

[311] INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: LOOSELAY CREATION 55

Tiles / planks must be taken out of their boxes at least 24 hours before installation and stored in the room in which they are going to be laid. Examine the materials prior to installation to ensure that there are no visible defects. If such defects exist, please notify GERFLOR and do not begin installation without its prior approval.



For any information on product properties and usages, please refer to its technical datasheet: www.gerflor.fr

1. AREAS OF APPLICATION

LOOSE-LAY CONDITIONS		Full bonding with a permanent adhesive (Tackifier). Loose-lay for surfaces < 30 m² (without Technical report): Perfectly smooth, no unevenness, room length maximum 7 m (except corridor, which must be bonded with adhesive), patching mandatory on tiles.
LAYING TEMPERATURE		+ 15°C < T < + 25°C in temperature-regulated premise
USAGE TEMPERATURE		Acceptable temperature range after installation: 20° C (e.g.: + 10° to + 30° C)
DIRECT SOLAR RADIATION (SUNNY AREA OF BAY WINDOWS, SKYLIGHT, SKYDOME, ETC.)		Beyond or below these temperatures, this product must be bonded using adhesive which is resistant to extreme temperature differences. We recommend having temperature regulation (air conditioning, etc.) or preventing direct sunlight from reaching the material (curtains, blinds, etc.). Installation on areas exposed to sunlight, in front of bay windows, skylights, or fireplaces (significant temperature variation) will require sticking down using two-part polyurethane adhesive (Mapei G 20) or acrylic adhesive resistant to temperature variations. If handling equipment is used (hand trucks, pallet trucks, trolleys, etc.), the load-bearing area should be glued.
VERANDA		Prohibited

SUBSTRATES

TILED SUBSTRATE		If the substrate requirements are met and more than 90% of the room's surface is in a good condition, remove the defective tiles, fill the gaps with levelling compound, and then lay the tiles after the substrate has dried. Otherwise, the existing floorcovering will have to be taken up and the substrate prepared from scratch. The tiles must not have any uneven areas and the grouting joints must not be > 4 mm wide and 1 mm deep. Otherwise, fill them with a grouting product or levelling compound over the entire surface, so that the grouting joints are not visible (no telegraphing). For loose-laying < 30 m², the tiles must be levelled and no longer uneven.
CONCRETE FLOOR, PAINTED CONCRETE, LEVELLING CONCRETE, LIQUID CEMENT SCREEDS, CALCIUM SULPHATE-BASED, ANHYDRITE SCREEDS (see § 2.2)		If necessary, apply a levelling compound to eliminate any surface irregularities. Sand, remove dust, vacuum carefully and apply a primer. Gerflor recommends that you refer to the technical specifications of the primers for instructions.
PVC FLOOR COVERINGS AND COMPACT ROLLS COMPACT LINOLEUM		If the substrate requirements are met and more than 90% of the room's surface is in a good condition, remove the defective tiles, fill the gaps with levelling compound, and then lay the tiles after the substrate has dried. Otherwise, the existing floorcovering will have to be taken up and the substrate prepared from scratch.
UNDERLAYER / SOUNDPROOF PVC ROLLS		Prohibited
TEXTILE FLOORING (CARPET)		Prohibited
RESIN		There must be no defects in the resin, otherwise the existing flooring will have to be taken up and the substrate prepared from scratch.
RAISED ACCESS FLOORS SEE STANDARD DTU 57.1		Deflection under the 2-m rule at any location on the raised floor surface must not exceed 2 mm.
WOOD-BASED PANEL FLOORING (DTU 51.3) ON JOISTS OR ON BATTENS		Suitable
GLUED PARQUET		Not Suitable
PARQUET NAILED ONTO BATTENS SPACED NO MORE THAN 0.60 M APART, WITH VENTILATION OF THE INSIDE FACING		Suitable. For room < 30 m² the use of tackifier will be recommended, except on 6 mm plywood over tongue & groove floorboard.
FLOATING PARQUET OR PANEL		Not Suitable
LAMINATED FLOOR		Not Suitable
OSB BOARD		Not Suitable or on 6 mm plywood over OSB board

