



VINYL COMPOSITION TILE FLOORING

Installation Instructions

Expressions™ by Tarkett

Handling and Storage

1. Tarkett 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 Tarkett 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 Tarkett distributor or Tarkett representative must be notified of any defects before installation proceeds.

4. Tarkett 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.

Tarkett 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 Tarkett flooring over expansion joints.

All concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture, pH (alkalinity), and proper adhesive bond:

Moisture tests shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM F 1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride" or ASTM F 2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using *in situ* Probes". Three tests should be conducted for areas up to 1,000 sq. ft. and one additional test should be conducted for each additional 1,000 sq. ft. of flooring.

- ◆ Results must not exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours when tested to ASTM F 1869, or exceed 80% when tested to ASTM F 2170.
- ◆ 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 acceptable, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

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 concrete.

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. 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).

Vinyl Composition Tile Installation

1. Recommended Adhesives:

- a.** For standard application use:
Tarkett 100 Resilient Flooring Adhesive
Trowel: porous and non-porous substrates: 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" 'U' notch
Caution: 100 Resilient Flooring Adhesive is substrate porosity sensitive. Determine substrate porosity and follow the adhesive label instructions regarding porous and non-porous substrate drying times prior to the installation of the tile.
- b.** For application in areas subject to heavy point loads, rolling loads, topical moisture, or temperature extremes such as adjacent to grocery store freezers & refrigerators use:
Tarkett 940 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive
Trowel: porous and non-porous substrates: 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" 'U' notch
Caution: When installing with 940 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive the installer must work off of the flooring material or use kneeling boards to prevent adhesive displacement during the installation and rolling process.

- c.** SpraySmart Adhesive System:
122 VCT Flooring Spray Adhesive:
Approximate coverage: 250 sq. ft. per 22 oz. can
Caution: The SpraySmart Adhesive System is unique; instructions on can must be followed.
Note: Contact Tarkett Technical Department prior to use for training.
- 2. Adhesive Application:** Follow adhesive label instructions for proper use.
- 3. 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. Follow directions on adhesive label for proper adhesive use.
- d.** Use established reference points and install the flooring.
- e. Expressions VCT** may be laid in the same direction or tiles may be 'quarter turned' to create a checkerboard pattern.
- 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. Sliding tiles will force the adhesive out between the seams.
- h.** Work off the flooring when using 940 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive or use kneeling boards
- i.** Periodically, lift the corner of an installed tile to ensure proper transfer of adhesive.
- j.** Roll floor in both directions with a 100 pound three-section roller. Use a hand roller in areas that cannot be reached with a large roller.
- k.** Inspect the floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.
- 4. Traffic:**
- a.** No traffic 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.

100 Clear Thin Spread 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.)

940 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive

- ◆ Before the adhesive sets, remove excess adhesive from flooring and clean tools with denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using denatured alcohol.)
- ◆ Do not allow adhesive to dry on the flooring surface.
- ◆ Removing dried adhesive may cause irreparable damage to the flooring surface.

SpraySmart System

- ◆ 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 Tarkett's Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

Check Web Site (www.azrock.com) for current instructions.
Contact Tarkett at (800)-899-8916 with any questions.



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Maintenance Instructions

**Expressions™
by Tarkett**

Introduction:

A factory finish is applied to Tarkett Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT) at the time of manufacture to help protect the surface of tile

during the packing, shipping, and the installation process. This temporary finish is not meant to be a wear surface. Additional coats of

floor finish must be applied after installation. The following guidelines are recommended for the proper care and maintenance of the floor.

Post Installation / Initial Cleaning:

Job site conditions usually cause grit and dirt to accumulate. Initial cleaning should not be performed until 72 hours after installation. However the floor should be swept and protected until maintenance begins.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution using one of the recommended pH neutral cleaners (maintenance product reference chart below). The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions.

3. Apply the cleaning solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
4. Let cleaning solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – do not let the solution dry.**
5. Scrub the flooring using a single disc rotary machine (175 – 350 RPM) equipped with a blue or green pad. **Do not use brown or black pads.**
NOTE: A 22 to 28 gauge soft nylon brush must be used on SR (slip resistant) tiles.

6. Remove the cleaning solution using a wet vacuum or a mop.
7. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clean water.
8. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
NOTE: The cleaning process may need to be repeated on heavily soiled floors.
9. Apply three to five coats of a recommended floor finish according to label instructions.
10. Allow the floor finish to dry completely between coats.

Preventive Care:

1. An effective barrier matting system should be installed at all entrances to reduce cleaning costs and extend the life of the floor.

2. Protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet and casters for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Use

products designed for resilient floors. Caster or wheel damage can be avoided with the use of chair pads.

