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1. INTRODUCTION

Purfix Xpress Underlay is an acoustical underlayment that has a pre-applied adhesive on one side that bonds to the floor covering. This allows for fast and easy “floating” installations of dry back modular resilient flooring products, including LVT, PVC, and bio-based polyurethane floors. Xpress Underlay has no odor or harmful chemicals, and your installation can be walked on and used immediately after the installation is completed. Failure to follow all current installation guidelines and other applicable technical documents may result in unintended installation related issues, such as failure, and may void the product warranty. Utilizing a manufacturer’s recommended flooring contractor and/or manufacturer’s certified installer offers the greatest chances of getting quality workmanship and optimum performance from your Xpress Underlay. Workmanship of installation is not covered by the manufacturer’s product warranty. This product is only recommended for residential and light commercial installations. (See manufacturer’s application guide www.purposefloor.com.)

2. SPECIFICATIONS

Composition: Purfix Xpress Underlay is a self-adhesive acoustical underlayment for fast and easy modular dry back resilient flooring installation. The cushioned layer with pre-applied adhesive has and a removable protective film, with an age-resistant heavy layer of bio-based polyurethane (*ecuran*) and a moisture resistant foil backing. Xpress Underlay allows for immediate flooring use after installation and is suitable for use with radiant heating.

Roll Size: 3.3 feet wide X 26.2 feet long (1 meter x 8 meters) 86 ft² (8m²)

Thickness: 2 mm

Weight 35.3 lbs. (16 kg)

3. RECEIVING & STORAGE

UPON RECEIPT, immediately remove the shrink wrap and carefully check all materials for shipping damage. Visible damage not reported on the bill of lading is the responsibility of the flooring and/or general contractor. Confirm the styles and quantities are correct.

STORE all flooring products, adhesives and accessories in a dry interior area maintained between 65-80°F (18-27°C). The ambient relative humidity (RH) should be between 35-65%. Temperatures and humidity are to be managed and maintained before, during and after installation. Do not stack pallets.

4. SUBFLOORS & UNDERLAYMENTS

WOOD SUBFLOORS - When installing over wood subfloors and underlayment panels, follow the current ASTM-F1482 standard practice for installation of panel type underlayment to receive resilient flooring. They must be compliant with APA or be manufacturer recommended as "Underlayment Grade" for resilient flooring. When conducting moisture and pH testing, use a Calibrated Wood Pin Meter and follow the current ASTM D4444 testing methodology and ASTM D7438 for field calibration of handheld moisture meters.

CONCRETE SLABS & UNDERLAYMENTS - New and existing concrete slabs shall follow all current versions of the following standards, guides, and codes:

- ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring, as per the American Concrete Institute
- ACI 201.2 Guide to Durable Concrete
- ACI 302.1 Guide to Concrete Floor and Slab Construction
- ACI 302.2 Guide for Concrete Slabs to Receive Moisture Sensitive Flooring Materials

Observe all local and national building codes and always document your testing and evaluation.

Note: All on grade and below grade concrete slabs must have a confirmed and effective vapor retarder installed directly underneath the slab that meets the requirements of ASTM E1745. If this cannot be confirmed, then use an appropriate moisture mitigation system that conforms to ASTM F3010. All moisture mitigation systems carry their own manufacturer's warranty and are not covered by the flooring product warranty. Perform and document moisture testing in accordance with ASTM F2170 Standard Test method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using In-situ Probes. Confirm results are within RH moisture and pH limits for the specified adhesive. Testing should include high risk moisture areas such as where plumbing trenches have been cut into the concrete subfloor and newly poured concrete is present. This includes near outside walls, saw cuts, expansion joints, etc.

Be aware that if curing compounds have been used, they can act as a bond breaker if not fully removed prior to installation.

Expansion, isolation, and other moving joints shall not be filled or covered with any floor covering. Moving joints must be treated with an expansion joint covering system as specified.