FLOORS IN BUILDINGS

[311] INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: LOOSELAY CREATION 55

UNDERFLOOR HEATING	
UNDERFLOOR HEATING WITH CIRCULATING HOT WATER AT MAXIMUM 28°	Suitable (fully bonded only)
RADIANT ELECTRIC UNDERFLOORING HEATING THE REGULATION REQUIRES $\leq 0,15 \text{ m}^2 \times ^\circ \text{Kelvin} / \text{Watt}$	Suitable (fully bonded only)
LOW TEMPERATURE WATER REVERSIBLE UNDERFLOOR HEATING	Suitable (fully bonded only)
If the substrate is not in this list: please contact us.	

2. SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

2.1. SUBSTRATE REQUIREMENTS

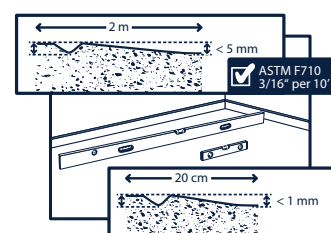
The flooring must be laid on a flat, clean, sound, dry and solid substrate.



The moisture content must not exceed 4.5 % with a carbide bomb test (Control Carbide Moisture), and 0.5 % for anhydrite screed.



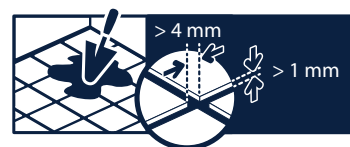
- The evenness must be $< 5 \text{ mm}$ under a 2-metre straight edge.
- The substrate must not have any uneven areas $> 1 \text{ mm}$ every 20 cm
- The substrate should be smooth and dust-free.



2.1.1 Tiled substrate

- The dividing joint or grouting joint must not have a gap $> 4 \text{ mm}$ wide and 1 mm deep.

The tiles must have no unevenness.



2.2. PREPARATORY WORK ON NEW OR RENOVATED CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

The surfaces should be prepared with care so as to remove any soiling, laitance, curing compounds or any other foreign bodies. If the substrate does not meet the requirements, a substrate preparation must be carried out:

- On substrate with moisture content $< 4.5\%$, $< 80\% \text{ RH}$: the compound must meet class P3 specifications
- On substrate with moisture content $> 7\%$, $> 92\% \text{ RH}$: we recommend applying a rising damp treatment before you apply a levelling compound.
- Localised levelling: a resin mortar (bearing the NF mark for concrete repair products) may be used in isolated areas which do not meet the requirements in terms of evenness and surface finish.
- Crack treatment: treat cracks before applying a patching compound or if the unevenness is $> 1 \text{ mm}$ or there is a gap of $> 1 \text{ mm}$.
- Joint treatment:
 - Contraction joints: treat joints before applying a levelling compound if the uneven area is $> 1 \text{ mm}$ or there is a gap of $> 5 \text{ mm}$.
 - Construction joints: similar to cracks, same treatment.

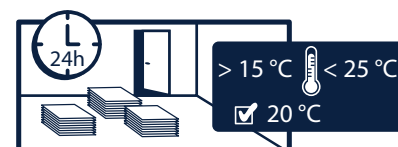
3. INSTALLATION

3.1. LAYING CONDITIONS

The planks/tiles must be stored in the room in which they are going to be laid for at least 24 hours before installation.

To avoid major colour differences, mix the planks/tiles from several different boxes from the same series.

The room temperature during installation must be between 15 and 25°C. Beyond these temperatures, we recommend applying adhesive over the entire surface. For all areas with bay windows exposed to direct sunlight or with a skylight, it is important to know the maximum temperatures that can be reached in order to use an appropriate adhesive (polyurethane, epoxy, acrylic resistant to high temperatures, etc.).