Routine / Daily Cleaning:

It is very important to clean flooring at a frequency consistent with the amount and type of traffic. Daily cleaning is recommended.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.

2. Prepare a cleaning solution using a recommended pH neutral cleaner. The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions.
3. Damp mop the cleaning solution onto the floor.

4. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
5. Remove minor stains and scuffs in conjunction with the damp mopping. Use a white, blue or green pad if required.

Periodic / Deep Cleaning:

When routine / daily cleaning no longer provides adequate results, a more aggressive deep cleaning is required to thoroughly clean the floor.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
2. Prepare a cleaning solution using one of the recommended pH neutral cleaners (maintenance product reference chart below). The dilution ratio depends on light to heavy soil conditions.

3. Apply the cleaning solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
4. Let cleaning solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – do not let the solution dry.**
5. Scrub the flooring using a single disc rotary machine (175 – 350 RPM) equipped with a blue or green pad. **Do not use brown or black pads.**
NOTE: A 22 to 28 gauge soft nylon brush must be used on SR (slip resistant) tiles.

6. Remove the cleaning solution using a wet vacuum or a mop.
7. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clean water.
8. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
NOTE: The cleaning process may need to be repeated on heavily soiled floors.
9. Apply three to five coats of a recommended floor finish according to label instructions.
10. Allow the floor finish to dry completely between coats.

Floor Finish Procedures:

Application of floor finish

1. Select a recommended floor finish from the maintenance product reference chart.
2. Clean the floor performing a Deep Cleaning as outlined above. Allow the flooring to dry completely.
3. Apply the floor finish to the floor according to the label instructions.
4. Apply three to five coats of finish.
5. The floor finish must dry completely between coats.

6. Restrict all traffic until the floor finish has dried completely.

Floor Finish Restorative Procedures:

Spray Buffing (optional)

1. Floor must be clean prior to buffing.
2. Apply the spray buffing solution to workable areas with a spray bottle.
3. Buff the floor using a single disc, slow speed, rotary machine (175 - 350 RPM) equipped with a white, tan or red buffing pad.
4. Continue procedure until desired level of

gloss has been achieved.

Burnishing (optional)

1. Floor must be clean prior to buffing.
2. Burnish the floor using a single disc, high speed, rotary machine (1500 - 2000 RPM) equipped with a high speed burnishing pad.
3. Continue procedure until desired level of gloss has been achieved.
NOTE: To avoid damage care must be taken when burnishing.

Removal of Floor Finish:

When the floors gloss level appears worn or uneven due to traffic the floor finish can be removed and reapplied to restore the floors appearance.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
2. Prepare a stripping solution using a recommended stripper. Follow the

manufacturer's label instructions.

3. Apply the stripping solution with a nylon or rayon mop.
4. Let the stripping solution dwell for 5 to 15 minutes. **IMPORTANT – Do not let the solution dry.**
5. Scrub the floor using a single-disc rotary machine (175-350 RPM) equipped with a

blue or green pad. **Do not use brown or black pads.**

6. Remove the stripping solution with a wet vacuum or a mop.
7. Thoroughly rinse the floor and allow it to dry completely.
8. Repeat the stripping process if necessary.
9. Apply the new floor finish

Maintenance Product Reference Chart

NOTE: Always follow the manufacturer's label instructions for proper mixing ratios and use.

	Initial Cleaning / Deep Cleaning	Daily Maintenance	Periodic Maintenance	Finish	Stripper
Buckeye www.buckeyeinternational.com 1-800-321-2583	Straight Up	Crossroads	Crossroads	LiquiMax Lucent	Juggernaut
Diversey www.diversey.com 1-800-558-2332	Profi GP Forward Prominence	Profi GP Forward Prominence	Profi GP Forward Prominence	Signature Complete	Bravo
Certified Green Products		Stride	Stride	Aquaria	Freedom SC
Hillyard www.hillyard.com 1-800-365-1555	Super Shine All	Renovator	Renovator	Super Hil-Brite One Plus	Arsenal
Spartan Chemical www.spartanchemical.com 1-800-537-8990	Tribase	Tribase Damp Mop	Tribase Damp Mop	White Sun The Fixx	Step Down Endura Strip
Certified Green Products	Green Soutions Industrial Cleaner	Green Soutions All Purpose Cleaner	Green Soutions All Purpose Cleaner	Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish	Green Soutions Floor Finish Remover
XL North www.xlnorth.com 1-888-530-2259	XL APC All Purpose Cleaner	XL APC All Purpose Cleaner	XL APC All Purpose Cleaner	XL 25 XL 18 XL UF XL Matte	XL FS



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