

INTRODUCTION

These instructions are written as a guide to be used by professional installers when installing Tarkett products. 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.tarkett.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.

HANDLING AND STORAGE

Tarkett cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that may result due to processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

NOTE: Tarkett recommends that the installation of new flooring material not be performed until all the other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after the installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed flooring.

STORING ALL PRODUCTS & ADHESIVES	PRE-INSTALLATION
Stack cartons squarely on top of one another, do not over stack cartons and protect corners from damage by tow-motors and other traffic. NOTE: Do not flex, bend, or stand cartons on end. Never double stack pallets.	Room temperature must be maintained between 65°F (18.3°C) and 85°F (29.4°C) with ambient relative humidity between 40% and 60% for 48 hours prior to, during the entire installation, and 48 hours after installation. NOTE: Permanent, operational HVAC systems are highly recommended. If alternate system is utilized, it must provide proper control of both temperature and humidity for the above stated time durations.
Store on a dry, flat, level surface.	Site-conditioning flooring, accessories, and adhesives 48 hours prior to installation. The location selected for site-conditioning must be either the room where the flooring will be installed or have similar ambient temperature and relative humidity readings as the room where the flooring will be installed.
Maintain temperature between 65°F (18.3°C) and 85°F (29.4°C).	In areas exposed to intense or direct sunlight, protect the product by covering the light source during site-conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods. If exposure to intense or direct sunlight will continue after the installation and adhesive curing period, refer to adhesive chart below.
Maintain relative humidity between 40%-60%.	Inspect all flooring material to verify accuracy of order as well as for any damage, visual defects, and satisfactory color match. Notify an authorized Tarkett Distributor or Representative prior to installation if any defects are found. NOTE: Tarkett will not pay labor or material costs claimed on installed materials with visual defects.
Tarkett products are recommended for installation in Indoor, Climate-Controlled spaces only. NOTE: Exposure to excessive UV light can result in fading, degradation, and/or color variation.	

GENERAL SUBSTRATE PREPERATION

An adhesive bond test must be performed per **ASTM F3311 Standard Practice for Mat Bond Evaluation of Performance and Compatibility for Resilient Flooring System Components Prior to Installation** and using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test areas must be a minimum of 36" piece and remain in place for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the subfloor.

A porosity test must be performed on the substrate to determine which installation method (porous or non-porous) will be required. Refer to ASTM F3191 *Standard Practice for Field Determination of Substrate Water Absorption (Porosity) for Substrates to Receive Resilient Flooring*

Substrate Construction	Requirements
All Staircases	Caution: Do not install stair treads in areas that are exposed to grease, oil, or animal fats. For these areas, we recommend Tarkett Defiant Oil and Grease Resistant Treads.
	Permanently dry, clean, smooth, and structurally sound
	Minimum substrate temperature must be 60°F (15.6°C) and must be within 5°F (2.8°C) of ambient temperature
	Substrate temperature must be a minimum of 10°F (5.6°C) higher than the dew point temperature NOTE: Dew point calculators are available online. If the substrate is not 10°F (5.6°C) above the dew point, contact Technical services at (800) 899-8916
	Free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing and parting compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material, which could affect the installation and adhesive bond to the substrate. All substrate contaminants must be mechanically removed prior to the installation of the flooring DO NOT use liquid solvents or adhesive removers, DO NOT use oil-based sweeping compounds NOTE: Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, or similar marking tools used to mark the substrate or back of the resilient flooring material will cause migratory staining that is not covered by the warranty.