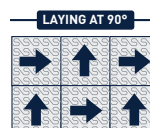


3.2. LAYING THE FLOOR COVERING

IMPORTANT

Tile laying direction: Laying at 90°

The lines marked on the backing of the tiles help you observe the laying direction.



Other types of installation may require cutting the planks / tiles and recreating bevelled effects.

[311] INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: LOOSELAY CREATION 55

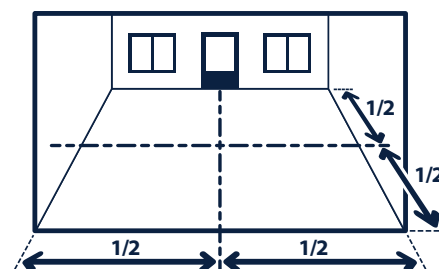
3.3. MARKING OUT THE AXIS

Mark out the starting axes for laying the planks/tiles following the requirements as illustrated opposite:

- Centre a row of planks/tiles on the main axes.
- Check that the cut planks/tiles around the edges will be larger than a half-plank/tile.

NOTE: The installation method will depend on the surface to be covered:

- < 30 m²: loose-laying
In this case, the substrate must be perfectly flat
- >30 m² laying with permanent adhesive



3.4. TRIMMING

The floor covering is simply trim (cut) around the room edges; the edge clearance can be covered with wooden skirting (natural, to be varnished or painted) or plastic skirting.

3.5 ADHESIVE

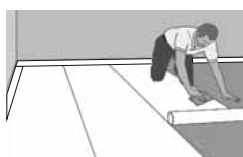
Permanent adhesive

MANUFACTURER	PRIMER	DOUBLE-SIDED ADHESIVE TAPE	
GERFLOR	Primasol R (BOSTIK) P121 / F78 / Seal Concrete (F BALL) Tec 049 (HB FULLER) Eco Prim T (MAPEI)	FIX & FREE 740	
			ADHESIVE
SIKA-CEGECOL	Yes	CG 100 DPA	Spatula A4 (TKB Standard) or roller 100 / 150 gr/m ²
BOSTIK	Yes	ADESI-TECH	

For any other adhesive, please consult us.

APPLYING FIX & FREE 740

- Unroll the Fix & Free 740 double-sided adhesive tape in the direction of laying of the new floor covering.



If there are two layers of adhesive overlapping, cut off the excess with a straight-blade knife without damaging the substrate (maximum gap between two strips of adhesive: 5 mm).

- Smooth by hand or with a wide flexible mop and then cut the overlapping section with a straight-blade knife. Take care not to damage the substrate.

- Only apply Fix & Free to an area of floor that can be covered in the same day.

Note: If you don't use the whole roll, replace the protective paper and put the roll back in the box.

APPLYING PERMANENT ADHESIVE (TACKIFIER)

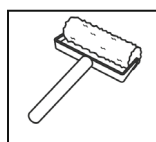
APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE WITH SPATULA



Single coat application of one of the products listed above, applied using: a very finely serrated spatula with coverage of 150 gr/m², A4 type (TKB specification).

Change the spatula as often as necessary to keep to this coverage requirement. It is imperative to apply the adhesive using a notched spatula.

APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE WITH ROLLER



Application of the adhesive using a roller on raised access floors requires particular care in order to ensure the necessary spread rate (100 to 150 g/m²).

We recommend using a foam roller.

