VINYL ENHANCED TILE FLOORING

Installation Instructions

Johnsonite®
A Tarkett Company

Azterra™, Color Essence™ and Color Essence SR™

Handling and Storage

1. Johnsonite flooring and adhesives must be site conditioned at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation. Room temperature must be maintained between 65° and 85°F (18° and 30°C) with HVAC system operating. A minimum temperature of 55°F (13°C) must be maintained afterwards. The ambient relative humidity should be between 40% and 60%.
2. In areas that are exposed to intense or direct sunlight, the product must be protected during the conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods, by covering the light source.
3. The highest quality of materials and workmanship is employed in the manufacture of Johnsonite Flooring and careful inspection is made before shipment. However, a quality installation is the responsibility of the installer. It is the installer's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the order and to ensure the materials are checked for damage, defects, and satisfactory color match. An authorized Johnsonite distributor or Johnsonite representative must be notified of any defects before installation proceeds.
4. Johnsonite cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information, 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.

General Subfloor Preparation

1. ***All subfloors*** must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. The surface must be free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material, which could affect installation. **Caution: Do not use oil based sweeping compounds.** Fill all depressions, cracks, and other surface irregularities with a good quality Portland cement based underlayment patching compound.

   NOTE: Contamination on the substrate can cause damage to the resilient flooring material. Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, etc., must not be used to write on the back of the flooring material or used to mark the substrate as they could bleed through and stain the flooring material. If these contaminants are present on the substrate they must be mechanically removed prior to the installation of the flooring material.

   Caution: Do not use liquid solvents or adhesive removers.

   Johnsonite does not recommend installing over existing resilient floors. All existing flooring and adhesives must be removed prior to installing the new flooring material. Remove existing adhesive mechanically – do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents.

   Caution: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.

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" and prepared to receive resilient flooring according to ASTM F 710 "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring".

   Do not install Johnsonite flooring over expansion joints.

   All concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture and pH (alkalinity):

   Moisture testing must be conducted in accordance with ASTM F 2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using *in situ* Probes" or ASTM F 1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride.

   Results must not exceed 80% when testing to ASTM F 2170 or exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours when testing to ASTM F 1869.

   If the tests results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

   A pH test for alkalinity must be conducted. Results should range between 7 and 9. If the test results are not within the acceptable range of 7 to 9, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

3. ***Wood subfloors*** must have a minimum 18" (47 cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces should be sealed with a polyethylene moisture barrier.

   Subfloors should meet local and national building codes. Trade associations, such as the APA -"The Engineered Wood Association", offer structural guidelines for meeting various code requirements.

   Single Wood and Tongue and Groove subfloors should be covered with 1/4" (6.4 mm) or 1/2" (13 mm) APA approved underlayment plywood. Use 1/4" (6.4 mm) thick underlayment panels for boards with a face width of 3" (76 mm) or less. For boards wider than 3" (76 mm) face width use 1/2" (13 mm) underlayment panels.

   Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality Portland cement based patching compound.

   Do not install over OSB (Oriented Strand Board), particle board, chipboard, lauan or composite type underlayments.

4. ***Terrazzo and Ceramic floor*** surfaces must be thoroughly sanded to remove all glaze and waxes. Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean the grout lines. Use a Portland cement based leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions.
5. ***Steel floor*** surfaces must be mechanically abraded to assist with the adhesive bond. The floor must be cleaned to remove all dirt, rust and other contaminants. Surface must be coated with a rust inhibitor / primer. When applying adhesive the non-porous installation instructions must be followed.
6. **Concrete floors equipped with a radiant heating system:** Turn the heat down to 65°F (18°C) for at least 48 hours before installation. Heat may be gradually returned to operating temperature 48 hours after installation. Temperature should not exceed 85°F (30°C).
7. **An adhesive bond test** should be performed using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test areas should be a minimum of 36" x 36" and remain in place for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the substrate.

Vinyl Enhanced Tile Installation

1. **Recommended Adhesives:**
   - **a.** For standard application use:

     Tarkett 800 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

     Trowel: porous and non-porous substrates –

     1/16˝ x 1/16˝ x 1/16˝ V-notch

     Approximate coverage: 150 to 175 sq. ft. per gallon.

     Note: Adhesive must be allowed to dry to the touch prior to the installation of the tile. The Tarkett 800 Adhesive has a 2 hour working time once it reaches the dry to the touch state.

2. **Floor Installation Procedure:**
   - **a.** Batch numbers should not be mixed during the installation.
   - **b.** Square the area and establish reference points on the substrate.
   - **c.** Apply the adhesive to the substrate. Adhesive must be dry to the touch prior to installation of tile.
   - **d.** Use established reference points and install the flooring.
   - **e.** Lay tiles so the graining follows the same direction. The printed numbers on the back may be used as a reference. Do not quarter turn tiles.
   - **f.** Tiles should be lightly butted together when placing the flooring into the adhesive.
   - **g.** Do not force tiles together creating a ledge condition at the seams and corners.
   - **h.** Roll floor in both directions with a 100 pound three-section roller. Use a small hand roller in areas that cannot be reached with a large roller.
   - **i.** Inspect the floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.

4. **Traffic:**
   - **a.** All traffic must be restricted for 24 hours after installation.
   - **b.** No heavy traffic, rolling loads, or furniture placement for 72 hours after installation.

Adhesive Clean Up

Excess adhesive should be removed during the installation process.

800 Pressure Sensitive 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.)

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 Johnsonite's Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

Visit www.johnsonite.com for the most current installation and maintenance instructions.
Contact Johnsonite Technical Services at (800)-899-8916 ext 9297 with any questions.

Tarkett | THE ULTIMATE FLOORING EXPERIENCE

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