive tack designed for the installation luxury vinyl tile (LVT), vinyl plank and sheet flooring. SF Enviro 1000 is non-staining and contains MicroSept™ Antimicrobial System to protect the adhesive from bacterial and fungal growth. When used with LVT, plank and vinyl sheet flooring, SF Enviro1000 provides a tenacious bond. Approved for bond only on bare concrete substrates with up to 99% RH for flooring installed on or above grade (per current ASTM F2170), and pH of 12.0 or less. Recommended: 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U- notch Trowel. Each 4 Gallon Can has a spread rate of 220-260 square feet per gallon, or 880 to 1040 square feet per 4 Gallon Can.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- Safety Glasses, Utility Knife
- Measuring Tape
- Straight Edge Chalk Line
- Trowel (As per adhesive manufacturer's recommendation)
- Primer
- Vinyl Plank/Tile Cutter (Optional)
- Portland Cement-Based Compound
- Carpenter's Square or Straight Edge

MOISTURE TESTS:

All moisture tests must be performed and recorded before installation with results not to exceed the adhesive manufacturer's specifications. A significant number of installation failures in the market today are due to moisture-related issues.

This product should be stored at the job site free from all the elements. This product should be acclimated to the conditioned temperature inside and must be kept between 65 and 85 degrees before, during, and after the installation for at least 48 hours. The job site must be cleaned and prepared before starting the installation. All patchwork and preparation for the subfloor must be done and allowed to dry before starting the installation.

Thoroughly inspect all material. Installed flooring found to be defective will not be covered by warranty nor labor costs associated with removal & reinstallation.

Check cartons and confirm that the product is correct and has the same batch and lot number. If a different batch or lot number, to minimize shade variation mix product from several boxes. If the product looks incorrect stop the installation immediately and call us immediately.

DO NOT INSTALL Glue Down or Soundstop IF MOISTURE TESTS EXCEED THE APPROPRIATE AND RECOMMENDED LIMITS

REQUIRED MOISTURE TESTS:

We recommend that all subfloors (new and old) be tested using Calcium Chloride Test ASTM F1869 or Relative Humidity Test ASTM F 2170-11. Never install Advanced Flooring Concepts Glue Down or Soundstop Flooring where surface or subfloor moisture is present. Excessive moisture will cause failure. Advanced Flooring will not assume responsibility for floor covering failure due to hydrostatic pressure or moisture.

The installer is responsible for conducting a moisture test several days before installation to be sure that moisture is at recommended levels per Calcium Chloride Test of 3 lb. / 1,000 sq.ft. per 24 hrs., since moisture will directly affect the cure, set, and bond of adhesives. The moisture content of the concrete cannot exceed 2.5% when using a Protimeter Concertmaster Tester. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer. Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth, and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt, sealing compounds, and other extraneous materials, the surface must be hard and dense and free from powder or flaking. Only structurally sound concrete of proper density (90 lbs/cubic foot) and compressive density (3,500 psi) should be used as a sub-floor for our Down Flooring. Any large cracks or voids must be filled with a cementitious patching compound. Concrete should be flat within 3/16" in 10FT.

APPROVED SUBFLOORS:

Concrete Subfloor

Proper subfloor preparation and suitable underlayment installation are essential for a trouble-free job. Uneven or rough subfloor surfaces will show through (or telegraph) to the surface of this product resulting in an unsightly surface and can make high spots more susceptible to excessive wear. Correct the subfloor imperfections before you begin installing this product.