Recommendations for application:

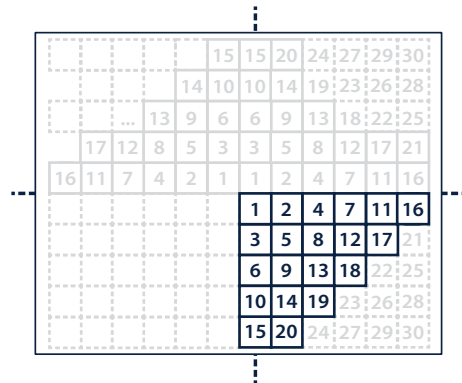
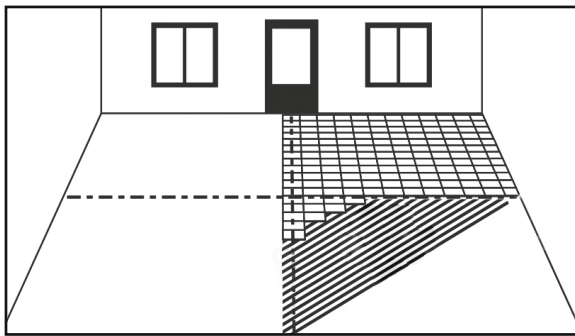
- Apply adhesive to an area no larger than can be covered within the working time.
- Carefully respect the waiting time, which depends on the temperature, the humidity level, the substrate's porosity and the quantity of adhesive applied.
- Wait until the layer of adhesive is translucent before laying the tiles.

FLOORS IN BUILDINGS

[311] INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: LOOSELAY CREATION 55

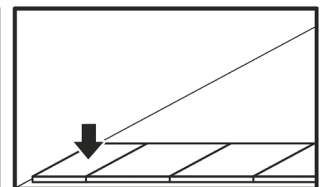
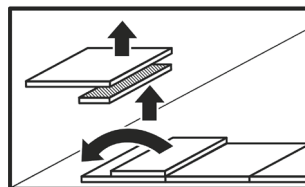
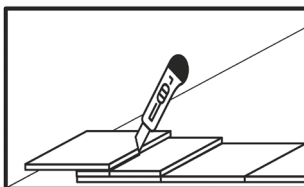
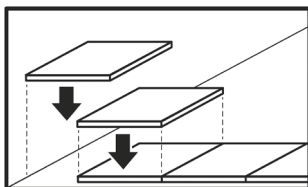
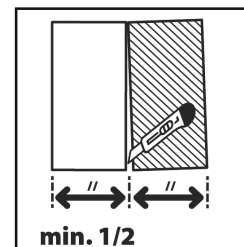
■ 3.6. LAYING THE TILES

- After the full waiting time for the adhesive, fit the first tile where the axes intersect.
- Lay the next tiles in a "staircase configuration". (See diagram opposite)
- Remove any surplus spots of fresh adhesive using a damp cloth while work is in progress.



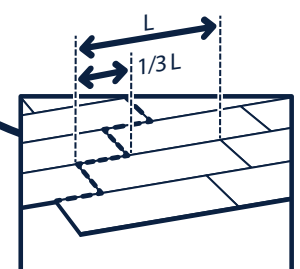
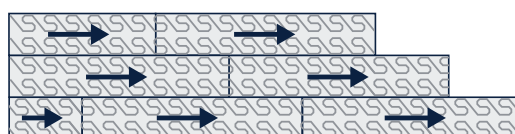
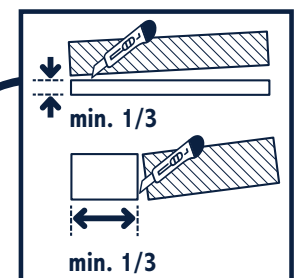
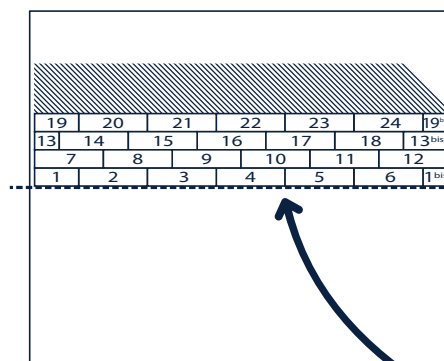
■ 3.7. CUTS

- Position the tile to be cut on the last full tile laid.
- Take a full tile to use as a template.
- Lay it on the tile to be cut, abutting against the partition (or wall).
- Mark the tile to be cut along the edge of the template using a cutter with a straight blade.
- Neatly cut the section of the tile to be laid and fit it in place.



