



Changes to E3/AS1 Effective 4 November 2021

CORK FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE



1 SCOPE OF USE

Creative Flooring's cork flooring system is designed for use as non-structural overlay flooring inside residential and commercial buildings. Installations outside of the scope of use will not be covered under warranty.

- Our flooring is suitable for all areas other than garages and commercial kitchens.
- Our flooring should always be installed onto an approved substrate.
- Additional requirements must be adhered to for installations in wet areas in multi level dwellings in regard to water containment.
- Additional requirements must be adhered to for installations with underfloor heating.

2 APPROVED SUBSTRATES

- 1) Concrete floors
- 2) Timber flooring (structural or overlay)
- 3) Concrete floors with hydronic underfloor heating systems
- 4) In-screed electric underfloor heating system
- 5) Wet-area membrane systems (when approved by the membrane system supplier)
- 6) Acoustic underlay glued to an approved substrate

3 SLIP RESISTANCE

In regards to slip resistance, please check the recommendations from your local Council. Particularly for commercial applications.

Entrance mats should always be incorporated at main entrance points, especially in commercial settings, to minimise damage.

4 WET AREAS

A wet area is a kitchen, bathroom, laundry, toilet and any other area containing sanitary fixtures/appliances. Under changes to E3/AS1 from 4/11/2021 'Acceptable Solutions' in wet areas are only; Tiles, Vinyl or Polished Concrete. Cork flooring in wet areas must now be submitted to Council under the category 'Alternative Solution'. Cork flooring IS an acceptable alternative solution for wet areas.

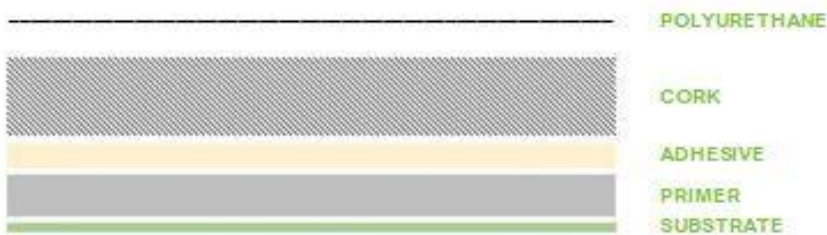
5 INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR PRE-FINISHED NATURAL & COLOURED CORK

1. Spread primer over total floor area using a brush, roller or flat trowel.
2. When dry (approx. 10 minutes) spread contact adhesive over total floor area using only the flat trowel. Ensure that no lumps of adhesive are left on the floor. Cut any lumps out with a Stanley knife if necessary. Do not work the adhesive. Just spread a skim.
3. The contact will go tacky clear after 10-15 minutes. This is the time to lay.
4. The tiles can be lifted off the contact if not laid correctly, but once pressure is applied, the tiles will not move.
5. After laying, roll the floor with a heavy roller to ensure total contact.
6. Where you have had to cut into the coloured cork tile, create your own bevel by sweeping the edge of the tile with a piece of fine grit sandpaper. Then apply the touch-up paint you have been supplied. It is easiest to apply the colour with a rag.
7. Lightly sand either by hand or with a pole sander using 320-400 grit sandpaper.
8. Using a wide brush or roller, apply the final coat of water borne polyurethane as supplied. You may also choose to add a second application of water borne polyurethane to give extra shine and protection which will involve a light hand sand and re-coat with waterborne polyurethane as supplied by Creative Flooring.
9. Room/product temperature must not drop below 13°C during application and avoid coating early morning & late afternoon especially in winter. Use a moisture meter if in any doubt.
10. Use a sealant around the edges of the cork flooring, after the polyurethane has been applied.

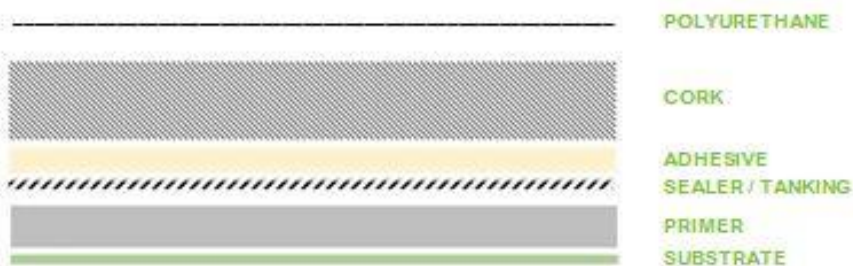
Note: *The manufacturing process subjects the cork tiles to extreme variations in temperature. As a result, there may be some expansion of the tiles. Please be aware of this and be prepared to straight-edge the tiles to re-establish a true line while laying. In this event, create a small hand bevel as per the instructions in 6 above.*

Important: *Cork is a natural product so colour variation is an inherent characteristic of cork flooring. Please ensure that you shuffle the carton of tiles before laying so that a pleasing random effect is achieved.*

Single Level Installation:



Multi Level Installation:



6 FINISHES (COATINGS)

On our pre-finished natural and coloured cork we use a waterborne polyurethane coating system. Our cork tiles are pre-finished in the factory using between 3-5 coats of waterborne polyurethane depending on what colour is being produced. The product is sold as a kit and supplied with extra waterborne polyurethane to be applied as the final coat after installation.

7 CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Keep your floors free of dirt, grit and abrasive particles.

Use electrostatic mats and mops where ever possible to greatly cut down the need for maintenance. Avoid dragging furniture and appliances over the surface. Protective pads should be used on the legs of furniture.

Please endeavour to keep water off your new floor surface for at least a day and preferably 3 days. If you do spill some liquid, dry off immediately.

Sweep or vacuum to remove dust and grit particles. Do not use floor polish or other maintenance dressings and ensure that your mop head is clear of all previous polishes. Do not use abrasive cleaners. Wash the floor regularly with hot water and small amount of dishwashing detergent.

Do not use scrubbing machines

Do not use ballroom dancing powder.

Do not use steam mops.

Recoat your floor with another layer of polyurethane as necessary. Wash the floor thoroughly with hot water and a small amount of dishwashing detergent and dry completely. Sand and vacuum the entire surface lightly with 300 grit sandpaper. Apply one coat of polyurethane and allow to dry.

8 UNDERFLOOR HEATING GUIDELINES

Cork is an insulator and inherently a warm product - underfloor heating may not be needed.

Creative Flooring glue down cork products can be installed over in-slab waterborne under-floor heating as long as the following instructions are observed:

1. The temperature of the heating must not exceed 26 degrees Celsius. The installer of the heating unit should provide a thermostat control which prevents the heating from being turned up beyond the 26 degrees. Thermostats are also best placed in the floor rather than on a wall where the heat may take a long time to reach.
2. When turned on initially, the under-floor heating should be incrementally increased in temperature at a slow rate to allow the cork tiles and other products within the room to acclimatise to the new temperature, thus obviating the risk of adhesive break-down. Cooling of the floor is best incrementally decreased also. For this reason it is best to turn on the heating at the beginning of winter, maintain the temperature for the cooler months and turn off again when not required.
3. The instructions and specifications of the under-floor heating manufacturer should be observed, as well as the laying Instructions pertaining to the particular cork tiles supplied.