- Proper preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor. Verify that the substrate is flat within 1/8" of a ten-foot radius.
 - All subfloors should be smooth, flat, and dust-free with the tolerance not to exceed more than 1/8" in a 10' span. Holes, grooves, expansion joints, and other depressions must be filled with a Portland-based underlayment and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.
 - New concrete slabs (foundations) must cure for a minimum of 6 weeks AND must meet all moisture, pH, and RH requirements before installation of our LVT Flooring. Review the acceptable ranges for these items in the Moisture, pH and RH section of this installation document.
 - Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth, and 85% free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds, and other extraneous materials. Advanced Flooring Concepts Loose lay floors must be installed on dry floors. The floor must have a moisture reading of less than 95% RH. If any subfloor shows moisture readings above 95% RH, then an acceptable damp proof membrane/moisture suppression system must be applied. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
 - New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry and completely cured. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.
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- Concrete underlayments with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit at any point. The system should be covered with a self-leveling underlayment separating the flooring from the heat source by at least 1/2”.
- Be sure that Radiant Heat sub-floors are properly cast 1/2" below the surface of the concrete slab. This ensures safe use of the radiant heat sub-flooring and provides the proper distance between the adhesive and Advanced our LVT, and to be covered by our Warranty.
- Expansion joints, grooves, holes, and other depressions must be filled with a Portland cement-based compound.
- All concrete slabs must be checked for moisture before installing material. Moisture emissions from subfloor cannot exceed 3 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours as measured with the calcium chloride test or more than 75% in situ relative humidity. Responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the owner and installer.

NOTE: If contaminants have thoroughly penetrated the concrete, and cannot be removed, then we do not recommend installing our flooring

Wood Subfloors

- a. All wood panels for use Advanced Flooring Concepts Loose lay must be smooth, flat, structurally sound, and free of deflection.
- b. A combination of the wood subfloor and panel underlayment construction shall be a minimum of 1” in total thickness.
- c. There shall be at least 18” of well-ventilated air space beneath all wood subfloors. Crawl spaces shall be insulated and protected by a suitable vapor barrier.
- d. Wood subfloors installed directly on concrete or over “sleeper” joist systems are not acceptable for use under our Resilient Flooring.
- e. Panels designed as suitable underlayment shall be at a minimum ¼” in thickness, dimensionally stable, fully sanded face to eliminate grain texture or show through and have a written manufacturer’s warranty and installation instructions.

Panels shall be installed according to manufacturer’s instructions regarding stapling pattern, sanding and filling of joints, and acclimation to the installed environment.

- f. Advanced Flooring Concepts will not cover or accept responsibility for unevenness in the subfloor causing lippage or gapping. This is a subfloor issue.
- g. Unacceptable substrates shall be covered using a ¼” or thicker panel underlayment recommended for commercial use. Follow the underlayment manufacturer’s installation instructions fully.

Gypsum Concrete:

- a. Lightweight Gypcrete with a density of at least 90lbs per cubic foot and compressive strength of 3,500 psi are approved as a sub-floor under Advanced Flooring Concepts.

Gypsum and other forms of light concrete may be used when they meet these requirements but when installing over them, always apply an Acrylic based Primer-Sealer coat before applying adhesive.

- b.** SF Primer is an acrylic floor preparation solution designed to improve flooring substrates before the application of floor-covering adhesives. Prime Stix will improve dry, porous substrates for a better bonding surface, help protect the adhesive from alkalinity damage and improve adhesive spread rate. SF Primer is suitable for use over APA approved flooring grade plywood, concrete or acoustical concrete and floor patch and can prevent over absorption of adhesives resulting in a better bond and coverage. SF Primer may also be used as a primer for gypsum- based substrates prepared in accordance with ASTM F2419.

Removal of Old Adhesives

- c.** The adhesive residue shall be properly removed before the installation of Advanced Flooring Concepts Luxury Vinyl Flooring. It is recommended that mechanical scraping or grinding be used as a primary means of removing old adhesive residue.
- d.** Residues include, but are not limited to carpet, vinyl, VCT, and or wood flooring adhesives.
- e.** If chemical/liquid adhesive removers are utilized, the manufacturer's recommended instructions for cleaning after use of the remover shall be followed fully. Advanced Flooring Concepts is not responsible for any adhesive failures, indentation, bubbling, or delamination of new flooring due to improper cleaning of residue left from liquid adhesive removers. All gypsum cement underlayment surfaces to receive Soundstop or our Glue Down must be primed with a primer coat.