■ 3.8. LAYING PLANKS

- Divide the floor area into two parts with one guideline at right angles to the room's main doorway.
- Position the first plank and then continue, following the guidelines (see diagram).
- The first tile in the next strip should be offset sideways by one third of its length to ensure that the joints repeat themselves every three strips. This solution is better than offsetting by half a plank. Repeating the joints every second strip is less aesthetically pleasing.
- Smooth out carefully to provide maximum adhesion.

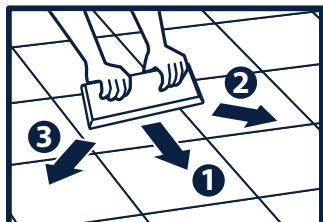


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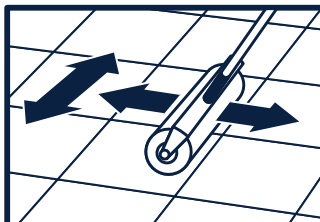
3.9. SMOOTHING

Smoothing must be done in two stages:

- Manually, using a smoothing block while work is in progress
- Rolling a smoothing roller over the entire surface once the installation is complete.



Stage 1: manual smoothing



Stage 2: smoothing with a roller

4. TREATMENT OF SPECIAL FEATURES

4.1. EXPANSION JOINTS IN SUBSTRATE

- Joints without a difference in levels: ROMUS profile CJ 20-5 or equivalent may be suitable.
- Joints with overlay profile: The profile is fitted over the floor covering and is secured on one side only.

4.2. DOOR FRAME BASES AND SPECIAL FEATURES



For cutting around door frame bases, areas which are difficult to access

Mitre shears

Reference:

Romus: 93415

Janser: 237,530,000



For cutting around door frame bases, areas which are difficult to access

High leverage gripper shear

Reference:

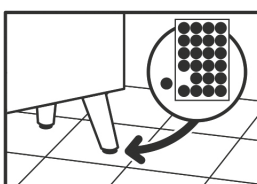
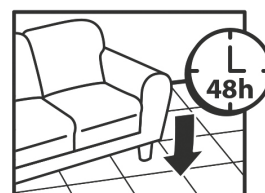
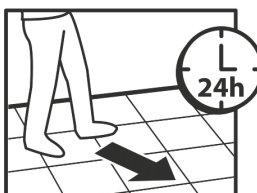
Janser: 262,284,000

4.3. CONNECTION TO ADJACENT ROOMS

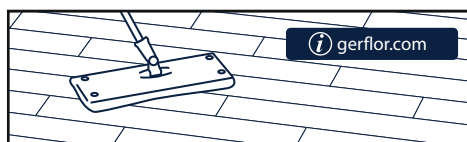
To join two rooms with planks/tiles, GERFLOR recommends using a threshold profile with concealed fixings, covering the edges that were left exposed when the flooring was laid. The threshold could be made of wood or metal. Various thresholds are available from ROMUS: DESIGN CLIP Profiles, INVISIFIX EVOLUTION (32 mm).

5. FIRST USE

- For loose-lay areas < 30 m² or applying on Fix & Free 740, first use can be immediate.
- For normal foot traffic, 24 hours after installation.
- Do not install fittings or furniture until 48 hours after laying.
- Ensure that end caps on table and chair feet, castors, etc. are suitable for flexible floor covering (PVC).
- We recommend flat end caps without any pattern and with the surface in full contact with the floor covering (no conical end caps). Do not use rubber end caps on furniture (risk of black stains). Use appropriate protector pads.
- Ensure that office chairs have type H castors compliant with EN 12529.
- In the case of underfloor heating, wait 7 days before turning the heating back on.
- Ensure that maximum static load is < 200 kg/support and 30 kg/cm².



6. CARE



The care guides are available on the website www.gerflor.com