(All Staircases Cont.)	<p>AT THE TIME OF INSTALLATION: Testing the substrate with a Tramex moisture encounter meter is recommended due to possible issues related to topical moisture from dew point conditions. Substrate surface readings must not exceed 4.0%, if above 4.0%, contact Tarkett Technical Services prior to beginning installation. If these conditions are not properly addressed, the open and working times, bond strength, and setting of the adhesive may be affected.</p>
	<p>Fill all depressions, cracks, and other surface irregularities with a good quality, Portland cement-based underlayment patching compound appropriate for this purpose</p>
Existing Flooring	<p>Remove all existing, resilient flooring materials and adhesives mechanically prior to installation of Tarkett flooring NOTE: Refer to the Resilient Floor Covering Institute's (RFCI's) Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Flooring for best work practices CAUTION: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.</p>
Concrete	<p>Constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's (ACI) 302.2 <i>Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials</i>. NOTE: Refer to ACI 302.2 for recommended drying times for newly poured concrete.</p>
	<p>Prepared in accordance with ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring</p>
	<p>NOTE: The use of a high moisture and alkali resistant cementitious underlayment may be required. Contact a cementitious underlayment manufacturer for best recommendations.</p>
	<p>DO NOT install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints. 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 substrate conditions. DO NOT install Tarkett flooring directly over moving cracks or joints in the substrate. Contact a cementitious patch manufacturer to meet specific substrate conditions.</p>
	<p>Test for pH in accordance with ASTM F3441 <i>Standard Guide for Measurement of pH Below Resilient Flooring</i>. Acceptable pH limits can be found in the adhesive section at the end of this document, on the adhesive label, and in the adhesive specifications found online at www.tarkett.com. Test results must not exceed the limits of the adhesive; if they do, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.</p>
Wood	<p>Underlayment grade plywood that is smooth, free of knots or voids, and a fully sanded face. DO NOT use preservative treated, fire-retardant plywood as these may be manufactured with resins or adhesives that can discolor the flooring NOTE: Do not install over OSB (Oriented Strand Board), particle board, chipboard, lauan, cementitious tile backer boards, or composite type underlayments. DO NOT install over wood floors in direct contact with concrete substrates or installed over sleeper systems.</p>
	<p>Meet local and national building codes. Refer to ASTM F1482 Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayments to receive Resilient Flooring for additional information.</p>
	<p>Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality, cement based patching compound designed for this purpose</p>
Gypsum	<p>Refer to ASTM F2419 <i>Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring</i> for guidelines when pouring gypsum underlayments or preparing for use as an underlayment under Tarkett flooring. Follow the gypsum underlayment manufacturer's recommendations for proper application and preparation. Refer to the product manufacturers recommendations for sealing and/or priming the finished surface.</p>
	<p>When installing a product with adhesive, the gypsum surface should be capped with a cementitious underlayment. Follow the underlayment manufacturers recommendations for proper application.</p>
	<p>AT THE TIME OF INSTALLATION: Testing the substrate with a Tramex moisture encounter meter (refer to ASTM F2659) is recommended due to possible issues related to topical moisture from dew point conditions. Substrate surface readings must not exceed 0.5% when measured on the Gypsum settings, if above 0.5%, contact Tarkett Technical Services prior to beginning installation. If these conditions are not properly addressed, the open and working times, bond strength, and setting of the adhesive may be affected.</p>
Terrazzo & Ceramic	<p>Thoroughly sand to remove all glaze and wax</p>
	<p>Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean the grout lines</p>
	<p>Use a good quality, Portland cement-based leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions</p>
Steel	<p>NOTE: Follow all non-porous installation instructions</p>
	<p>Mechanically abrade to assist with adhesive bond</p>
	<p>Fully clean to remove all dirt, rust, and other contaminants</p>
	<p>Prime with a rust inhibitor</p>

GENERAL INSTALLATION

1. Tarkett recommends that the installation of new stairwell materials not be performed until all the other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after the installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed stairwell materials.
2. If the shape of the step does not conform to the shape of the stair nosing, and cannot be altered to conform, then we do not recommend the installation of our products.
3. **Wide staircases**, which require butting multiple lengths of product, will require additional planning and dry fitting prior to adhesive installation to ensure proper pattern alignment.

STAIR NOSING INSTALLATION

1. **Adhesive Application:** See adhesive chart below and follow adhesive label instructions for proper use.
2. **Fitting the Stair Nosing:**
 - a. Tarkett Stair Nosings must be trimmed to proper size and dry laid prior to the application of adhesive.
 - b. Since each step on a staircase can vary slightly in width, depth, and squareness, Tarkett recommends scribing each nosing to ensure proper fit on the step.
 - c. Measure the width of the step and place a pencil mark on the step's riser indicating the center of the step. Next, measure the length of the stair nosing and mark the center point by placing a piece of masking tape and marking with a pencil and extend the centerline mark approximately 4 to 5 inches back from the step nose.
 - d. To cut the width, position the stair nosing on the step with the right-hand side net to the stringer.
 - e. Utilizing a set of dividers, span the needles across the two centerline marks. Increase the measurement by approximately a 1/16" to allow for expansion.
 - f. Move to the right-hand side of the step. Place one needle on the stringer and the other on the tread or nosing. Start at the back of the nosing and pull the dividers forward. Keep the needle firmly in contact with the stringer while exerting adequate downward force to scribe the material.
 - g. Following the scribe line, cut the material with a utility knife.
 - h. Reposition the nosing on the left-hand side of the step and repeat the same procedure to fit the left side of the nosing.
 - i. After fitting the nosing as described above, if the nosing has carborundum grit strips, cut strips back 1/16" on each side of nosing to allow for expansion. After installation of the nosing, roll the carborundum strips to ensure adhesion.
 - j. Position the stair nosing on the step. There must be approximately 1/16" uniform clearance around the perimeter of the nosing for expansion. The nosing must not be compression fit.
3. **Adhesive Application:**