Non-Approved Substrates:

Hardboard, Strip Wood Floors, Masonite, OSB (Oriented Strand Board), Particle Board, Tile, Asphalt, Rubber, Imperfect Plywood with knots.

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES:

1. General

- a.** Advanced Flooring Concepts Plank simulates wood planks and can be installed in the same pattern as a wood plank floor in a random pattern, staggered design, diagonally, or other design.
 - b.** Planks are best in appearance when lying parallel to the longest walls in the room.
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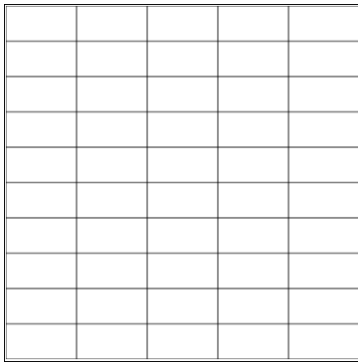
- c. Our Glue Down LVT products can be cut using a tile cutter or a utility knife. Keep knife blades sharp for easy, accurate and safe cuts. Fit planks to walls, columns, door jambs, etc. using the same methods other floor tiles; overlap, pattern scribe, wall scribe, and freehand.
 - d. When working on top of glue down & Soundstop flooring during the installation, be sure to not disturb tiles and planks that have already been laid. If a piece does become dislodged simply peel it up and reinstall; use of a scrap piece as a tapping block can help readjust disturbed tiles and planks also.
 - e. If it is necessary to heat the planks to achieve a cut, heat slightly from the back only with minimal heat setting (a standard hair dryer will produce enough heat). Carefully make cuts with a sharp utility knife on the heated plank.
 - f. Recommended Trowel
 - 1. Requires a trowel notch of 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" u-notch is used. The adhesive should be allowed to dry to the touch sufficient to prevent slippage. Loss of adhesion can result if the flooring is not installed within the working time of the adhesive.
 - 2. Do not install flooring into wet adhesives on non-porous substrates.
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2. Layout

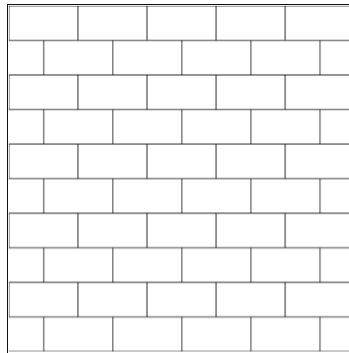
- a. Determine the center of the room and dry lay a section of tile/plank from the centerline to one wall to determine that the pattern is centered and fit. Measure the border cuts along the wall and compare them to the following criteria. If necessary, adjust the first row at the centerline to meet either the plank or tile
- b. Planks should never be less than 9 inches long or less than half of the width of the plank. Avoid small pieces in border areas and adjust the center lines to achieve the proper pattern.
- c. Tiles should not be less than 6" in length or width. Avoid small pieces in border areas and adjust the center to achieve the proper pattern.
- d. Tiles are designed to be laid in any fashion with the most popular being point-to-point and ashlar patterns. All tile sizes and patterns look best when the layout is balanced in the installed room.