Thick-pour gypsum-based underlayment must be manufactured and installed in compliance with ASTM F2419 Standard Practice for Installation. Test and evaluate thick-pour underlayment moisture content in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and follow the underlayment manufacturer's installation guidelines. Preparation of the surface to receive resilient flooring must be done in accordance with ASTM F2678.

5. EXISTING FLOOR COVERINGS

Xpress Underlay can be installed over some existing floor coverings such as ceramics, linoleum, rubber, PVC, laminate, parquet, and wood floorboards, but all types of textile floor coverings must be removed prior to installation. Existing flooring must be checked for suitability, confirmed to be well adhered to the substrate and free of contamination, etc. For tile joints, please note a maximum joint width of 3/16" (5mm) and a maximum joint depth of 1/16" (2mm). The maximum height tolerance for tile edges must not exceed 1/32" (1mm) over 3-7/8" (10cm). We recommend levelling tile or terrazzo substrates to prevent the tiles from being telegraphed through using a high-quality Portland cement and or calcium aluminate-based patching and leveling compounds.

6. RADIANT HEATED FLOORS

Radiant heated subfloors must not exceed 80°F (27°C) under any condition of use. The heating system's components must have a minimum of 1/2 inch separation from the flooring product. The system must be turned on and operational for at least two weeks prior to installation to reduce residual moisture. Three days prior to installation, lower the temperature to 65°F (18°C). After installation, gradually increase the temperature in increments of 2°F (3.6°C) per day to avoid overheating. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating. Contact the manufacturer of the radiant heating system for further recommendations and warranty details.

7. JOBSITE EVALUATION & PREPARATION

All warranties and guarantees pertaining to the suitability, performance, and use of ancillary materials rest solely with each product manufacturer, the flooring contractor, general contractor or party who approved its use or practice.

Do not install flooring products without performing a thorough jobsite evaluation and rectifying all non-conforming conditions.

See the following conforming check list:

- ✓ Review all requirements and expectations and inspect and document all jobsite conditions.
- ✓ All subfloors must be tested for moisture and be confirmed as complying with specifications before proceeding following the current ASTM F2170 guidelines. **The RH levels shall not exceed 95%.**
- ✓ Address any subfloor level and flatness concerns.

- ✓ Request necessary lighting and coordination with other trades to vacate the space during subfloor preparation and installation. All painting and overhead work should be completed to avoid damage from equipment and painting chemicals.
- ✓ The building envelope must be enclosed with the roof, walls, windows, and doors installed. The fully operational HVAC system must be working at typical operational temperatures for a minimum of 1 week and preferably 2-3 weeks before starting installation and remain fully functioning after the installation has been completed.
- ✓ The subfloor must be suitable for intended use and rigid, smooth, level, flat to 3/16 of an inch over a 10-foot maximum plane variation (5mm in 3m) and 1/32 of an inch over 1 foot (1-mm in 30cm), permanently dry, clean, and free of all foreign materials. All foreign substances on the substrate must be removed by sanding or other abrading techniques. Sealing and/or skim coating is not a substitution for sanding/mechanical removal.
- ✓ Level all high spots and fill and smooth surface cracks, grooves, depressions, stationary control joints or other non-moving joints, and other surface defects. Use high quality Portland cement and/or calcium aluminate-based patching and leveling compounds. Follow the patch manufacturer's current instructions and guidelines. No patching compounds shall be used unless recommended and warranted by the product manufacturer as project compliant and approved by the specifier. (See additional details in Concrete subfloor section.)
- ✓ After sealing and patching, using self-leveling compounds as a preferred option, sand the surface to remove all ridges and rework any remaining low spots or surface defects.
- ✓ Vacuum the entire surface, corners and perimeter using a HEPA filtered vacuum to remove all dust and debris.