Stair Nosing

- a. Prior to applying adhesive, wipe the back of the nosing with denatured alcohol (methyl hydrate) or 70% isopropyl alcohol to remove any contaminants which may interfere with the adhesive bond. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using these chemicals.)
 - b. To adhere the nose directly to the step riser, apply a uniform coat of Tarkett 946 Premium Contact Adhesive to the nosing area and the step riser, and allow the adhesive to dry to the touch. **Do not install nosing over resilient riser material or flooring material. Nosing should be installed directly to the substrate.**
 - c. Gun an adequate amount of Tarkett 930 Two-Part Epoxy Caulking Compound or 931 Rapid Reaction Epoxy Caulking into the nose of the stair nosing to completely fill the void between the internal angle of the stair nose and external edge of the stair step. **Caution: Improper application of the caulking compound can interfere with the adhesion of the 946 adhesive.**
 - d. Set the stair nose into its proper position on the step. Once in position, place the nosing so that it is tight to the step edge. **NOTE: Once contact is made to the stair surface, the nosing cannot be moved.**
 - e. Make certain that the nosing is fit tight against the step nosing. After installation is complete, firmly roll with a small hand roller.
4. **Clean up:**
 - a. Inspect the tread and riser surfaces, remove any excess adhesive.
 - b. **Caution:** 930 Epoxy Caulking Compound and 931 Rapid Reaction Epoxy Caulking cannot be removed when dried without resulting in damage to the stair tread/nosing material.
 - c. When using 930 Epoxy Caulking Compound, foot traffic must be restricted for 12 to 24 hours after installation depending on temperature and humidity. Foot traffic may be introduced 1 hour after installation when using 931 Rapid Reaction Epoxy Caulking.
 - d. Flooring must be swept or vacuumed to remove loose dirt and grit (Lightly damp mop if necessary).
 - e. All heavy traffic, rolling loads, furniture dollies, etc. must be restricted for a minimum of 72 hours after installation.

ADHESIVE CLEAN UP

Excess adhesive should be removed during the installation process.

946™ Premium Contact 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 (methyl hydrate) or 70% isopropyl alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using these chemicals.)

930™ Epoxy Caulking Compound, 931™ Rapid Reaction Epoxy Caulking

- Before the adhesive sets, remove excess adhesive from flooring and clean tools with denatured alcohol (methyl hydrate) or 70% isopropyl alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using these chemicals.)
- Do not allow adhesive to dry on the flooring surface.
- Removing dried adhesive may cause irreparable damage to the flooring surface.

MAINTENANCE

1. Wait 72 hours after installation before performing initial cleaning.
2. A regular maintenance program must be started after the initial cleaning.
3. Refer to Tarkett's Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

ADHESIVE SELECTION CHART

Only Tarkett adhesives are recommended for use with Tarkett products. When used as recommended, Tarkett adhesives are guaranteed by the limited warranty of the flooring product.

A pH test must be performed in accordance with **ASTM F3441** *Standard Guide for Measurement of pH Below Resilient Flooring*

Products	Adhesive	Application and Coverage		Moisture / pH Limits			Notes
		Porous	Non-Porous	RH%	CaCl ₂	pH	
Stair Nosings	946 Premium Contact Adhesive	Applied with Brush or Roller		N/A	N/A	9	The 946 adhesive MUST be used to adhere the nose to the stair riser surface (Do not install nosing over resilient riser material or flooring material. Nosing should be installed directly to the substrate.) Coverage based on both sides
		1 qt unit: 24 – 36 sq. ft.					
		1 gal. unit: 144 – 215 sq. ft.					
Stair Nosings	930 Epoxy Caulking Compound	30-ounce Cartridge ¼" = 50 lf.	30-ounce Cartridge 1/4" = 50 lf.	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Stair Nosings	931 Rapid Reaction Epoxy Caulking	13.5-ounce Dual Cartridge ¼" = 50 lf.	13.5-ounce Dual Cartridge ¼" = 50 lf.	N/A	N/A	N/A	

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