Types of Possible Floor Lay Outs:

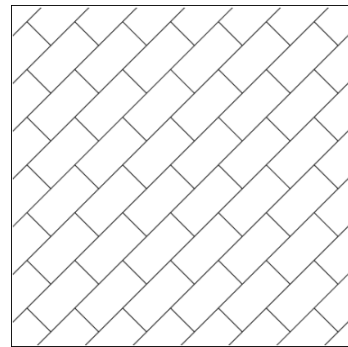
Stack Bond



Subway



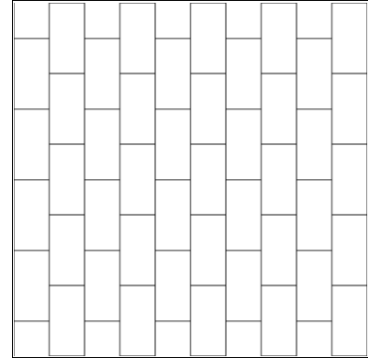
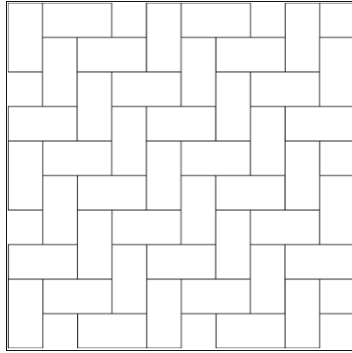
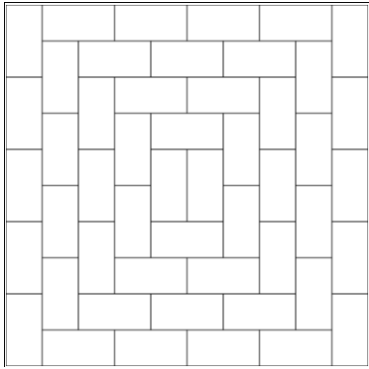
Diagonal



**Running Bond
Subway**

Herringbone

Vertical



3. Installation of flooring

Spread adhesives using the proper trowel notch.

- a. Begin laying the first row of flooring into the adhesive, keeping a 1/8" gap along all vertical surfaces. Lay the flooring by tightly butting the edges of the pieces together, making sure that the runs are parallel to your centerline or layout lines. Work toward the first wall from your starting line into the band of adhesive.
 - b. Once your starter rows are secure and the flooring planks/tiles are tightly butted together, continue applying adhesive along the perimeter of the adjacent walls so that enough flooring can be placed within the working time of the adhesive. We recommend an additional "X" pattern be placed corner-to-corner in the room for commercial applications.
 - c. Be sure to stagger all end joints by at least 6" or the width of one plank. Vary the length of your planks during installation to ensure that end joints are not bunched, and randomness is achieved in the pattern.
 - d. During installation, roll the areas of the floor that are utilizing adhesive with a 3-section 100 lb. roller to ensure the proper transference of adhesive to the plank backing.
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INSTRUCTIONS AFTER INSTALLATION:

1. Be sure planks are set, flat, and have tight edges. Re-roll the entire installation along the perimeter and any area where adhesive is used with a 3-section 100 lb. roller to ensure all planks are properly set into the adhesive. If necessary, weigh down any loose planks overnight to ensure a bond. Adhesive can be carefully reactivated using a heat gun after drying to re-install planks.
2. Clean adhesive residue from the face of the flooring following these instructions:
 - a. Wet adhesive residue on the surface of the planks can be cleaned with a clean, white cloth **dampened** with warm, soapy water. Do not use water as this can seep between the seams of planks and lead to an adhesion failure!
 - b. Dry adhesive residue can be cleaned with mineral spirits or denatured alcohol and a clean cloth sparingly. Carefully follow the directions on the mineral spirits container.
 - c. Do not pour soapy water, mineral spirits, or denatured alcohol directly on our LVT.
 - d. If working with epoxy or urethane adhesives you must clean these up while wet according to the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, which can be generally found on the container label.
3. Advanced Flooring Concepts recommended adhesives should be cured according to the following guidelines:
 - a. It is important to allow the adhesive to set before accepting any foot traffic for a minimum of 12 to 24 hours. Failure to adhere to this guideline may result in shifting of planks, oozing of adhesive through seams or permanent indentations.
 - b. Proper rolling of floors during and after installation is a must on Luxury Vinyl products. Use a 3- section, 100-pound roller to set flooring into the adhesives.
4. If Advanced Flooring Concepts is not the last portion of the construction project, the floor must be protected from construction traffic and damage. Wait 24 hours and utilize a reinforced fiber protective board or a heavy kraft paper (min. 60 lbs.) and cover the floor. Failure to wait 24 hours before covering can impact adhesive curing.

