



INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

Recommendations for the installation and maintenance of Tarkett resilient floors for residential use.

Installation

- The floor surface must be smooth, hard, clean and dry before installation. Its humidity level must not exceed 2.5 %, and there must be no traces of paint, varnish, wax, oil, solvents or other foreign substances that could contaminate the floor covering.
- The Sommer floor covering must be stored in the room where it is to be laid for at least 24 hours beforehand, to allow it to adapt to a temperature of 18°C or more during laying.
- The material must be checked before laying and the supplier must be informed immediately in case of any default.

Laying

To avoid all risk of movement during use, secure the floor covering around the perimeter of the room using double-sided adhesive tape.

When the surface to be covered needs several lengths please note the following recommendations:

for patterned or decorated floor coverings

- * lay the lengths in the direction they naturally unroll
- * overlap the lengths to join up the pattern or decoration and cut through both layers using a straight-edge and straight blade knife.

for single coloured or non-patterned floor coverings

- * lay the lengths alternately head to tail and overlapping
- * use a straight-edge and a straight knife to create a clean join.

In certain cases the installer will have to decide on the most attractive positioning of the lengths before cutting. To ensure the joints remain clean over time, it is preferable to cold-weld them using a suitable liquid seal.

Fully adhered installation

The responsibility regarding the quality of the adhesives and its use in accordance with the recommendations of the adhesive manufacturer, is the responsibility of the adhesive manufacturers and the installers, respectively. Sommer can not be held responsible for any failure resulting from the use of the adhesive chosen.

- Use a finely notched trowel (1.5mm x 5mm) to apply the adhesive.
- To ensure that the subfloor surface is perfectly prepared, primers, proprietary sheet products and self-levelling compounds should all be applied / installed according to the manufacturers' recommendations or country standards relating to preparation.

- Use only acrylic emulsion or dispersion adhesives.
- Emulsion adhesives are sensitive to frost, application of adhesive can only be undertaken in a warm atmosphere.
- Acrylic emulsion or dispersion adhesives have a consumption rate of between 250 - 350g/m² depending on the backing of the floor covering and the porosity of the subfloor surface.
- As soon as the adhesive has been applied, place the floor covering into the wet adhesive and smooth the surface of the floor covering evenly into the adhesive below. This will ensure an equal bond has been achieved and also ensure that no grin-through from the adhesive serrations will be visible.
- Foot traffic and the installation of furniture are not permissible until 24 – 28 hours have lapsed from the time the installation was completed.

Cleaning and maintenance

1. First use

When the installation is completed, clean the surface of the floor covering with warm water to which a neutral detergent has been added. Never use solvents to remove logos or information printed on the surface of the product as the ink used is water soluble.

2. Special instructions for use

All Sommer resilient floor coverings, including those with a protective surface coating, risk being stained by in-ground dirt if the manufacturer's normal maintenance recommendations are not followed.

- Avoid using waxes or polishing products
- Except for products with TECNIUM surface or TOPTEC surface do not use rubber protectors on the feet of chairs and furniture. Use plastic protectors instead.
- Put rigid floor protectors beneath the feet of heavy pieces of furniture to prevent the formation of permanent indentations.
- Some materials or colorants such as tar, grease, oil, dyes, waxes, ballpoint or marker inks etc. may under certain conditions migrate into the wear layer and cause indelible stains.
- Natural or intense artificial light causes a whitening effect on all floor coverings. This phenomenon becomes visible in comparison to those areas covered by rugs or furniture, which appear yellower. This yellow effect disappears after a few weeks when these areas are once again exposed to light and the whitening effect appears.

3. Preliminary measure

The use of a doormat without a rubber backing is recommended for doorways leading to the exterior, in order to protect the surface of the floor covering from grit and abrasive particles brought in on the soles of people's shoes.

4. Regular maintenance program

a. Daily cleaning : using soft dry broom or vacuum cleaner.

b. Weekly cleaning : using neutral detergent in water with fringed mop or floor cloth.

5. Periodic maintenance

For grained or textured surfaces a manual or mechanical in-depth cleaning is recommended at suitable intervals, using a neutral detergent in water and a nylon brush. After brushing eliminate the dirty water using a floor scraper, rinse with clean water, remove the surface water and dry with a floor cloth.