

# WHISPER STEP®

EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR RADIANT - HEATED FLOORING

## Acoustical Underlayment

Whisper Step® is the most versatile acoustical underlayment available today. Not only does it help reduce in-room and between-story noise but also acts as a breathable moisture barrier. Whisper Step® is guaranteed to perform over the life of the floor. It offers different installation methods making any project worry free. Always consult with the flooring and adhesive manufacturers for their product conditioning and installation recommendations and requirements. Vinyl Composition Tile is specifically excluded.

### Suitable Substrates – Concrete Slab and Wood Subfloor

1. Must be clean, dry, flat, and structurally sound.
2. Always test for moisture before installing flooring. For concrete, test using the anhydrous calcium chloride test (ASTM F2170) and for wood use either an invasive or non-invasive pin probe. If the wood subfloor indicates moisture, check for proper vapor barrier and venting below the subfloor and correct. Do not add a vapor barrier on top of a wood subfloor.

**Note: Whisper Step® has a Water Vapor Emission rate of 0.252 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours and a Permeance of 1.151.**

### Installing Whisper Step® to Substrate

#### Floating Method

Luxury Vinyl Tile (incl. attached back), Engineered Wood, Laminate, Sheet Vinyl (perimeter glued/fastened)

- Floated—may be loose-laid.
- Cut material to fit the room leaving 1/8" gap around perimeter of the room.
- Run underlayment perpendicular to plank flooring or at a 45-degree angle for square tile flooring.
- Join seams by butting material and seam joints with clear 2" packing tape.

#### Glue Down

Luxury vinyl tile, Engineered Wood, Laminate, Sheet Vinyl (felt backed)

- Adhesive bond – Use a premium pressure-sensitive or multipurpose adhesive.
- Cut material to fit the room leaving 1/8" gap around perimeter of the room.
- Run underlayment perpendicular to plank flooring or at a 45-degree angle for square tile flooring.
- Use the roll core which came with the Whisper Step Plus® roll to press the underlayment evenly into the adhesive.
- Join seams by butting material.

### Installing Flooring Over Whisper Step®

#### Floating Method

Luxury Vinyl Tile (incl. attached back), Engineered Wood, Laminate

- Floated—follow flooring manufacturers installation instructions

#### Glue Down

Luxury Vinyl Tile (incl. attached back), Engineered Wood

- Adhesive bond – LVT-Use a premium pressure-sensitive adhesive; For other flooring-refer to installation instructions for adhesive requirements.

Sheet Vinyl -Fiberglass or Felt backed style – Refer to the installation instructions provided by the flooring manufacturer.

- Perimeter glued or fastened method - Refer to the installation instructions provided by the flooring manufacturer.

#### Nail Down

Engineered & Solid Hardwood

- Nail-down – Suitable in nail/staple down applications. Refer to the flooring installation instructions.

Whisper Step is suitable for nail/staple down applications for engineered and solid hardwood flooring. Also used in double glue installations for engineered hardwood.

*\*During noticeable changes to temperature and humidity, pay especially close attention to the adhesive recommendations and adjustments which may be required. Underlayment will not prevent the flooring from contracting or expanding because of temperature and humidity changes. Consult with the flooring manufacturer for questions regarding the installation, care, and maintenance of your new floor.*