INITIAL MAINTENANCE:

5. Initial maintenance
 - a. Wait 7 days after installation is completed and thoroughly clean the floor using a neutral pH cleaner.
 - b. If necessary, a slow (175rpm) buffer can be utilized with a white, non-abrasive pad to remove heavier deposits.
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- c. Rinse the floor thoroughly and allow it to dry.
6. Daily and weekly maintenance
- a. Sweep, vacuum, or dust mop the floor as needed to remove dust loose dirt and grit. In high traffic areas, this may be a daily or twice daily procedure. Use only vacuums that do not have bristle beater bars.
 - b. Clean liquid spills immediately to prevent the possibility of stains, slips, or falls.
 - c. Damp-mop the floor as needed to remove dirt and stains. Use a neutral pH cleaner and a red pad if needed to remove ground-in dirt. Soft bristle brushes can also be used on flooring with embossed surfaces.
7. Preventative steps
- a. Use mats at all entry areas to keep dirt, sand, and water from the floor. Clean the mats regularly. If mats are placed directly on top of the Advanced Flooring Concepts Flooring floor, be sure the mats have a non-staining back. Rubber mats are also not recommended over Advanced Flooring Concepts Floor products.
 - b. Furniture shall have protective glides of at least 1” in diameter to minimize the chance of indentations or scratching to the surface of the floor. Do not use narrow chair glides! Felt pads are also excellent protection for the floor for furniture that will be frequently moved directly across the floor.
 - c. Do not move heavy furniture, appliances, or fixtures directly across the floor. Use protective boards or appropriate furniture movers designed for use over hard surface flooring.
 - d. Protect the floor from direct sunlight by using appropriate window coverings.
 - e. Use chair mats at desks to protect the floor from damage due to chair legs or casters.
 - f. Periodically clean caster wheels and check for wheels that may be broken or no longer rotating. Replace damaged wheels immediately.
 - g. Avoid the use of metal or razor scrapers to remove dirt, residues, or other marks from the flooring. This will damage the protective wear layer of the vinyl flooring.
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WARRANTY STATEMENT

General Terms:

This warranty document covers products manufactured and applied in a residential, light commercial and heavy commercial settings. We reserve the right to repair any floor and/or obtain the services of a professional to conduct repairs or replace the flooring. Advanced Flooring Concepts Flooring branded vinyl products when installed in any area, regardless of use designation, must be professionally installed by a certified flooring contractor to validate this warranty. No exclusions or exceptions will be made to this clause.

Wear Warranty:

Advanced Flooring Concepts Flooring warrants that the installed product will not wear through to the printed film layer, stain or fade under normal household use for some time as defined in Table A above. Wear-through is defined herein that the wear layer is sufficiently depleted or compromised so that the printed film layer is damaged, altered, or affected from normal use. Stains and fading must be sufficient that the affected area of flooring is permanently discolored from normal household use and cleaning.

Warranty Limitations:

- This warranty is not transferable.
 - This warranty covers only properly installed and maintained floors, according to Advanced Flooring Concepts Flooring installation guidelines and accepted industry practices.
 - Advanced Flooring Concepts Flooring will not pay for the loss of time, inconvenience, or other incidental expenses incurred during the initial installation and the subsequent removal and/or reinstallation of affected material, including clearing any items placed over the finished flooring and affected area after the original installation.
 - This warranty does not cover the exclusions indicated on the package.
 - We reserve the right of final judgment and may refuse claims in certain instances.
 - Advanced Flooring Concepts also reserves the right to modify or withdraw the warranty at any time.
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