8. JOBSITE CONDITIONS

ACCLIMATE in an upright position for at least 24 hours in the same rooms they are to be installed in. Room temperature should be maintained between 65-80°F (18-27°C) with an ambient relative humidity (RH) between 35-65%. Temperature and RH are to be managed and maintained before, during, and after installation. The goal is to acclimate and condition the jobsite and all materials in an environment that closely matches the facility's operational environmental conditions. Check the subfloor surface and the underlay with a temperature gauge and confirm they are within 3°F (5.4° C) of each other.

Windows where the flooring is to be installed should not have excessive solar heat transmission. It may be necessary to apply a protective film on the windows or cover them with cardboard or other similar material to ensure the substrate does not exceed 80°F (27°C). Keep windows covered for a minimum of 72 hours after installation. Failure to do so may result in damage to the flooring and loss of warranty.

Installation temperature should be maintained between 65-80°F (18-27°C).

9. TOOLS

Ensure all necessary tools and equipment are on-hand and in good working order. We suggest a tape measure, straight edge, utility knife, hand roller or cork rubbing board, and a 100 – 150 pound multi-section floor roller.

10. INSTALLATION

Installation of flooring implies an understanding of the manufacturer's recommendations and acceptance of all jobsite conditions. This acceptance transfers liability to the professional flooring contractor for workmanship and following the manufacturer's recommended guidelines. Any flooring materials found with visible defects or other issues are warranted for materials only. No labor costs are covered for flooring materials installed with visible defects or other issues. Immediately contact your local representative or customer service representative should an issue be discovered.

- Carefully clean the surface of all debris and contamination and confirm the subfloor is properly prepared and complies with installation requirements before proceeding.
- Follow all preparation details previously covered in this document as well as the detailed layout drawings provided or agreed upon by the specifier. Use either a guillotine cutter or utility knife to make cuts.
- Roll out the individual sheets side by side with the film facing upward and the aluminum side downward. They should be laid out such that the floor covering will cross the seams at a 90-degree angle and overlap the seams by a minimum of 4 inches (100mm). Ensure the seams are butted tight without gaps.
- Use a sharp floor-fitting knife or utility knife to fit to the perimeter, always maintaining a 3/16" (5mm) expansion gap at the room's perimeter, doorways, and at any fixed object. Ensure that the sheets against the wall are at least 8" (20cm) in width and length.
- Rooms with an uninterrupted area of 1,600 sq. ft. (155 sq. meters) can be laid without expansion joints. When two sheets are applied to the surface by a double cut, the seam must not be compressed. Transition breaks are required at doorways. A T type or similar transition can be used. Be careful not to contaminate the exposed adhesive as you start laying the flooring.
- Peel back the adhesive film to begin flooring installation. We recommend only peeling back a manageable area, no more than arm's length.
- **Follow all flooring manufacturer's installation requirements and instructions.**
- This product features low initial adhesion properties, allowing corrections or adjustments to the floor covering during installation. Fitting to the perimeter should be done before removing the release film and exposing the adhesive. This will allow for easier final adjustments and placement. After pressing, walking on or rolling the floor covering with a flooring roller, it is no longer possible to make corrections.
- Once you have set in several rows of flooring material you can work from the installed area and off of the underlay.
- Use a new cork rubbing board or a wide hand roller to thoroughly press the material into the Xpress Underlay adhesive. Rub/roll each section down the length and out to each edge forcing the planks or tiles into the adhesive bed initiating a tight bond to the substrate. At the edges and in corners, a hand roller can be used to ensure proper bonding.
- After the plank or tile has been set with the cork rubbing board and/or hand roller, roll once in each direction using a 100-150 lb. (70 kg) three-section floor roller. Once finished, roll the entire floor two times.
- Cover with protective material appropriate to prevent any damage from other construction trades. Only use breathable protection products as to allow for the continued curing of flooring and adhesive materials. Keep covered until final acceptance by the Owner.

- Should you have any questions or concerns not covered in this document, please contact Technical Support or Customer Service before starting installation.

11. INSTALLATION VIDEO & CONTACT

Please scan the QR code below for installation tips. Should you have any questions or concerns not covered in this document, please contact Technical Support or Customer Service before starting installation.

