



ACCESS™ & ALOFT™ GLUE DOWN LUXURY VINYL PLANK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

These instructions are written as a guide to be used when installing Tarkett Flooring. 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.tarkettna.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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. All Tarkett products must be stored in an indoor, climate-controlled space and be protected from the elements. Temperature must be maintained between 65°F (18.3°C) and 85°F (29.4°C) with a relative humidity between 40% and 60 %.
2. Cartons must be stored horizontally on a sturdy base at all times.
3. Protect corners from damage.
4. Carefully check flooring material for any defects. Contact your supplier immediately if any defect is found.
5. Tarkett Flooring is intended for indoor use only
6. Access & Aloft must be acclimated in an indoor, climate-controlled space and be protected from the elements. Temperature must be maintained between 65° F and 85° F (18.3° C-29.4° C) with a relative humidity 40% to 60% for 48 hours prior to the installation
7. Room Temperature must be maintained between 65°F and 85°F (18.3°C– 29.4°C) with a relative humidity between 40% to 60% for 48 hours before and during, and 48 hours after the installation.
8. Exposure to direct sunlight can result in Access & Aloft fading and creates excessive heat directly on the finished flooring and surrounding structure which may result in movement. During peak sunlight exposure, the use of drapes or other window treatments are recommended.
9. Remove all transitions, quarter round, baseboard molding or cove base.
10. Do not use foam under Access & Aloft.
11. Tarkett Surestart® Underlayment and ProSheet™ Plus 3 are approved floating underlayments that can be used with Access & Aloft. Follow the detailed instructions found on www.tarkettna.com
12. Tarkett recommends using **Tarkett Q-Bond One™** adhesive when installing this flooring product. Issues associated with the use of non-recommended adhesives (including peaking, gapping, adhesion, bubbling, discoloration, indentation, etc.) are excluded from Tarkett's limited warranty. See complete Limited Warranty for details

WOOD SUBSTRATES

1. Wood joist or truss systems spacing must be between 16" to 19.2" (40.6cm to 48.8cm) on center.
2. Subfloor panels must be dry, sturdy, smooth and dimensionally stable.
3. **Single Floor Wood Construction and Tongue and Groove subfloors** must be covered with 1/4" (6.4 mm) or 1/2" (13 mm) APA approved underlayment plywood.
4. Subfloor panels must be good one side, fully sanded face with a solid core (no voids).
5. Subfloor panels must be exterior grade or classified as Exposure I.
6. All suspended wood subfloors must have at least 18" of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. The ground under the crawl space shall be covered with 10 mil or thicker polyethylene sheeting to reduce moisture vapor transmission.
7. Offset subfloor panel joints by at least 16" so that four corners do not meet.
8. Subfloor panels must be securely fastened to the joists and free from spring or deflection. Deflection shall not exceed 3/64" (1.1 mm) per APA PS 2-10 *Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels*. If glue-nail procedures are required, use a solvent-free construction adhesive.
9. Subfloor must be level within 1/8" in 8 ft. (3.1 mm in 2.4 m). Any unevenness must be sanded down or filled with a cementitious patching compound. Any unevenness may show through to the surface and create separation of the flooring.

Wood subfloors not meeting the above requirements must be covered with 1/4" minimum thickness underlayment grade plywood. ProSheet Plus 3 may be used as a substitute. Follow all APA and manufacturer's guidelines for installing underlayment grade plywood.

Tarkett recommended underlayments include:

- APA Underlayment Grade Plywood A-C, B-C or C-C Plugged
- ACCU-PLY
- SurePly
- TECPLY
- ULAY
- C.S.A. (CanPly) and Proboard

CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

1. Access & Aloft may be installed over properly constructed and prepared on-grade, above-grade, or below-grade concrete subfloors.
2. Concrete subfloors must be constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's ACI 302.2 *Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials*.
3. Prepare concrete subfloors according to ASTM F710 *Standard Practice for Preparation of Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring*. The surface of the concrete must be dry, clean, smooth, and structurally sound. The slab must be swept, damp mopped and/or vacuumed to remove any dust. Any surface materials present such as loose paint, wax, grease, oil, adhesive residues, crayon, pen marking, etc., that may prevent a proper adhesion or migrate to the surface of the flooring causing discoloration, must be removed. Fill and level any cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves or other irregularities with a high-quality, non-shrinking, latex-fortified, Portland Cement-based patching compound.
4. Do not install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints or other moving joints in the substrate. 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 flooring conditions.
5. Moisture testing of concrete subfloors must be performed in accordance with ASTM F1869 *Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride* and ASTM F2170 *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes*. Do not install Access & Aloft if the values are greater than 8 lbs. /1000 ft²/24hrs per ASTM F1869 or 90 %RH per ASTM 2170. If the tests results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected. Tarkett does not recommend or warrant any particular product or procedure for the remediation of high moisture in concrete substrates. There are several companies that manufacture products suitable for moisture remediation. We suggest you refer to the current ASTM F710 *Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring* and ASTM F 3010 *Standard Practice for Two Component Resin Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Flooring Systems*.

ADDITIONAL SUBFLOOR GUIDELINES

Many installations over existing floors produce satisfactory results. However their success is dependent upon the condition of the existing floor covering. Installing over existing flooring increases the possibility of indentations and telegraphing of the old floor. **NOTE:** The final decision to cover an existing floor with new flooring rests with the flooring contractor, installer, and/or end user. Tarkett will not accept responsibility for floor failures where the condition, type or improper preparation of the existing floor is the cause for the failure. When installing Access & Aloft Luxury Vinyl Planks over an existing flooring follow the recommended guidelines below.

1. Minimum temperature of the substrate must be 60°F (15.6 °C). Substrate temperature should be a minimum of 5°F higher than the dew point temperature.
2. Heated flooring systems must be installed 2" below concrete and the operating temperature must not exceed 85° F (29.4°C). During installation, lower the radiant heated floor temperature to a minimum 65°F (18.3°C). This temperature should be maintained for at least 24 hours before and during the installation, and for 48 hours after completion of the installation. Gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5°F (2.8°C) every 24 hours but do not exceed 85° F (29.4° C).
3. Residual adhesives should be mechanically removed to trace amounts and encapsulated with an approved Portland Cement-based patching compound. Do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents. Always follow Resilient Floor Covering Institute's (RFCI's) *Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floorcoverings*. **Caution:** Some resilient flooring and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.
4. Refer to ASTM F 2419 *Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring* for guidelines when pouring gypsum underlayments or preparing for use as an underlayment under Tarkett Access & Aloft. Follow the gypsum underlayment manufacturer's recommendations for proper application and preparation.

WARNING: Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, or asphaltic "cutback" adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

1. All substrates must be dry, clean, structurally sound, smooth and free from all existing adhesive residues.
2. The substrate must be flat within 1/8" in 8' (3.17 mm in 2.4 m).
3. Fill and level concrete cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves and other irregularities. Use a latex fortified, cementitious patching compound. Follow the manufactures recommendation for preparing.
4. Sweep and vacuum or damp mop substrate to remove all dust and debris.
5. Surestart & ProSheet Plus 3 can be used if needed. Follow the detailed installation instructions found at www.tarketta.com

GETTING STARTED

1. Install product out of multiple cartons from matching batch numbers.
2. Inspect all planks for visible defects and damage before and during installation. Contact your supplier immediately if any defect is found. Do not install damaged planks. Tarkett will not accept responsibility for claims on flooring installed with obvious defects.
3. Access & Aloft must be acclimated at room temperature for 48 hours prior to the installation
4. Room Temperature must be maintained between 65°F and 85°F (18.3°C–29.4°C) with a relative humidity between 40% to 60% for 48 hours before and during, and 48 hours after the installation.
5. Remove quarter round, baseboard molding, or cove base.
6. Undercut doorway moldings the thickness of the flooring.
7. Cartons must be stored horizontally at all times.
8. Protect carton corners from damage.
9. Tarkett floors are intended for indoor use only.
10. Determine in which direction the planks will be installed. To make the room appear larger or if installing in a very small room or hallway, it is preferable to lay the planks parallel to the longest room direction.
11. Do not use foam padding under Access & Aloft.
12. Surestart & ProSheet Plus 3 can be used if needed. Follow the detailed installation instructions found at www.tarketta.com

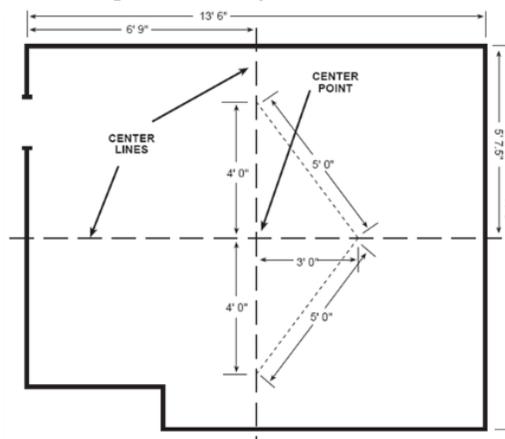
PLANK LAY OUT

Square Layout-center point

To square the area to be covered, first find the center of one wall of the main rectangle of the room. Locate the same point at the direct opposite wall. Snap a chalk line between these points. Measure this center line to find the middle of the room and mark. A right angle must be established off this center mark. Use the following method to establish a right angle.

3-4-5 METHOD

1. Measure 4 feet out from the center point on the chalk line towards each side wall and mark chalk line.
2. Using a carpenters square and a straight edge, establish a right angle on both sides of the chalk line 3 feet out from the center point of the chalk line and mark substrate
3. Measure the distance between the 3 foot mark and the 4 foot mark. This measurement should be exactly 5 feet. If the 5 foot measurement is not exactly 5 feet, the center crossing line is not at a true right angle and must be adjusted to achieve a right angle. For larger rooms, multiples of 6-8-10 or 9-12-15 may be used to obtain greater accuracy.



After the room has been squared, determine the width of the border planks. For a consistent aesthetic, the width of the border planks should all be at least one half the size of a full plank. This can be done simply by measuring across the room and dividing that by the width of a full plank. It will be necessary to adjust the starting line and center point to achieve equal sized border planks. Make sure to snap new guide lines.

INSTALLATION

1. Adhesive Application

Recommended adhesives include either Tarkett Q-Bond One™ or Tarkett 959 Vinyl Tile and Plank Adhesive™ (NOTE: 959 is required if using SureStart Underlayment). Follow the adhesive label instructions for proper use. Issues associated with the use of non-recommended adhesives (including peaking, gapping, adhesion, bubbling, discoloration, indentation, etc.) are excluded from Tarkett's limited warranty. See complete Limited Warranty for details.

2. Installing Luxury Plank Flooring

Important: To insure the best color match when installing luxury plank flooring from two or more cartons, make sure the run numbers or date code on each carton are the same.

- a. Begin laying the planks along the guideline taking into consideration the length of the last plank in the row. The first and last plank in each row shall not be less than the width of the plank being installed. **Lay the first few planks perfectly on the guideline, as this will affect the entire installation.** Make sure each plank is flush against the adjoining plank.
- b. Planks can be installed in a pyramid fashion or row-by-row.
- c. If using the wet-set application, use care to place planks as accurately as possible without sliding them into place. Use care not to shift the plank you are kneeling on.
- d. Immediately remove any adhesive from surface of plank with a clean, damp cloth.
- e. Roll planks with a 75-100 lb. sectional floor roller.

3. Installing Border Plank

- a. Border planks can be fit by measuring the distance between the wall and the last full plank installed.
- b. Using a straight edge, mark or score the surface with a sharp utility knife, then snap off the section along the scored line.
- c. Place the plank firmly into the adhesive. Border planks may also be fit by placing a loose plank over the last full plank in the row. Place another full plank over the loose plank and butt it against the wall. Use this plank as a marking plank and score or mark the bottom plank. Cut along the mark. Place the plank firmly into the adhesive.

4. Adhesive clean up

QBond One 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 mineral spirits applied to a clean white cloth (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using mineral spirits).

959 Vinyl Tile and Plank 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 applied to a clean white cloth (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using denatured alcohol).

5. Finishing

- a. Sweep up scrap material and any loose debris.
- b. Replace all wood molding or cove base
- c. Install appropriate transition molding at the doorways
- d. **If wet set application was used, do not replace furniture or allow foot traffic for at least 24 hours**
- e. Do not slide or roll furniture or appliances across the newly installed floor. To prevent damage, these items should be carried or slid into place using sheets of plywood.
- f. Use proper floor protectors under the legs of furniture.
- g. Post installation site conditions should be controlled by HVAC and maintained between 55°F and 95°F (12°C and 35°C). Ambient relative humidity should be maintained between 40% and 70%.

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